



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA





STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared By:



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AfDB African Development Bank
CAO Chief Administrative Officer

CBOs Community-Based Organizations

CSO Civil Society Organizations

DN Diameter Nominal

DWD Department of Water Development**DWTP** Domestic Water Treatment Plant

E&S Environmental and Social

ESA Environmental and Social Assessment
ESF Environmental and Social Framework

ESIAs Environmental and Social Impact Assessments

GBV Gender-Based Violence

GI Galvanized Iron

GIIP Good International Industry Practice

GRM Grievance Redress Mechanism

GRMCs Grievance Redress Mechanism Committees

Ha Hectare

ILO International Labour OrganizationIWTP Irrigation Water Treatment Plant

LC 1 C/P Local Council I Chairperson

M Meter

M&E Monitoring and Evaluation

m³ Cubic meters

m³/h Cubic meters per hour

Mm Millimeter

MWACRID Modernization of Water for Agricultural Climate Resilience and Irrigation

Development Project

MWE Ministry of Water and Environment

NDP III Third National Development Plan

NFA National Forestry Authority

NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations

NWSC National Water and Sewerage Corporation

OHS Occupational Health and Safety

OS Operational Safeguard
PAPs Project-Affected Parties

Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment Multi-Purpose Water for Climate Resilience and Irrigation Development for Livelihood Transformation Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan August 2025

PN Pressure Nominal

RAP Resettlement Action Plan

RDC Resident District Commissioner

SEP Stakeholder Engagement Plan

ToRs Terms of Reference

TV Television

UTM Universal Transverse Mercator

WTP Water Treatment Plant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

E.1 Introduction

The Government of Uganda, through the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), is set to implement the Multi-Purpose Water for Climate Resilience and Irrigation Development for Livelihood Transformation (MWACRID) Project, with funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The project aims to establish an integrated and sustainable water supply system that delivers clean, treated water for domestic use and irrigation across Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts. The system will benefit over 87,000 people, irrigate 15,000 hectares of farmland, and support over 10,000 livestock, thus improving public health, food security, and livelihoods. This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been developed to guide inclusive participation across all stages of project implementation, from planning to operation, ensuring that environmental and social impacts are responsibly managed.

The project comprises major infrastructure components, including water intake and treatment plants, pump stations, storage reservoirs, and extensive transmission and distribution networks for both domestic and irrigation water. The Ni le River at Masindi Port is the main water source, with raw water pumped to treatment facilities and then distributed by gravity. Three operational options have been proposed to optimize storage and delivery based on varying farm needs. The project targets both large-scale(greater than 1,000ha) and small holder farmers (5-100 ha), with detailed provision for on-farm storage and irrigation support. Construction activities include site clearing, mechanical and civil works, electrical services, and safety systems, all aligned with environmental and operational safeguards. The project will also emphasize solid and liquid waste management, periodic maintenance, emergency preparedness, and robust health and safety measures during operation.

E.2 Methodology Used to Prepare the SEP

The preparation of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) followed a structured methodology aligned with Uganda's Constitution (1995), the Uganda Partnership Policy (2013), and the African Development Bank's (AfDB) Integrated Safeguards System (ISS) of 2023. The process began with stakeholder identification and mapping through document review, site visits, and consultations with local leaders to ensure inclusion of all relevant stakeholders and vulnerable groups. Stakeholder analysis was then conducted using expert judgment and field-level engagements to assess influence, interest, and concerns, followed by strategic mapping onto a Power/Interest Grid to guide appropriate levels of engagement. Engagement methods including public meetings, radio programs, and community-based outreach were selected to foster inclusive dialogue, supported by an accessible Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and a robust monitoring and evaluation system. A thorough review and approval process was undertaken, involving the Consultant, Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) Project Team, and the AfDB Team, ensuring compliance with legal and safeguard requirements and enhancing the SEP's contextual relevance, ownership, and readiness for implementation.

E.2 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

This SEP for the MWACRID Project establishes a comprehensive framework designed to ensure continuous and effective participation of all stakeholders throughout the entire project cycle. The MWE is responsible with the overall management, coordination, and oversight of stakeholder engagement activities. This effort is supported by a wide range of actors, including government agencies, local authorities, community leaders, private sector partners, and vulnerable groups to ensure that stakeholder feedback is systematically incorporated into project planning and decision-making processes.

A key focus of the SEP is the inclusion of vulnerable groups such as women-headed households, persons with disabilities, elderly individuals, and minority ethnic communities. Tailored engagement strategies have been designed to address their unique needs, facilitating meaningful participation through targeted outreach and appropriate support mechanisms. By adopting these approaches, the project shall promote equity and social inclusion, ensuring that the voices of marginalized populations are heard and their concerns integrated into project activities.

To support effective implementation of the SEP, capacity building activities will be conducted for project staff, contractors, and implementing partners. These trainings will enhance skills in stakeholder analysis, communication, facilitation, conflict resolution, grievance handling, and gender sensitivity. Strengthening these competencies is critical for fostering culturally sensitive and inclusive engagement, improving responsiveness to stakeholder concerns, and enhancing overall project outcomes.

The SEP is conceived as a living document subject to periodic review and updates to reflect evolving project dynamics and stakeholder feedback. It also upholds strong commitments to human rights, gender equality, and equity, aligned with national policies and international best practices. By ensuring accessible, inclusive, and gender-responsive consultation processes, the project promotes sustainable development outcomes that respect diversity and empower all community members.

Table 0-1: Series of stakeholder engagement and consultation conducted.

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|--|---|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| 10th June 2025 | Uganda Investment Authority | UIA, highlighted that as Uganda's chief investment promotion agency, it markets |
| | UIA) | investment opportunities, promotes packaged projects, provides investment-related |
| | | information, and offers business support, advisory, and advocacy services. UIA indicated |
| | | it is committed to boosting exports by shifting from low-value raw commodity exports to |
| | | diversified, processed agricultural goods, thereby creating more commercial and |
| | | productive employment. Acting on a presidential directive, UIA informed the meeting |
| | | that it is establishing 25 industrial parks nationwide by 2025, that is five parks annually |
| | | all aimed at job creation, easing land access, fostering research, skills development, and |
| | | enhancing export revenue. It emphasised that local governments have been instructed to |
| | | provide free land for these parks, avoiding UIA's need to purchase land. While the usual |
| | | 20% SME land allocation was not applied in this case, about 300 hectares remain |
| | | available for smallholder farmers under the project. UIA also pledged to issue a letter |
| | | confirming land ownership for commercial farmers within its jurisdiction. |
| 18 th July – 01 st | Chief Government Valuer | There were correspondences between CGV and the Ministry of Water and Environment |
| August 2025 | (CGV) | concerning the approval of the RAP methodology. The methodology was formally submitted to |
| 17th I1 2024 | Virginal and a District Landons | MWE on 18th July 2025 and subsequently approved on 1st August 2025. |
| 17 th July 2024 | Kiryandongo District Leaders Meeting | Leaders from Kiryandongo District expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Water and Environment for considering the district for the MWACRID project, citing long-standing water scarcity |
| | Wieeting | affecting both domestic use and livestock. The Water Engineer pledged to provide supporting |
| | | data for the feasibility study. They emphasized the need to support smallholder farmers and |
| | | requested clarity on how the consultant consortium would operate. They committed district |
| | | support during implementation and highlighted the presence of settled refugees in the project |
| | | area. They stressed the urgency of water needs, requested expansion of the feasibility study to |
| | | more areas, and pledged to manage community expectations and prevent misinformation. |

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| | | |
| 17th – 18th July, 2024 | Masindi District Leaders Meeting | Masindi District officials welcomed the proposed Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project expressing strong support and commitment. They appreciated the initiative, seeking clarity on payment, management, and integration with the District Development Plan. They emphasized the project's relevance, pledged political support, and committed to community mobilization. They welcomed the project, highlighted the need for environmental consultation with NEMA, anticipated potential land issues, and pledged security and anti-corruption support throughout implementation. |
| 23 rd July 2024 | Masindi Port Sub-County Leaders Meeting | Leaders of Masindi Port Sub- County highlighted the area's reliance on livestock and emerging commercial farming, the challenges posed by drought and limited water access, and the potential benefits of the project in boosting beef and honey production. Other concerns raised included poor road infrastructure, inadequate healthcare and water supply, and limited energy access. The consultations underscored the critical need for reliable water to enhance agricultural productivity, health, and resilience in the Sub-County. |
| 13 th July 2024 | Kimengo Sub- County Leaders Meeting | The sub- county leadership expressed gratitude to government for initiating the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting the urgent need for water in the area for both domestic and livestock use. They emphasized Kimengo Sub-county's large livestock population and lack of reliable water sources, sharing evidence of water stress among residents and animals. They called for an accelerated project timeline and broader coverage during feasibility studies, pledging full support and political mobilization to ensure successful implementation. |
| | Soul Agric Business Company | Soul Agric Business Company operates a 4,000-acre commercial farm cultivating crops such as cassava, soya beans, maize, coffee, macadamia, paw paws, and matooke. The proprietor emphasized challenges during droughts and appealed for urgent extension of water supply for production. |
| 15 th July 2024 | NWSC Masindi District (Area Manager) | The NWSC Area Manager shared service data, noting high domestic usage, a 91% customer satisfaction index, but indicated that challenges including inactive connections, bill payment reluctance, poor water quality, and supply disruptions due to power outages. He also reported |

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | | |
| | | operational issues with public stand posts. These insights underscore the project's importance in |
| | | addressing water scarcity, improving supply reliability, and supporting agricultural and community resilience in the region. |
| 23 rd July 2024 | UNRA Masindi Port Ferry | Observations and impromptu consultations at Kitukuza Village underscored community |
| | Docking Site | dependence on untreated Nile water for domestic use and livestock, limited access to safe water, |
| | | and high water-fetching costs. Local women-led businesses, livestock farmers, and ferry users |
| | | stand to benefit significantly from the project. Hygiene is supported by a public sanitary facility |
| | | at the dock, and stakeholders welcomed the project's promise of improved water access. Key |
| | | implications include the need for careful coordination with UNRA, mitigation of construction |
| | | disruptions, and proactive stakeholder engagement to align the project with community priorities |
| | | and maximize social and health benefits. |
| 22 nd July 2025 | NFA | NFA expressed concern that their office had not been involved in the initial stages of the ESIA |
| | | process and sought clarification on its progress and approval status. Key requests included the |
| | | coordinates of Kaduku and Kitukuza forests, where project infrastructure such as the reservoir, |
| | | treatment plant, and transmission lines are planned, and a joint field inspection particularly in |
| | | these hotspot areas for verification was suggested. They emphasized that the ESIA should have |
| | | been prioritized and managed under their oversight, and asked if the consultant had visited |
| | | Kiryandongo and Masindi offices. They suggested to reduce environmental impact, a single |
| | | transmission corridor was recommended, avoiding forest fragmentation. It was also clarified that |
| | | Kaduku Forest is managed by the NFA as a gazetted CFR, not the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom, and |
| | | formal documentation to support this are available. The meeting emphasized the need for forest |
| | | assessments, to prepare a biodiversity offset plan, valuation of affected assets like flora and fauna |
| and water and | | inventories, consideration of legal tree farming licensees, and securing livelihoods. |
| 28 th July 2025 | Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom | Kaduku Hill is a proposed site for the construction of the Kings Palace. NFA is managing the |
| | | forest in coordination with the Kingdom under an MOU because the kingdom does not have |
| | | capacity to manage most these resources to prevent encroachment. The Kingdom recommended |
| | | a joint site visit with NFA to establish the boundaries of the forest. |

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 29 th July 2025 | Ministry of Works and Transport | The Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT) noted that land for the Rwenkunye–Masindi Port section has already been acquired, eliminating the need for further land acquisition, and emphasized that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) must seek formal approval to cross the Gulu–Kampala Road. While marram roads may be crossed, they must be restored to their original condition after construction. MoWT expressed satisfaction with the project design, as it minimizes impact on the existing highway. The Ministry also stressed the importance of comprehensive community sensitization during implementation to safeguard the interests of affected populations and highlighted the need to compensate individuals whose livelihoods are within the road reserve along the Rwenkunye–Kaduku–Kinomi–Masindi section. |

Table 0-2: Summary of Consultations

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--|----------------------------|
| District Level | Chief Administrative | Concern was raised about whether relevant stakeholders in the | 17 th June 2025 |
| | Officer Kiryandongo | district have been adequately consulted, especially given the | |
| | | official's recent appointment to the district. No objection was raised | |
| | | to the planned study; the official expressed support for its | |
| | | implementation. Emphasis was placed on the need to engage both | |
| | | technical and political leaders throughout the project's | |
| | | implementation. The team was granted permission to proceed with | |
| | | necessary project engagements within the district. A pledge was | |
| | | made to support the project whenever the team reaches out for | |
| | | assistance. | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | RDCS Office Kiryandongo District | The Deputy RDC expressed appreciation for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project and confirmed his awareness of its progress. | 17 th June 2025 |
| | | He highlighted that monitoring government programs is within the RDC's official responsibilities. | |
| | | The RDC praised MWE and the consulting team for actively involving stakeholders and noted the high level of community engagement through prior meetings. He pointed out that the Kiryandongo community is generally friendly | |
| | | and supportive of the project. The Deputy RDC offered access to his office's radio airtime to support community sensitization and ensure broad public outreach at | |
| | | all stages of the project. | |
| | RDCS Office Masindi District | : The office of the RDC is fully informed about the project and has participated in several related meetings. Encouraged the project team to execute their duties with diligence and integrity. Advised the team | 17 th June 2025 |
| | | to avoid compromise and maintain transparency throughout the project implementation. | |
| Sub-County | LC III Chairperson | The community is eagerly awaiting the commencement of the project and is well-informed, suggesting minimal resistance or management challenges. Gratitude was expressed towards the Government of | 17 th June 2025 |
| | | Uganda for bringing clean water and irrigation infrastructure to Masindi. A request was made to extend the project coverage to include Kyamwitta, which was proposed during previous | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|--------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| | | engagements. No challenges are anticipated during survey activities, | |
| | | as the community is already aware of and supports the project. | |
| LC III Chairperson | | The community in Kimengo Sub- County is willing to offer free land | 17 th June 2025 |
| | Kimengo | for the project, provided they are assured of direct benefits. The local | |
| | | population is already aware of the project, having participated in | |
| | | several meetings during the design phase, suggesting minimal | |
| | | resistance to implementation. | |
| | | There is gratitude expressed toward the Government of Uganda for | |
| | | initiating a project that provides clean water and irrigation. A request | |
| | | was made to extend the project to cover the entire Kimengo Sub- | |
| | | county due to its classification as a water-stressed area. | |
| Village Level | Myeba Village | The meeting highlighted the community's urgent need for reliable | 18 th June 2025 |
| | | water access, with residents facing severe shortages for domestic use, | |
| | | livestock, and irrigation due to broken boreholes and long queues. | |
| | | There is strong optimism that the project, now at the Resettlement | |
| | | Action Plan (RAP) stage following feasibility, design, and ESIA | |
| | | phases, will finally resolve this crisis. Local leaders emphasized the | |
| | | need for patience amid delayed implementation and encouraged full | |
| | | participation in the RAP process to ensure transparency, especially | |
| | | regarding land acquisition and compensation using district rates. | |
| | | While most infrastructure will follow road reserves, some will cross | |
| | | private land, requiring careful coordination. Residents were also | |
| | | advised to avoid impersonation and to identify locations for public | |
| | | standpipes and cattle troughs. The water will be paid for at yet-to-be- | |
| | | determined rates, with the promise of long-term cost savings, and the | |
| | | project is expected to create job opportunities for locals. The LC III | |
| | | Chair reiterated the project's significance, calling for community | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | | support given the district's limited capacity to fund such a large | |
| | | initiative independently. | |
| | Kinumi Trading Centre | Key issues identified from the meeting include the community's | 18 th June 2025 |
| | | urgent need for reliable water access, as residents have long suffered | |
| | | from water scarcity, broken boreholes, and the challenge of sharing | |
| | | limited water sources with animals, affecting livestock, irrigation, | |
| | | and domestic use. Questions raised highlighted concerns about water | |
| | | fees, coverage, management of public water points (to be overseen | |
| | | by Water User Committees), inclusion of public institutions, project | |
| | | start timelines, local employment opportunities, and compensation | |
| | | only for directly affected land. The community also requested | |
| | | affordable water connection charges. | |
| | Kitwetwe Trading Centre | Key issues identified from the meeting included the LC I | 19th June 2025 |
| | | Chairperson's welcoming remarks, expressing gratitude that the | |
| | | consultant reached Kitwetwe and urging residents to be attentive. | |
| | | Questions clarified that transmission lines avoid buildings, pipes will | |
| | | be relocated if road works affect them, and water usage will be paid | |
| | | for in due course. The LC III Chairperson concluded by urging timely | |
| | | and fair compensation, noting concerns from other areas about | |
| | | delays, before adjourning the meeting. | |
| | Kididima-Karwala | The community was argued to allow government projects to pass | 19th June 2025 |
| | | through their land for overall development and service delivery, | |
| | | while encouraging active participation and questions during the | |
| | | meeting. The LC III Chairperson of Kimengo Sub-County expressed | |
| | | gratitude for the long-overdue project, highlighted that consultants | |
| | | have spent 18 months planning it within the Sub-County, and called | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------|
| | | upon LC I leaders and the team to sensitize the community to ensure | |
| | | the project proceeds without obstruction during implementation. | |
| | Masindi Port Sub-County | Key concerns raised included the identity of the construction | 19th June 2025 |
| | | company, which will be disclosed at project commencement; the | |
| | | possibility for individuals to apply for private water connections, | |
| | | contingent on their resources and future information sharing; and the | |
| | | project's coverage, which will initially focus on select areas before | |
| | | expanding gradually to address water scarcity throughout the sub- | |
| | | county. | |
| | Kalwala-Nyakarongo | Key concerns raised were whether residents with plots in the trading | 20th June 2025 |
| | Village | center would have access to water for business, which was affirmed, | |
| | | and whether water supply would extend to deeper village areas, with | |
| | | the response indicating that extension depends on individual | |
| | | resources and future connection information. The Chairperson | |
| | | concluded by appreciating the community's engagement and | |
| | | highlighting the anticipated positive impact of the project on the lives | |
| | | of people in Kimengo Sub-county. | |
| | Kaduku Village | Key concerns raised included compensation for affected properties, | 20th June 2025 |
| | | with assurances that compensation would be provided transparently | |
| | | mainly for crops, trees, and movable assets, and that beneficiaries for | |
| | | irrigation would be selected fairly. The community also inquired | |
| | | about job opportunities for locals, which the project confirmed it | |
| | | would provide. Additionally, residents requested the project be | |
| | | implemented thoroughly and properly, noting previous water | |
| | | projects failed due to poor workmanship, and sought clarity on | |
| | | whether water access would be free or paid. | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|-------------------|----------------------|--|----------------|
| National Level | National Forest | Key issues raised during the meeting included clarifications on the | 22nd July 2025 |
| | Authority | legal right-of-way dimensions for the transmission and distribution | |
| | | lines, confirmed at 6 meters and 3 meters respectively, and the | |
| | | decision to install transmission lines underground to reduce visual | |
| | | and environmental impacts. The National Forestry Authority (NFA) | |
| | | emphasized minimizing environmental disruption by recommending | |
| | | a single transmission corridor through forested areas, particularly | |
| | | within Kaduku Central Forest Reserve (CFR), which was clarified to | |
| | | be under NFA jurisdiction rather than the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom. | |
| | | NFA also stressed the need for comprehensive forest, ecological, and | |
| | | economic assessments prior to land valuation, to inform the | |
| | | Resettlement Action Plan and mitigation strategies, with particular | |
| | | focus on biodiversity offset planning to reduce habitat fragmentation. | |
| | | Technical requests included sharing project coordinates in .kml | |
| | | format for improved spatial analysis, and careful valuation of | |
| | | affected natural resources such as pine trees and local flora and fauna. | |
| | | Additionally, livelihood considerations related to tree farming | |
| | | licensing were highlighted, and the meeting concluded with a call for | |
| | | a clear timeline for the completion of all recommended assessments | |
| | | to guide project implementation. | |
| | Mwe Wetlands | The Assistant Commissioner emphasized the critical need to protect | 24th July 2025 |
| | Resources Management | wetland buffer zones by ensuring all farming activities and physical | |
| | Department | infrastructure are located outside these areas to maintain wetland | |
| | | integrity throughout the project. He highlighted the importance of | |
| | | proper agro-chemical management to minimize environmental | |
| | | contamination and requested detailed information on the types of | |
| | | crops to be grown, the chemicals to be used, and the estimated daily | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|-------------------|------------------------|---|----------------|
| | | water abstraction volumes, stressing that a water abstraction permit | |
| | | must be obtained. While raising no objection to the project's | |
| | | progression, the Commissioner conditioned this on clarifying | |
| | | environmental protection measures and water resource use. He also | |
| | | recommended a field visit to better assess potential impacts, | |
| | | particularly in farming zones, to guide informed decision-making. | |
| | Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom | The Kingdom Secretary clarified that Kaduku Hill, site of the Central | 28th July 2025 |
| | | Forest Reserve, is Kingdom land with plans to build the Kingdom | |
| | | Palace there, though currently lacking capacity to manage it, leading | |
| | | to an MoU with the National Forestry Authority for management. | |
| | | The Kingdom expressed willingness to provide alternative land if | |
| | | Kaduku Hill is unavailable but formally requested boundary opening | |
| | | and land valuation to ensure fair compensation for their interests. | |
| | | Additionally, the Kingdom owns over 49 acres for the proposed | |
| | | treatment plant, which is partly occupied by squatters needing | |
| | | resolution. The Secretary emphasized the need for official | |
| | | communication from the Ministry of Water and Environment | |
| | | regarding development intentions, requested a site visit to Kaduku | |
| | | CFR, and urged initiation of valuation, boundary assessments, and | |
| | | discussions on compensation and squatter management. | |
| | Ministry Of Works and | MoWT appreciated MWE's proactive stakeholder engagement and | 29th July 2025 |
| | Transport | expressed confidence in the project, stating MoWT has no objection | |
| | | provided all impacts are managed and approvals, especially for road | |
| | | crossings, are obtained. He cautioned against duplicating | |
| | | compensation along the Rwenkunye-Masindi Port Road corridor | |
| | | where compensation had already been done. MoWT commended the | |
| | | design team for minimizing road crossings and stressed the need for | |

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|------|--|
| | | comprehensive community sensitisation during RAP implementation | | |
| | | to ensure buy-in. Flooding risks at the Gulu-Kampala Highway | | |
| | | crossing and concerns over HIV transmission during construction, | | |
| | | particularly with reduced donor support, were noted. The Assistant | | |
| | | Commissioner committed to sharing these discussions with the | | |
| | | Commissioner for National Roads for further guidance and | | |
| | | scheduling follow-up on national road crossing procedures. | | |
| 24/3/2025 | NEMA | Meeting with NEMA took place on 24/3/2025. | | |
| | | • NEMA requested for a public hearing to be conducted given the RAP | | |
| | | requirements and scope of the project. | | |
| | | • A livelihood Restoration Plan would be required. | | |
| | | Consideration be made for change of the terms "Transmission and" | | |
| | | Distribution" to pipeline since the terms are used in electricity | | |
| | | developments. | | |
| | | • NEMA should be engaged throughout the entire process. | | |
| | | • Need for engagement of farmers in the amount of mechanization that | | |
| | | needs to be onboarded and assess farmers' readiness to utilize it. | | |
| | | • cumulative water usage be assessed, factoring in the Karuma falls dam, | | |
| | | Murchison falls dam, etc. | | |
| | | • Ensure adequate engagement of Nile Basin Commission (NBC) | | |
| | | • Consider all biodiversity aspects e.g. Runoff water management, habitats, | | |
| | | etc. For purposes of sustainability | | |

E.3 Stakeholder Engagement Policy and Legal Frameworks

The SEP is premised on Uganda's robust national policies and laws that guide inclusive, transparent, and equitable participation of diverse stakeholders in development initiatives like the MWACRID Project. Central legal instruments include; the Constitution, National Environment Act and Regulations, Land Act, Local Government Act, Access to Information Act, and Public Health Act among others collectively mandate active consultation, public hearings, community involvement, and access to information to safeguard environmental integrity, land rights, gender equality, public health, and social inclusiveness. These frameworks require MWE to ensure meaningful engagement of local communities, marginalized groups, and institutions throughout project planning and implementation, aligning with national development goals such as Vision 2040 and the National Development Plan III. By embedding these policies, the MWACRID Project aims to foster transparency, accountability, cultural sensitivity, and community ownership for sustainable and equitable outcomes.

The African Development Bank's Integrated Safeguards System (ISS) establishes comprehensive Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) designed to guide Borrowers in identifying, assessing, and managing environmental and social risks throughout project lifecycles to promote sustainable development and poverty reduction. Key operational safeguards address a broad range of issues including environmental and social risk management (OS1), labour and working conditions (OS2), resource efficiency and pollution prevention (OS3), community health and safety (OS4), involuntary resettlement (OS5), biodiversity conservation (OS6), protection of vulnerable groups (OS7), cultural heritage preservation (OS8), and robust stakeholder engagement and information disclosure (OS10). These standards ensure that projects comply with international best practices and legal obligations while fostering transparency, accountability, and inclusive participation, thereby enhancing the environmental and social sustainability and acceptance of Bank-supported initiatives across Africa.

E.4 Grievance Redress Mechanism

The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for the MWACRID Project, implemented by MWE, is a structured, accessible, and cost-free system aimed at resolving stakeholder concerns throughout the project lifecycle. Rooted in principles of fairness, promptness, transparency, and rights-based approaches, the GRM provides a platform for project-affected persons, local communities, NGOs, and other stakeholders to raise issues related to land acquisition, environmental and social impacts, employment, safety, cultural heritage, infrastructure disruptions, and other project-related grievances. The mechanism fosters early dispute resolution, builds stakeholder trust, and reinforces MWE's commitment to inclusive and socially responsible project implementation by offering an alternative to legal recourse and preventing conflict escalation.

The GRM shall be implemented through a multi-level system of Grievance Redress Management Committees (GRMCs) established at community, workers, sub-county, and district levels, with a strong emphasis on inclusivity, gender balance, and representation of marginalized groups. These committees shall manage grievance intake, logging, investigation, and resolution through well-defined procedures and escalation protocols. Key stakeholders include community members, contractors, supervising consultants, MWE, and project funders who shall play active roles in ensuring the effectiveness of the GRM, supported by targeted capacity building in grievance handling, conflict resolution, legal compliance, and communication. Accurate and confidential record-keeping, both in physical and digital formats, ensures transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement of the mechanism in alignment with national regulations and AfDB safeguard standards.

E.5 Monitoring and Reporting

The Monitoring and Reporting chapter outlines a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework developed by the MWE to ensure the effective implementation of stakeholder engagement and grievance redress mechanisms throughout the MWACRID Project. The framework is designed to systematically assess progress, enhance accountability, and ensure continuous improvement by tracking performance across all project stages that is from planning to completion using defined indicators, regular data collection, and evaluation tools. It emphasizes transparency through structured feedback and reporting mechanisms, including stakeholder meetings, public reports, and tailored communication strategies to ensure that stakeholders remain informed and involved. Regular monitoring, mid-term and end-of-project evaluations, and active stakeholder feedback integration are key to maintaining responsiveness, addressing challenges, and refining strategies to ensure meaningful participation and conflict resolution across the project lifecycle.

E.6 Budget for the Implementation and Monitoring of Stakeholder Engagement Activities

This table below indicates the key activities and proposed costs related to stakeholder engagement plan to be implemented by MWE during the implementation of the MWACRID project. The total estimated budget for the implementation and monitoring of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan over a six-year project period is UGX 1,936,200,000/=, based on an annual allocation of UGX 322,700,000/=.

Table 0-3: Key activities and proposed costs for one financial year related to stakeholder engagement

| Planned Activity | Method Used | Responsibilities | Frequency/Timeline | Annual Cost | Six-Year Cost |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | | | | (UGX) | (UGX) |
| General Stakeholders Sensitization | Meetings, Workshops, | Project Manager, | Quarterly | 55,500,000 | 333,000,000 |
| Meetings | Forums | Facilitators | | | |
| Sensitization Meetings on Right of | Meetings, Public | Project Manager, Field | Bi-monthly | 66,600,000 | 399,600,000 |
| Way | Consultations | Staff | | | |
| Formation & Dissemination of | Meetings, Workshops | Project Manager, Legal | Annually | 18,500,000 | 111,000,000 |
| Grievance Redress Committee | | Advisor | | | |
| Guidelines | | | | | |
| Capacity Building | Meetings, Workshops | Project Manager, Legal | Annually | 21,000,000 | 126,000,000 |
| | | Advisor | | | |
| Stakeholder Engagement with | Meetings, Workshops | Project Manager | Bi-annually | 22,200,000 | 133,200,000 |
| Special Interest Groups | | | | | |
| Stakeholder Engagement | Field Visits, Consultations, | M&E Officer, Project | Quarterly | 15,000,000 | 90,000,000 |
| Monitoring | Documentation Review | Manager | | | |
| Grievance Redress Mechanism | Review Meetings, Case | Grievance Officer, | Quarterly | 12,000,000 | 72,000,000 |
| Monitoring | Tracking | Project Manager | | | |
| Communication and Feedback | Surveys, Feedback Forums | Communications | Quarterly | 10,000,000 | 60,000,000 |
| Monitoring | | Officer | | | |
| Compliance Monitoring | Site Inspections, Audits | Compliance Officer | Quarterly | 12,000,000 | 72,000,000 |
| Resource Allocation Monitoring | Financial Tracking, | Finance Officer, | Quarterly | 8,000,000 | 48,000,000 |
| | Reporting | Project Manager | | | |
| Training and Capacity Building | Workshops, Hands-on | Project Manager, | Bi-annually | 15,000,000 | 90,000,000 |
| _ | Training | Trainers | | | |
| Impact Assessment | Surveys, Field Studies | M&E Officer, Project | Annually | 20,000,000 | 120,000,000 |
| | | Manager | | | |

| Monitoring Activities | Field Visits, Data | M&E Officer | Quarterly | 12,000,000 | 72,000,000 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Collection | | | | |
| Evaluation Activities | Mid-term & End-term | External Evaluator, | Mid-term & End- | 20,000,000 | 120,000,000 |
| | Reviews | M&E Officer | term | | |
| Feedback and Reporting | Reports, Briefings | Project Manager, M&E | Quarterly | 7,000,000 | 42,000,000 |
| | | Officer | | | |
| Reporting Back to Stakeholders | Community Meetings, | Project Manager, | Annually | 7,900,000 | 47,400,000 |
| | Feedback Forums | Facilitators | | | |
| Total | | | | 322,700,000 | 1,936,200,000 |

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Government of Uganda, through the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), intends to implement a Multi-Purpose Water for Climate Resilience and Irrigation Development for Livelihood Transformation (MWACRID) Project with funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The project seeks to provide an integrated and sustainable water supply system to serve multiple uses most notably; the provision of clean, treated water for domestic use in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba (Kiryandongo District) and Mirya and Kimengo (Masindi District), improving public health, hygiene, and livelihoods. The project will also provide for irrigation for approximately 15,000 hectares of farmland, benefitting smallholder and commercial farmers and enhancing agricultural productivity and food security.

The implementation of the MWACRID shall involve direct and indirect involvement of diverse stakeholders with capacity to influence the project either positively or negatively. Such large-scale infrastructure development projects are associate with numerous complexities with a bearing on both the natural and social environments where they a being established hence the involvement a diverse range of stakeholders at the different stages such as planning, land acquisition, construction, operation, and maintenance of the project is inevitable. It is for this reason that this Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared as a living and guiding document to ensure proper coordination and management of stakeholder interests and concerns promptly and with an acceptable structure.

1.2 Project Description

The following are the components for MWACRID Project in Masindi and Kiryandongo District.

1.2.1 Project Location

The project area spans both Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts in Uganda. Masindi District, located in the mid-western region, covers approximately 4,200 square kilometers and is bordered by Kiryandongo to the east, Nwoya to the north, and several other districts. Kiryandongo District, also in western Uganda, covers around 3,600 square kilometers and shares borders with Nwoya, Masindi, and other neighboring districts. Masindi Port, the project's proposed water source catchment area, lies along the western banks of the Nile River, about 194 km northwest of Kampala and 49 km from Masindi town. Known for attracting tourists for various leisure, religious, and business purposes, Masindi Port is strategically located near the Nile River, which serves as the primary water source for the project. Its coordinates are 1°41'54.0" N, 32°04'40.0" E.

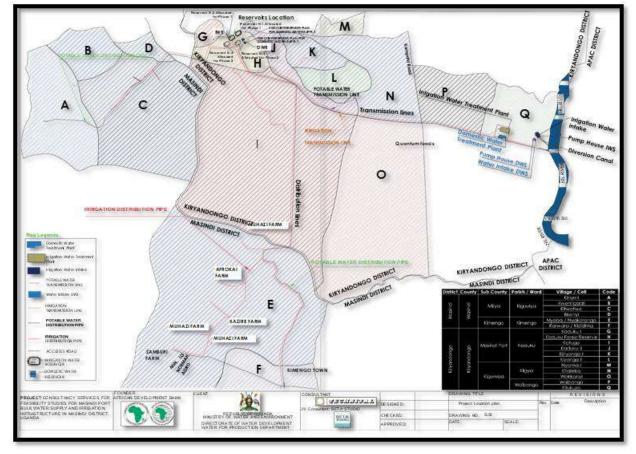


Figure 1-1: Map showing the location of the proposed of MWACRID Project

1.2.2 Proposed water source

The abstraction point of the water supply project is located along the Nile River in Masindi Port, 18 km downstream the outlet of Lake Kyoga (Kimyoga Village, Waibanga Parish, Masindi Port Sub County, Kibanda County, Kiryandongo District at UTM Coordinates 36N 399074.31 187379.09). The intake at the source will be equipped with submersible pumps to meet the demand for irrigation, domestic use, livestock watering, and rural industries. Raw water from the intake will be transmitted through Galvanized Iron (GI) pipes to the treatment plants and pumped to storage tanks located at Kaduku hill. From there, a by-gravity distribution system will supply water to the delivery points, ensuring sufficient water supply for various purposes

1.2.3 General characteristics of the infrastructure

The MWACRID Project is designed as electricity powered multipurpose water system to meet the water demand of 12700 ha net irrigation area, 10,340 livestock heads and 87,000 population in the sub counties of Masindi Port in Kiryandongo District, Mirya and Kimengo sub counties in Masindi District. The first phase of the project considers supply of raw water to the farms of Soul Agric, Afrokai, Kazire, Zamburi, Kisiriza Excellence Ltd, CMG, Muhazi Heritage, Norma Agric, Lochab, Asiri, Medium scale farms and Kimengo area. Treated Drinking water shall also be supplied to Kimengo Town, Masindi Port town, Misenyi, Mile10 and Kiziba TC.

The main project components include the following:

1.2.3.1 Portable water supply infrastructure components

- Diversion Canal
- Water Intake and Pump Station for Portable Water
- Domestic Water Treatment Plant (DWTP)
- The DWTP will include several key buildings and facilities:
- Process Buildings: Containing the treatment units and machinery for coagulation, sedimentation, and filtration, and disinfection.
- Control Room: Equipped with advanced monitoring systems to oversee plant operations and water quality parameters.
- Electrical Building: Housing electrical systems, including power supply and backup generators to ensure uninterrupted operation.
- Maintenance Buildings: Providing storage for maintenance tools, spare parts, and equipment for ongoing operations.
- Office and Administrative Buildings: Supporting the management of the WTP and associated systems.
- Guard Room
- Transmission pipeline
- Pump Stations at the Water Intake
- Distribution pipelines
- Main Reservoir tanks

1.2.3.2 Irrigation Water Supply Infrastructure system

- Diversion Canal
- Water Intake and Pump Station for Irrigation
- Irrigation Water Treatment Plant (IWTP)
- Buildings within the IWTP compound
- The WTP will include several key buildings and facilities:
 - Process Buildings: Containing the treatment units and machinery for coagulation, sedimentation, and filtration, and disinfection.
 - Control Room: Equipped with advanced monitoring systems to oversee plant operations and water quality parameters.
 - Electrical Building: Housing electrical systems, including power supply and backup generators to ensure uninterrupted operation.
 - Maintenance Buildings: Providing storage for maintenance tools, spare parts, and equipment for ongoing operations.
 - Office and Administrative Buildings: Supporting the management of the WTP and associated systems.
 - Guard Room
- Transmission pipeline
- Pump Stations at the Water Intake

- Distribution pipelines
- Main Reservoir tanks for Irrigation
- Distribution Line to the farm gates for irrigation.

1.2.4 Intake Works and Raw Water Pumps

The water intake system is crucial for extracting and delivering water efficiently. Factors such as water availability, sediment transport, environmental regulations, and constructability carefully considered in during the project studies process. The intake will be located next to the Nile River, with two pump stations transferring water to the sediment and water treatment plant. The multipurpose project is designed to serve 50,000 people for 25 years. The intake from River Nile will consist of 7 submersible pumps with a capacity of 370,333 m3/day each for irrigation and livestock. and 2 other pumps for domestic water supply with capacity of 4667 m³/day. so, the total flow in the will be 375,000 m³/day. Raw water will be transmitted through various pipes to meet demands for irrigation, domestic use, livestock watering, and rural industries.

1.2.5 Treatment Plant

The incoming raw water from the pumping station in Masindi Port will have to meet a demand of 325.000 m³/day, of which 320.000 m³/day will be for irrigation and 5000 m³/day for drinking water consumption. Treatment for the drinking water section will be more stringent to ensure excellent quality drinking water output, while for water intended for irrigation will undergo a treatment that removes the sediments that can cause problems of clogging the electromechanical parts of irrigation systems.

Raw water arriving at the plant will be conveyed to an equalization/homogenization tank, capable of providing a useful volume of at least 15.000 m³, considering a retention time of about one hour. From that tank, the water will proceed to:

- Fine screening: 8 parallel lines providing a flow rate of 8 × 2.000 m³/h with mesh openings around 20 mm, to retain suspended particles having larger sizes. The retained material is sent to a compactor by augers and bagged.
- Pre-sedimentation: 8 circular sedimentation tanks with a diameter of 40 m, ensuring a capacity of 8 × 2000 m³/h with a retention time of about 90 minutes, which allow the removal of suspended solids by gravity.

After pre-sedimentation, the water will reach a flow divider/equalizer and then be sent to the treatments. Water destined for irrigation use (approximately 13.330 m³/h) will reach a storage tank capable of regulating the outflow and managing any changes in the flow rate, before being sent to the lifts and fed into the distribution network.

1.2.6 Transmission Mains

From the intake to the treatment and sedimentation plants the irrigation pipeline sized as DN 1600 mm PN 10 and the drinking water pipeline sized as DN 300 mm PN 10 are approximately 800 m long.

From the plants, the main transmission pipelines reach the reservoirs on Kaduku hill following a path 18'700 m long. The irrigation pipeline is sized as DN 1600 PN35. The proposed transmission main for the treated water from the treatment plant to the reservoir at Kaduku hill is sized as DN 400 mm PN 30.

Two surge tanks will be provided to absorb sudden rises of pressure (water hammer effect) caused by rapid changes in water velocity, to protect the conduit system from high internal pressures and assisting the pumps with regulation characteristics.

1.2.7 Storage Reservoirs and distribution network

Three options of the water scheme have been analysed. The alternatives mainly differ by operating time, storage capacity, pressure at the farms as follows:

Option 1:

- i. The system operates 16/24 hr and daily supplies water to the farms; the 16-hour supply might cater for future expansion;
- ii. An emergency storage volume is foreseen at Kaduku hill having a total capacity of 40,000 m³ (11% of maximum daily requirement);
- iii. Additional storage volume is foreseen at the farms for a total of 188,000 m³, equal to 50% of the maximum daily water requirement; the on-farm storage tanks shall be excavated and will be of varying capacity depending on water volume required.

Option 2:

- i. The system works 16/24 hr and supply water to each farms that can take it through a week, so supply is done once or twice a week deepening on the demand;
- ii. An emergency storage volume is foreseen at Kaduku hill having a total capacity of 40,000 m³ (11% of maximum daily requirement);
- iii. Additional storage volume is foreseen at the farms for a total of 821,000 m³, that is about 30% of the maximum weekly water requirement; the on-farm storage tanks shall be excavated and will be of varying capacity depending on water volume required.

Option 3:

- i. The pumps operate 24/24 hr and the distribution 18/24 hr continuously every day,
- ii. A storage volume is foreseen at Kaduku hill having a total capacity of 188,000 m³ (equal to 50% of maximum daily requirement);
- iii. No additional storage volume is foreseen at the farms, but the water is provided with sufficient pressure for sprinkler and drip irrigation systems.

The following table summarizes the adopted design demands for the three options.

Table 1-1: Summary of the Design Demands for Options 1, 2, 3

| | Irrigated | Max Required | | Design Discharge | 2 | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|------------------------------------|-------|--|
| Farm Name | Area | Volume Per | (m3/h) | | | |
| | (ha) | Week (m3) | Opt 1 | Opt 2 | Opt 3 | |
| Soul Agric | 1,640 | 297,562 | 2,657 | 17,276 | 2,362 | |
| Afro-Kai | 1,220 | 231,898 | 2,071 | 14,673 | 1,840 | |
| Kazire | 392 | 115,154 | 1,028 | 7,286 | 914 | |
| Zamburi Farm | 130 | 23,587 | 211 | 1,492 | 187 | |
| Kisirizi | 430 | 115,171 | 1,028 | 7,813 | 914 | |
| Excellence | 430 | 113,171 | 1,028 | 7,013 | 914 | |
| CMG | 81 | 13,297 | 119 | 902 | 106 | |
| Muhazi Heritage | 1,562 | 377,879 | 3,374 | 23,452 | 2,999 | |
| Norma Agric | 130 | 21,341 | 191 | 1,315 | 169 | |
| Lochab | 4,000 | 967,680 | 8,640 | 23,452 (2.58 times per week) | 7,680 | |
| Asili | 1,448 | 237,704 | 2,122 | 8,091 | 1,887 | |
| Medium Scale Farms (4 in No.) | 320 | 52,531 | 469 | 3,236 | 417 | |
| Kimengo area | 1,000 | 172,800 | 1,543 | 10,646 | 1,371 | |

1.2.8 Number of Famers in The Project Area

Information from the feasibility study indicates that the majority of farmers in the two districts fall within the micro-scale and smallholder categories, making them ideal candidates for structured, community-based irrigation schemes.

- 1. In Masindi Port sub-county alone, 154 farmers were recorded: 57 micro-scale, 93 smallholders, and only 4 medium-scale.
- 2. In Miirya, there were 40 farmers, of whom 7 were micro-scale, 30 smallholders, and 3 medium-scale.
- 3. Similarly, Kimengo had 89 farmers, including 10 micro-scale, 63 smallholders, and 16 medium-scale.

4. Notably, Kigumba sub-county hosts 14 coffee farmer groups with an average of 16 members each,

1.2.9 On-farm storage tanks

The on-farm storage tanks (alternatives n. 1 and 2) shall be excavated and will be of varying capacity and will protect with a dam liner as summarized in Table 7. They consist of two scenarios i.e. Option 1 where the demand is met daily for each farm and Option 2 where the demand for the week is supplied once or twice a week. The required volume per week is estimated considering the irrigation water requirement and an irrigation efficiency of 70%.

Table 1-2: On farm storage tanks' volume

| Farm | Net irrigation area (Ha) | Required Volume Per week | Proposed Storage (Option 1 ≈ 50% daily demand) | Proposed Storage (Option 2 ≈ 30% weekly demand) |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Soul Agric | 1,640 | 297,561.6 | 21,254 | 86380 |
| Afrokai | 1,220 | 231,897.6 | 16,564 | 73366 |
| Kazire | 392 | 115,153.9 | 8,225 | 36431 |
| Zamburi Farm | 130 | 23,587.2 | 1,685 | 7462 |
| Kisiriza Excellence Ltd | 750 | 115,171.2 | 8,227 | 39066 |
| CMG | 81 | 13,296.96 | 950 | 4,510 |
| Muhazi Heritage | 1,562 | 377,879 | 26,991 | 118,075 |
| Norma Agric | 130 | 21,340.8 | 1,524 | 6,574 |
| Lochab | 4,000 | 967,680 | 69,120 | 308,200 |
| Asiri | 1,448 | 237,703.7 | 16,979 | 71,355 |
| Medium scale farms | 320 | 52,531.2 | 3,752 | 16,182 |
| Kimengo area | 1,000 | 172,800 | 12,343 | 53,231 |

1.2.10 Farmers Summary

Below is a table summarizing the stakeholder farmers, their respective farm sizes, and main crops. This table provides an overview of each farm's cropping pattern.

Table 1-3: Stakeholder/farmers and cropping patterns

| Name of Farm/Stakeholder | Enterprises | Coverage (Ha) |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Soul Agric | Maize | 671 |
| | Banana | 81 |
| | Coffee | 219 |
| | Pawpaw | 81 |
| | Macadamia | 121 |
| | Hass Ovacado | 405 |
| | Guava | 20 |
| | Fruits | 20 |
| | Soyabeans | 20 |
| | Apairy (bee keeping) | 2 |
| | Total | 1,640 |
| 2. Afrokai | Hass Ovacado | 243 |
| | Macadamia | 162 |
| | Cashew nuts | 105 |

| | maize | 710 |
|---|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Total | 1,220 |
| 3. Kazire | Medicinal (Cactus) | 81 |
| | Lemon | 126 |
| | Pasture for Cows | 81 |
| | Maize | 104 |
| | Total | 392 |
| 4. Zamburi Farm | Coffee | 40 |
| | Hass Ovacado | 40 |
| | Maize | 49 |
| | Total | 130 |
| 5. Kisiriza Excellence Ltd | Grain and Tubers | 200 |
| | Citrus/Oranges/Horticulture | 80 |
| | Pasture | 150 |
| | Agro-forestry | 120 |
| | Exotic Cattle and Goats | 200 |
| | Total | 750 |
| 6. CMG | Maize | 81 |
| | Goat and Cows | |
| 7. Muhazi Heritage | Sugarcane | 1,562 |
| 8. Norma Agric | Maize | 130 |
| 9. Lochab | Sugarcane | 4,000 |
| 10. Asiri | Maize | 1,448 |
| 11. Quantum Foods | Poultry Farm (200,000 | 360 |
| | birds) | |
| 12. Presidential Hub | 100 | 40 |
| 13. Uganda Investment Authority | | |
| 14. Kimengo Area | Maize and High Value | 1,000 |
| | Crops | |
| 15. Others Identified from Masindi and | Maize | 320 |
| Kiryandongo DLG (See Annex 3) | | |
| 16. Kiryandongo District Local Government | | |
| Staff (10No.) | | |
| 17. Masindi District Local Government Staff | | |
| (10No.) | | |

(Source: Study Team)

1.2.11 Potential command areas

1.2.11.1 Water Source and Command Area Overview

The project Crop farming area covers a total of 13,033 hectares, while livestock farms cover 2,311 hectares. The main water source is projected to be the Nile River.

1.2.11.2 Overview of crop farms in the command area

The crop farms in the project area grow a variety of staple and high-value crops. Maize, soybeans, sugarcane, Hass avocado, and macadamia dominate the landscape, benefiting from the irrigation system's reliable water supply.

Table 1-4: Crop Farms

| Name of Farm/Stakeholder | Enterprises | Acreage (Ha) |
|--|---|-----------------|
| Soul Agric | Maize, Banana, Coffee, Pawpaw, Macadamia, Hass Avocado, Guava, Fruits, Soybeans, Apiary (bee keeping) | 1,640 |
| Afro-Kai | Hass Avocado, Macadamia, Cashew Nuts, Maize | 1,220 |
| Kazire | Medicinal (Cactus), Lemon, Pasture for Cows, Maize | |
| Zamburi Farm | Coffee, Hass Avocado, Maize | 130 |
| Kisirizi Excellence Ltd | Grain and Tubers, Citrus/Oranges/Horticulture, Pasture, Agro-forestry, Exotic Cattle and Goats | |
| CMG | Maize | 81 |
| Muhazi Heritage | Sugarcane | 1,562 |
| Norma Agric | Maize | 130 |
| Lochab | Sugarcane | 4,000 |
| Asiri | Maize | 1,448 |
| Quantum Foods | Poultry Farm (200,000 birds) | |
| Kimengo Area | Maize and High Value Crops | |
| Others Identified from Masindi and Kiryandongo DLG | Maize | 320 |

(Source: Study Team)

1.2.11.3 Overview of livestock farms in the command area

Livestock farming occupies a significant part of the command area, with **2,311 hectares** dedicated to raising cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, and poultry. These farms are vital to the region's economy and rely heavily on the irrigation system to meet their daily water requirements. Table 7 below summarizes the key livestock holdings.

Table 1-5: Key livestock holdings

| No. | Farm | Location | Holding (Ha) |
|-----|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 | Nuwahereza | Myeeba | 516 |
| 2 | Gen. Kashaka | Kitaleba | 377 |
| 3 | Quantum Foods | Masindi Port | 360 |
| 4 | Kamugunda Eric | Nyinarwenkunyi | 202 |
| 5 | Gen. Birungi | Wakisanyi | 121 |
| 6 | Elites (Eng. Davis) | Wakisanyi | 60 |
| 7 | Sande Katarahiya | Kitaleba | 60 |
| 8 | Mbabali Zeverio | Kitaleba | 60 |
| 9 | Nuwe | Katuugo | 52 |
| 10 | Ebenezar | Myeeba | 48 |
| 11 | Nkamuhabwe Fred | Kiryanseka | 48 |
| 12 | Kiiza Kensi | Wakisanyi | 40 |
| 13 | Hon. Kiiza Godwin | Kimyoka | 40 |
| 14 | Ntatunda George | Rwenkunyi | 40 |
| 15 | Nuwagira Godfrey | Katuugo | 40 |
| 16 | Bataringaya Fred | Katuugo | 36 |

| No. | Farm | Location | Holding (Ha) |
|-----|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 17 | Save More | Wakisanyi | 32 |
| 18 | Mugisha Patrick | Kitaleba | 32 |
| 19 | JERAP (Pamela farm) | Kitaleba | 28 |
| 20 | Wandera Stephen | Waibango | 28 |
| 21 | Butale George | Nyinarwenkunyi | 23 |
| 22 | Mahooro Justine | Rwenkunji | 23 |
| 23 | Martin Matsiko | Kitukuza | 20 |
| 24 | Eden | Namilyango | 20 |

1.2.12 Construction works

1.2.12.1 Site clearing, excavations and levelling

The first stage of the construction phase is site clearing for both section of the proposed project construction and for stock piling material covered with tarpaulin to reduce material erosion. Site clearance should be only limited to areas required for construction to reduce on the impact on biodiversity. This is followed by setting out of site for construction alignment and leveling using various survey and construction equipment and materials. This is then followed by the excavation phase that will generate a lot of cut and spoil material to be removed from the site.

1.2.12.2 Compaction works

Compaction works follow the excavations stage which involves use of machinery e.g. compactors and generators for energy supply. This stage of construction will be essential prior to constructing the foundation through creation of a stable working space. It will also be the major determining factor for the alignment of the station.

1.2.12.3 Materials Mobilization, Handling and Storage

Materials such as concrete, cement, hoop iron, sand, gravel stone aggregates, pipes and the like will basically be acquired from the nearest and suitable site giving materials and licensed traders that meet the specifications. Transportation will be by road. Provision will be made for bulk storage of materials on site.

1.2.12.4 Concrete works

Concrete columns will be erected to form a firm foundation and frame for the stations. Concrete blocks will also be used during wall construction. Most of the building materials for completion will include cement, concrete blocks and slabs, sand, iron sheets, iron bars, timber trusses, glass and iron beams and these can be obtained from the local market.

1.2.12.5 Mechanical works

Water source station

The water source stations will comprise of pumps and power source most like solar, pipe line, including guard house and sanitary facilities. All exposed pipe work leading into; within and

out of the pump house shall be galvanized iron pipe. Fittings to be provided include non-return valve, gate valves, meter and pressure gauges. The whole installation shall be earthed and provided with lightning protection.

Installation of storage reservoir tank

This will involve excavations for the tank foundation footings, building of footprints, transporting of the tank parts / components and installation of the reservoir tank.

Installation of transmission and distribution water lines

This will involve excavation of shallow trenches in the identified areas that is through bush lands, gardens (with consent from owners) road reserve along some of the roads in the area to route the water transmission and distribution lines, installation of the water transmission and distribution lines and backfilling of trenches. Being generally rural, there may not be existing underground service lines for water, electricity, optic fibre, and the like likely to be affected in the project area.

1.2.12.6 Civil works

This will involve ferrying, to the water source location site, materials (cement, bricks, sand and roofing materials), foundation excavations and building works, chain link fencing and power generator/solar installations. On the station will be a chlorination room connected to the reservoir tank. The chlorination room will be a concrete floor, rendered block work structure. The water will be disinfected by dosing with calcium hypochlorite solution.

1.2.12.7 Electrical services

The pump station will be connected to Hydro power which will be supplemented by solar power.

1.2.13 Operation and Maintenance of the Proposed Water Supply System

The MWACRID Project will require full time technicians to manage the scheme on a daily basis to be able to ensure the system is running well, clean tanks when necessary, repair any breakages as they happen, ensure security for the installed infrastructure. A designated team of technicians will co-ordinate the operation and management of water supply systems. It is anticipated that the client and partners will handle O&M costs.

1.2.14 Periodic Upgrading/Maintenance of the Energy Supply

One of the areas that are likely to cause great injury to the environment if not addressed well is the sanitation and energy system at the station. Major activities to this effect will be geared towards periodic upgrading of the energy systems to avert any would be fire occurrence from electric short circuits. The reservoir tank will be periodically maintained. Rain water from the roofs (of infrastructure on site) will also be harvested and used for sanitary purposes on site.

1.2.15 Emergency/safety support systems

The project operator will ensure periodic monitoring of the safety support systems. The structure will be fitted with fire extinguishers and fire alarms for emergency firefighting. These will periodically be upgraded to maintain their functionality. A functional first aid kit and Emergency contacts should be put in place to cater for any emergency cases at the site.

1.2.16 Solid and liquid waste management

Housekeeping will be key in promoting tidiness, preventing disease outbreak, accidents and environmental pollution during operation/occupancy of the facilities. Effective collection, storage and disposal of all wastes will be given priority and periodically undertaken. Maintenance and periodic cleaning of the toilet and bathroom will be undertaken to ensure a hygienic environment. Proper maintenance of the physical structures will also be among the regular activities that will be carried out during the operation phase to ensure a tidy operating environment.

1.2.17 Security, Health and Safety provisions

During the operation phase, there will be health and safety as well as security concerns which will need attention. These will include noise, dust, disease and accidents as well as communicable diseases. Security of the site and premises, security of workers and security of equipment. Stringent measures such as engineering controls, training of personnel, provision of appropriate and adequate PPE like nose masks, ear muffs, gloves and safety clothes, installation of safety signage among others should be put in place. The community will also be safe guarded by fencing off the site, installation of safety signage and through conducting of sensitization programmes.

2 METHODOLOGY USED TO PREPARE THE SEP

2.1 Stakeholder Identification and Mapping

The preparation of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), begun with stakeholder identification and mapping, guided by Uganda's Constitution (1995), the Uganda Partnership Policy (2013), the African Development Bank's (AfDB) Integrated Safeguards System (ISS) of 2023 which emphasize inclusive participation and structured dialogue. This step involved document reviews, site visits, and consultations with local leaders to identify and categorize all stakeholders.

2.2 Stakeholder Analysis

Stakeholder analysis was conducted through based on expert judgement to assess the interests, concerns, influence, and potential impact of stakeholders on the project. The stakeholder engagement plan objectives and principles were then determined, ensuring alignment with national laws and the AfDB-ISS 2023, which prioritizes environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and transparency.

Further verification of risks, interest, influence, and importance during the initial fieldwork-based stakeholder engagement guided and facilitated the mapping of each stakeholder onto the Power/Interest Grid or the Quadrants of the Stakeholder Analysis Tool (as shown below) to determine suitable level of engagement. The Power/Interest Grid also facilitates concretisation of the stakeholder engagement strategies, listed in the stakeholder Analysis Matrix presented above.

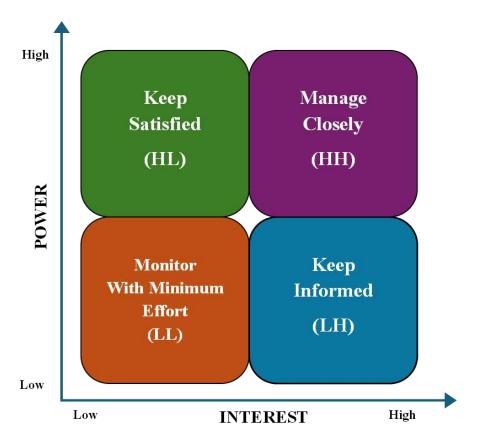


Figure 2-1: Power/Interest Grid

Mapping stakeholders to the Power-Interest Grid is a critical step in stakeholder analysis to visualize the importance and influence of each stakeholder or stakeholder group in a project. This step involves plotting each identified stakeholder into one of four quadrants on the grid, each representing a combination of 'power' over and 'interest' in the project.

1. Manage Closely

Stakeholders in this quadrant are highly influential and deeply interested in the project. They have significant power to impact the project's direction and outcome and are actively concerned with its progress and success. They can dictate the project's success and provide essential resources, approvals, and support. Their high level of interest and power makes them central figures in project planning and execution hence they should be prioritized, fully engaged and the project is supposed to make the greatest efforts to satisfy them with benefits of the project.

2. Keep Satisfied

This quadrant consists of stakeholders who can influence the project significantly but are less interested in the day-to-day execution or the outcome. They might not follow the project closely but have substantial influence, so their needs cannot be ignored. These could include high-level officials, regulatory bodies, or certain department heads. They can obstruct the project if their expectations are not managed, even without deep engagement with its details or progress. Therefore, it is important to manage them actively enough to keep their interests satisfied.

3. Keep Informed

Stakeholders in this quadrant are highly interested in the project but possess little power to influence its outcome directly. They are typically affected by the project's results or process but do not have the authority to change its course. Examples of such stakeholders include, project affected persons, project end users, lower-level employees, and non-key clients. These stakeholders can offer valuable insights and feedback and often represent the broader community impacted by the project.

4. Monitor With Minimum Effort

The final quadrant is for stakeholders with neither significant power over the project nor a high level of interest in it. These stakeholders require minimal engagement and are typically monitored to ensure no unexpected interest or influence arises. They might include members of the wider community or groups within an organization not directly impacted by the project. It's essential to keep a baseline level of communication open with these stakeholders to ensure they do not shift into another quadrant unexpectedly.

2.3 Determination of Appropriate Engagement and Methods

Appropriate engagement methods were selected ranging from public meetings, radio talking shows and announcements in local languages. An effective Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was incorporated, with accessible channels alongside procedures for tracking and resolving complaints.

Additionally, a robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms was embedded into the SEP, incorporating clear indicators, feedback loops, and periodic reviews to ensure adaptive management. Throughout the process, documentation and transparency are critical, ensuring that all engagement efforts contribute to building trust, safeguarding rights, and achieving sustainable, inclusive development.

2.4 Review and Approval Draft SEP

During the preparation SEP, a structured review process was conducted to ensure the plan is contextually appropriate, legally compliant, and aligned with both Uganda's national frameworks and the AfDB-ISS, (2023). The review involved internal review by the Consultant and the MWE Project Team. A compliance check was carried out by the AfDB team to confirm adherence to AfDB requirements on inclusivity, meaningful engagement, and grievance management. The comments generated were incorporated into the final SEP to strengthen transparency, ownership, and readiness for implementation.

3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

3.1 Introduction

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the MWACRID Project sets out a clear, early-start framework aligned with Ugandan law and the AfDB Environmental and Social Framework for identifying, involving, and responding to all project stakeholders throughout the project cycle. By defining engagement objectives, methods, tools and feedback mechanisms, this SEP ensures that environmental and social risks shall be managed collaboratively, boost project acceptance, and ensure accountability. It will be implemented by the Ministry of Water's Environmental and Social experts, the project team, consultants and contractors to guarantee that stakeholder concerns are solicited, addressed and integrated into project design and delivery.

3.2 Objectives of The Plan

3.2.1 Overall Objective

The overarching aim of this SEP is to ensure a structured, inclusive, consistent, comprehensive, and coordinated approach to executing the MWACRID Project while adhering to both national and international best practices and engagement strategies.

3.2.2 Specific Objectives

The SEP will be implemented to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. Foster Informed and Meaningful Stakeholder Participation: Ensure that stakeholders, including affected communities, are well-informed about project plans, objectives, and potential impacts. Provide opportunities for meaningful participation in decision-making processes, delivering relevant information in a timely manner and in accessible language and formats.
- Address Stakeholders' Concerns and Interests: Identify and respond to the concerns, interests, and expectations of stakeholders, particularly those directly impacted by the projects. Engage with stakeholders to understand their perspectives and needs, incorporating these insights into project design and implementation to mitigate adverse impacts and enhance benefits.
- 3. **Build and Maintain Trust and Constructive Relationships**: Establish and sustain trust and constructive relationships between MWE and stakeholders, including affected communities, local authorities, and other relevant parties. This is crucial for effective engagement, mutual understanding, and cooperation, facilitating smoother project implementation and conflict resolution.
- 4. Enhance Project Design and Outcomes: Incorporate stakeholder feedback and insights to improve project design, ensuring better alignment with community needs

and expectations. Proactive engagement helps to address potential issues early, leading to more effective and sustainable project outcomes.

- 5. Ensure Transparency, Accountability, and Effective Grievance Redress: Promote transparency and accountability in project processes by providing clear and accessible information to stakeholders, addressing their queries and concerns, and establishing channels for grievances. This reduces the risk of disputes, builds trust, and keeps stakeholders informed about project progress and outcomes.
- 6. Ensure Compliance and Integration with International Standards and Project Phases: Adhere to international standards and guidelines for stakeholder engagement, such as the AfDB-ISS. Implement a structured approach to engagement that is integrated into all project phases, ensuring continuous and effective involvement throughout the project lifecycle.

3.3 Stakeholder Identification and Analysis

The following criteria, adjusted to take account of local specific conditions, are proposed to be used for the identification of stakeholders for MWE to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach is adopted to undertake stakeholder identification and engagement to foster better project outcomes and stronger community relations.:

- 1. **Dependency:** Project implementation may significantly affect a given social group, particularly if the group's vital interests are dependent on the project's ongoing operations in economic or financial terms. For instance, fishermen relying on a river for their livelihood would be stakeholders in a project involving water management or construction of a dam, as their economic well-being is directly tied to the project's outcomes.
- 2. Expressed Interest: A social group and/or individual may express interest in a project or ongoing operations, even if they are not directly affected by the planned or current activities. This might include academic researchers interested in the environmental impact of the project, advocacy groups focusing on human rights or biodiversity, or citizens participating in public forums out of civic interest.
- **3. Influence:** A social group may be able to substantially influence project implementation or ongoing operations. This includes groups such as local governments, influential community leaders, or non-governmental organizations (NGOs). For instance, an environmental NGO might have the power to sway public opinion or lobby for regulatory changes that could impact the project's progress.
- **4. Liability:** Stakeholders may be identified if project implementation or ongoing operations could result in legal, financial, or other liabilities for the project proponent. For example, local communities living near a construction site might have concerns about potential environmental damage, noise, or displacement, which could lead to legal actions or claims for compensation against the project developers.

- **5. Partnership:** There are opportunities for building partnership relations between the project developer and a given social group within the framework of project implementation or ongoing operations. For example, collaborating with local businesses or cooperatives can create mutual benefits, such as local employment opportunities and support for the project's goals through shared resources and expertise.
- **6. Representation:** A social group may have the right to represent interests concerning a project or ongoing operations, and this right is legitimized through legislation, custom, and/or cultural specifics. Examples include indigenous groups with recognized land rights or Labour unions representing workers' interests in the context of large-scale industrial projects.

According to the AfDB (2015), a stakeholder is an "Individuals, groups or organizations that have an interest in the outcome of a development intervention or are affected by it.". According to the Bank (2019), "Stakeholder identification is the process of determining who may be affected by or interested in a project, and who has the potential to influence its outcome." Stakeholder identification is the process of determining individuals, groups, or organizations that may affect, be affected by, or perceive themselves to be affected by a project, policy, or program. It is a foundational step in stakeholder engagement and ensures that all relevant parties are recognized and considered in planning and decision-making processes.

Effective stakeholder engagement is essential for the successful planning, implementation, and sustainability of the proposed irrigation and water supply project. The table below also shows a detailed stakeholder analysis at various phases of its lifecycle including feasibility, preparation, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), implementation, and operation and maintenance. This analysis provides a clear framework for targeted engagement and participation, ensuring transparency, inclusiveness, and alignment with both national regulatory frameworks and donor safeguard requirements.

Table 3-1: Project stakeholders' identification and analysis

| Category of | Name | Description | Phase of Engagement |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Stakeholder Primary stakeholders | Ministry of Water and Environment | Project DeveloperMWE is the Project proponent, | FeasibilityPreparation |
| | | beneficiary of financing for the proposed project and ESIA during implementation. | ESIA RAP Preparation and RAP implementation Implementation and handover Operation & Maintenance |
| | | It has the overall responsibility of the development, managing, and regulating water and Environment resources in Uganda. DWD is responsible for providing overall technical oversight for the planning, implementation and supervision of the delivery of urban, rural water and sanitation services, and water for production across the country. DWD is responsible for regulation of provision of water supply and sanitation and the provision of capacity development and other support services to Local Governments, Private Operators and other service providers. | |
| | African Development Bank | Project funder | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation and handover |
| | Kafu Sugar/ Kazi Mingi Jinja Millers | Own 35.012 acres of land affected by the water treatment plant and part of the transmission line will be established and will be engaged during the RAP phase for acquisition of the affected land. | RAP |

| Masindi Port Subcounty | Lower local government hosting the project | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| | intake, treatment plant and part of the | Implementation and handover, Operation & |
| | transmission and distribution lines | Maintenance |
| National Forestry Authority | Responsible for Kitakuza Forest Reserve 0.708 acres affected by the treatment plant and transmission lines and Kaduku Forest Reserve | ESIA RAP Implementation and handover |
| | 54.7 acres affected by the water reservoir tanks and transmission lines and will be engaged during the RAP phase to acquire the affected | |
| | land. | |
| Community Leaders (17 Local | Community leaders play a vital role in local | Feasibility, |
| Council Is, 6 Local Council | project management and governance. They | Preparation, |
| IIs, 4 Local Council IIIs) | oversee development activities, ensure | ESIA, |
| | community participation, and represent local | RAP, |
| | interests to higher authorities. Their responsibilities include planning and monitoring | Implementation and handover Operation & Maintenance |
| | projects, mobilizing communities, supervising | Operation & Maintenance |
| | service delivery, resolving conflicts, and | |
| | reporting progress. They contribute across | |
| | various sectors such as infrastructure by | |
| | facilitating local engagement and ensuring | |
| | efficient implementation. | |
| Kiryandongo District Local | Project district where the largest part of the | Feasibility, |
| Government | project is located will involve the political and | Preparation, |
| | technical leaderships (Chief Administrative | ESIA, |
| | Officer (CAO), Local Council Five (LCV), | RAP, |
| | Water Engineer, Community Development | Implementation and handover |
| | Officers (CDO) etc) | Operation & Maintenance |
| Masindi District Local | Project district where the largest part of the | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
| Government | project is located will involve the political and | Implementation and handover, Operation & |
| | technical leaderships (CAO, LC V, Water | Maintenance |
| | Engineer, CDO etc) | |

| T | | |
|---|--|--|
| Ministry of Works and | Responsible for the road reserves of Kimengo- | Preparation, |
| Transport | Masindi Road, Masindi Port-Kaduku-Kinomi- | ESIA, |
| | Masindi Road and responsible for giving | RAP, |
| | authorisation for the use of road reserves where | Implementation and handover |
| | the transmission and distribution lines will be | |
| | laid. | |
| Uganda Investment Authority | Owns part of land where the distribution lines to | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
| | Myeba and Kimengo Subcounty will be laid and | Implementation and handover, Operation & |
| | also beneficiary of the project | Maintenance |
| Mirya Sub-County | Lower Local government benefiting from the | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
| | project | Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
| Kimengo Sub-County | Lower Local government benefiting from the | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
| | project | Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
| Property and land owners | Project affected persons whose land and other | ESIA, RAP |
| | properties are to be affected by the project | |
| | activities. These will be identified through a | |
| | resettlement action planning. | |
| 636 Farmers including; | Project beneficiaries for water for production | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
| - Smallholder farmers | including irrigation and livestock watering. | Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
| cultivating 2 hectares | These include; 57 micro-scale, 93 smallholders, | |
| (about 5 acres). | and only 4 medium-scale. In Miirya , there were | |
| - Medium-scale farmers | 40 farmers, of whom 7 were micro-scale, 30 | |
| cultivating 2 to 10 | smallholders, and 3 medium-scale Masindi. | |
| hectares. | Similarly, Kimengo had 89 farmers, including | |
| - Large-scale farmers | 10 micro-scale, 63 smallholders, and 16 | |
| cultivating more than 10 | medium-scale. Notably, Kigumba sub-county | |
| hectares. | hosts 14 coffee farmer groups with an average | |
| | of 16 members each | |
| Project Employees/workers | People to be employed by the contractor to | Implementation |
| J F F J I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I | execute the works of the project. | |
| | r - F - J - · · · | 1 |

| Project consultants | Project consultants provide expert knowledge, | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 3 | ensure compliance with laws and donor | Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
| | standards, and offer objective, independent | 1 |
| | advice. They support project planning, | |
| | implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. | |
| Office of the Prime | Shall be engaged at all stages of the project to | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, |
| Minister/RDCs Office | ensure proper coordination of project | Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
| | components and acquisition of land for the | |
| | project. | |
| National Environment | Responsible for ensuring project compliance to | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, Implementation, |
| Management Authority | environmental and social safe guard best | Operation & Maintenance |
| | practices | |
| Ministry of Lands Housing | Responsible for approving the project | RAP |
| and Urban Development/Chief | resettlement programs and will be engaged in | |
| Government Valuer | the RAP preparation and approval stage. | |
| Ministry of Agriculture, | MAAIF in Uganda plays a central role in | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA |
| Animals, Industry and | planning irrigation projects by setting national | |
| Fisheries | irrigation policy, coordinating stakeholders, | |
| | guiding technical designs, and ensuring | |
| | alignment with agricultural development goals | |
| | and climate resilience strategies. | |
| Nile Basin Commission | Established under the 2010 Cooperative | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA |
| | Framework Agreement (CFA), the commission | |
| | promotes equitable and sustainable utilization of | |
| | Nile River resources by facilitating cooperation, | |
| | development, protection, and management of | |
| | the basin's water and related ecosystems. It | |
| | serves as a permanent institutional platform to | |
| | coordinate transboundary water governance, | |
| | resolve disputes, and succeed the Nile Basin | |

| | Vulnerable groups (elderly people and veterans, persons with disabilities, low-income families, women-headed households and single | Initiative (NBI) by assuming its roles, assets, and obligations, thereby advancing regional integration, environmental sustainability, and socio-economic development among the riparian states. Land, property owners to be impacted or disadvantaged. | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| | mothers, unemployed persons) | | |
| Secondary Stakeholders | Local NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (The Water Trust, Water Aid Uganda) | Non-governmental organizations focused on community development, social issues, and environmental concerns including to access to safe water coverage in Kiryandongo and Masindi districts | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |
| | Local Media | Radio stations include California 103.6 FM, Kibanda FM, Radio Divine FM will be involved in the implementation of the RAP construction phase of the project. | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation |
| | Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development | Will be engaged to ensure gender-sensitive approaches and social impacts are managed, monitors and enforce labour standards. | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation |
| | National Water and Sewerage Cooperation (NWSC) | NWSC is a parastatal that operates and provides water and sewerage services for 111 urban centres across the country. Sector reforms in the period 1998-2003 included commercialization and modernization of the NWSC operating in cities and larger towns as well as decentralization and private sector | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |

| | participation in small towns. NWSC also operates small conventional sewage treatment plants in a series of towns. National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) is working on a project aimed at improving sanitation and water delivery in Lira, Hoima, and Fort Portal and this project is considering the Nile River at Masindi Port | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| | as the intake | |
| Uganda Police Force | Shall be engaged to ensure security and safety during project construction, land acquisition. Shall be used to manage any criminal related activities on the project through all the phase of the project. | Feasibility, Preparation, ESIA, RAP, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance |

3.4 Stakeholder Project Information Needs

The portfolio of identified stakeholders will have diverse information needs. These will have to be addressed to facilitate meaningful engagement. A clear understanding of their needs (concerns, views, expectations, and anticipations) and possible communication modalities have to be understood. The table below provides a comprehensive analysis of each stakeholder in terms of information to be disclosed to them and the potential information that may be required from them.

Table 3-2: Stakeholder information needs by stakeholder

| Stakeholder | Information to be Disclosed to the | Potential Information that May be |
|--|---|---|
| | Stakeholder | Required from Stakeholder |
| Project Affected Persons | Project plans and timelines. Compensation and resettlement policies. Health and safety measures. Contact information for grievances. | Concerns and feedback on project impacts. Preferences and needs for compensation. Information on specific impacts or disruptions experienced. |
| Project Affected Institutions (Uganda Investment Authority, Bunyoro Kingdom) | Project details affecting their operations. Disruption mitigation plans. Compensation and relocation policies. | Institutional concerns and operational impacts. Feedback on disruption management. Needs for temporary adjustments or relocation support. |
| Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts | Project scope and objectives. Environmental and social impact assessments. Coordination and cooperation requirements. | Local concerns and feedback on project impacts. Support needed from local authorities. Coordination issues and community engagement efforts. |
| Lower Local Government Authorities (Masindi Port, Kimengo, Mirya Sub counties) | Project scope and objectives. Environmental and social impact assessments. Coordination and cooperation requirements. | Local concerns and feedback on project impacts. Support needed from local authorities. Coordination issues and community engagement efforts. |
| Contractors | Project specifications and requirements. Safety and compliance regulations. Stakeholder engagement protocols. | Progress updates and potential delays. Issues encountered during construction. Feedback on stakeholder interactions and impacts. |
| MWE Project Management Teams | Project goals and timelines.Risk management plans.Stakeholder engagement strategies.Compliance requirements. | Project progress and performance. Identification of risks and issues. Suggestions for improving project execution and stakeholder relations. |
| Supervising Consultants | Project design and implementation plans. Quality assurance requirements. Environmental and social safeguards. | Observations on project execution. Recommendations for improvements. Compliance with quality and safety standards. |
| Ministry of Water and Environment | Project objectives and scope.Funding and budget allocation.Monitoring and evaluation plans. | Feedback on project progress.Issues or challenges faced. |

| Stakeholder | Information to be Disclosed to the Stakeholder | Potential Information that May be Required from Stakeholder |
|--|--|--|
| | - Regulatory compliance. | - Recommendations for alignment with national policies and regulations. |
| Project Funder | Project budget and financial plans.Progress reports and milestones.Compliance with funding conditions. | Financial performance and expenditure reports. Feedback on project implementation. Information on any issues affecting funding or progress. |
| Local NGOs and Civil Society Organizations () | Project goals and expected outcomes. Social and environmental impact assessments. Engagement and feedback mechanisms. | Community feedback and concerns. Suggestions for addressing social and environmental issues. Support for community engagement efforts. |
| Local Media (Radio stations include California 103.6 FM, Kibanda FM, Radio Divine FM) | Project updates and progress.Key milestones and achievements.Community impact and engagement activities. | Coverage of project progress. Public perception and feedback. Information on any issues or concerns raised by the community. |
| Community, Traditional Leaders, Religious Leaders | Project benefits and impacts. Community engagement and consultation processes. Contact information for grievances and feedback. Project goals and objectives. Impact on traditional lands and cultural heritage. Plans for community engagement. Compensation and mitigation measures. Project goals and community impact. Health, safety, and environmental considerations. Community engagement strategies. Compensation and support measures. | Community concerns and feedback. Suggestions for improving community relations. Insights on local cultural and traditional considerations. Community concerns related to traditional lands. Feedback on cultural impacts. Insights on traditional practices and community needs. Feedback on community concerns and impacts. Insights on religious and cultural considerations. Suggestions for improving community relations. |
| Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development | Land acquisition and compensation plans. Urban planning considerations. Compliance with land use regulations. | Feedback on land acquisition and compensation. Issues related to land use and urban planning. Recommendations for policy improvements. |
| Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development | Social impact assessments. Gender-sensitive approaches. Labour standards and worker welfare. | Feedback on social impacts and labour practices. Suggestions for improving gender and social considerations. Reports on worker welfare issues. |
| National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) | Environmental impact assessments. Compliance with environmental regulations. Mitigation measures for environmental impacts. | Monitoring reports and compliance updates. Feedback on environmental impact mitigation. Suggestions for improving environmental safeguards. |

| Stakeholder | Information to be Disclosed to the | Potential Information that May be |
|---|---|--|
| | Stakeholder | Required from Stakeholder |
| Ministry of Water and Environment | Impact on water resources and environmental regulations. Water management and protection measures. Coordination with NEMA for environmental and social compliance. | Feedback on water resource impacts. Recommendations for water management practices. Coordination issues with other environmental measures Approval status for project related documents |
| Uganda Police Force | Security and safety measures. Traffic management plans. Coordination for maintaining public order. | Feedback on security and safety issues. Information on any public order concerns. Recommendations for improving security arrangements. |
| Uganda Land Commission | Land management and compensation policies.Coordination on land acquisition.Regulation compliance. | Feedback on land acquisition and compensation. Reports on land management issues. Recommendations for improving land administration. |
| Office of the Prime Minister/RDCs Office | Project progress and strategic alignment. Coordination among government agencies. Policy implementation. | Feedback on project alignment with national priorities. Issues or challenges in inter-agency coordination. Recommendations for improving project support. |
| Vulnerable Groups (Women and Children, Persons with Disabilities, Elderly People, Low-Income Families, Indigenous Communities, People Living with HIV/AIDS) | Project impacts on gender and child welfare. Safety and health measures. Access to support services. Accessibility and inclusion measures. Impact on mobility and access. Support services and accommodations. Impact on mobility and accessibility. Safety and health measures. Support services. Impact on living conditions. Compensation and support measures. Access to community services. Impact on traditional lands and practices. Compensation and support measures. Cultural preservation. Impact on health services and support. Safety and health measures. Access to treatment and support services. | Feedback on gender-specific impacts. Information on safety and health needs. Suggestions for improving welfare measures. Feedback on accessibility issues. Suggestions for improving accessibility. Information on specific needs and challenges. Feedback on accessibility and mobility issues. Suggestions for improving support services. Information on health and safety needs. Feedback on compensation and support measures. Information on living conditions. Suggestions for improving support and services. Feedback on impacts to traditional lands. Suggestions for cultural preservation. Information on specific community needs. Feedback on impacts to health services. Information on support needs. Suggestions for improving access to |

3.5 Purpose for Developing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

This Environmental and Social Operational Safeguard (OS) therefore recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the environmental and social (E&S) sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation. Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle. When properly designed and implemented, it supports the development of strong, constructive, and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's E&S risks. Stakeholder engagement is most effective when initiated at an early stage of the project development process and is an integral part of early project decisions and the assessment, management, and monitoring of the project's E&S risks and impacts.

The AfDB's OS 10 "Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure" recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. MWE recognizes that MWACRID Project will affect and be influenced by various stakeholders with diverse engagement needs. This SEP is designed to ensure continuous, inclusive, and meaningful engagement throughout the project's lifecycle. By integrating stakeholders' concerns and interests into project planning and execution, this proactive approach aligns with both national and international best practices, facilitating timely, relevant, and accessible communication. This enables stakeholders to voice their opinions and actively contribute to the project's success.

3.6 Principles for Effective Stakeholder Engagement

The implementation of the MWACRID Project will follow these foundational principles:

- 1. **Proactive and Early Engagement:** Engagement efforts will start at the very beginning of project planning to identify and address potential concerns and impacts before critical decisions are finalized.
- 2. Informed and Effective Participation: MWE will ensure that stakeholders have the relevant information and resources needed to engage effectively, enabling their meaningful input into the project's design and execution.
- **3. Inclusivity and Cultural Respect:** A broad spectrum of stakeholders, including marginalized and vulnerable groups, will be engaged in ways that are sensitive to cultural differences, ensuring that every perspective is valued and considered.
- **4. Ongoing and Adaptive Consultation:** Stakeholder engagement will be a continuous process throughout the project, with approaches being adjusted as needed based on feedback and changing conditions to maintain strong, trustworthy relationships.

5. Transparency and Responsibility: MWE will provide timely and clear information about the project and will establish transparent mechanisms for stakeholders to provide feedback, express concerns, and resolve issues effectively.

3.7 Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Conducted on The Project

3.7.1 Stakeholder engagement during feasibility studies and environmental and social impact assessment

During the feasibility, studies and design, environmental and social impact scoping, various stakeholders were involved in 19 meetings. During these phases a multi-tiered engagement approach was adopted through which a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and analysis was done to identify the various stakeholders including but not limited to affected households, local leaders, then using key informant interviews with district officials to gather institutional perspectives. Focus group discussions with men, women and vulnerable populations were also utilised to generate site-specific concerns around land access, livelihood risks and cultural sensitivities; and finally, door-to-door surveys collect data. The table below outlines a series of stakeholder engagement and community sensitization activities conducted so far as part of the MWACRID Project. Stakeholder consultations were carried out in the two (2) project districts and in all four (4) sub-counties for two days that is July 17-18/2024 and August 15th-18th 2024 covering particularly district level line departments including; District Water Officer, who led the team to the offices of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), the Resident District Commissioner (RDC), and the District Chairperson, Natural Resources and Environment.

Table 3-3: Community Stakeholder Consultations (Meetings)

| Meetings | M | F | | M (%) | Female (%) | Meeting Date | Meeting Venue |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Kiryandongo District | | | | ` , | , , | | |
| Masindi Port Sub County | | | | | | | |
| Kitukuza Community Meeting | 23 | 9 | 32 | 72 | 28 | 04-Dec-24 | Rwempondo |
| Waibango Community Meeting | 16 | 17 | 33 | 48 | 52 | 05-Dec-24 | Masindi Port SC HQ |
| Wakisanyi Community Meeting | 29 | 9 | 38 | 76 | 24 | 05-Dec-24 | Wakisanyi |
| Kaduku Community Meeting | 42 | 24 | 66 | 64 | 36 | 04-Dec-24 | Kaduku II Village |
| Sub Total | 110 | 59 | 169 | 65 | 35 | | |
| Kigumba Sub County | | | | | | | |
| Buhoomozi Community Meeting | 14 | 6 | 20 | 70 | 30 | 6th Dec 2024 | Kaduku II, Kigumba Sub-County |
| Kigumba I Community Meeting | 28 | 18 | 46 | 61 | 39 | 16-Apr-25 | Kigumab Sub County HQ |
| Sub Total | 42 | 24 | 66 | 64 | 36 | | |
| Masindi District | | | | | | | |
| Miirya Sub County | | | | | | | |
| Bisenyi Community Meeting | 33 | 17 | 50 | 66 | 34 | 02-Dec-24 | Bisenyi |
| Kitwetwe Community Meeting | 46 | 52 | 98 | 47 | 53 | 02-Dec-24 | Kitwetwe |
| Kinumi Community Meeting | 22 | 5 | 27 | 81 | 19 | 6th Dec 2024 | Kinumi |
| Sub Total | 101 | 74 | 175 | 58 | 42 | | |
| Kimengo Sub County | | | | | | | |
| Myeba | 29 | 9 | 38 | 76 | 24 | 29-Nov-24 | Kimengo Sub County HQ |
| Myeba (Along Masindi Port Road) | 29 | 8 | 37 | 78 | 22 | 30-Nov-24 | Myeba (Along Masindi Port Road) |
| Sub Total | 58 | 17 | 75 | 77 | 23 | | |
| Grand Total | 311 | 174 | 485 | 64 | 36 | | |

Table 3-4: Number of Farmer FGDs Conducted

| Number of FGDS Conducted in The Two (2) Districts | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------|-----|----|--|
| KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT | M | F | TOTAL | %M | %F | |
| Kaduku 1 A Coffee Development Group (Masindi Port) | 5 | 4 | 9 | 56 | 44 | |
| Twefeho Youth Gorup (Masindi Port) | 4 | 0 | 4 | 100 | - | |

| Nyama II Group (Kigumba SC) | 4 | 2 | 6 | 67 | 33 |
|--|----|----|----|-----|----|
| Kugonza Coffee Growers (Kigumba SC) | 4 | 3 | 7 | 57 | 43 |
| Sub Total | 17 | 9 | 26 | 65 | 35 |
| MASINDI DISTRICT | | | | | |
| Asinguza Bull Fattening Group (Kimengo SC) | 2 | 3 | 5 | 40 | 60 |
| Twekambe Karagwe Bull fattening Group (Kimengo SC) | 4 | 4 | 8 | 50 | 50 |
| Kijogoro Mukama Talemwa S&LA (Miirya SC) | 11 | 0 | 11 | 100 | - |
| Kisomoro Kitoka United Farmers (Miirya SC) | 4 | 6 | 10 | 40 | 60 |
| Sub Total | 21 | 13 | 34 | 62 | 38 |
| Grand Total | 38 | 22 | 60 | 63 | 37 |

Table 3-5: Series of stakeholder engagement and consultation conducted.

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| 10th June 2025 | Uganda Investment Authority | UIA, highlighted that as Uganda's chief investment promotion agency, it markets |
| | UIA) | investment opportunities, promotes packaged projects, provides investment-related |
| | | information, and offers business support, advisory, and advocacy services. UIA indicated |
| | | it is committed to boosting exports by shifting from low-value raw commodity exports to |
| | | diversified, processed agricultural goods, thereby creating more commercial and |
| | | productive employment. Acting on a presidential directive, UIA informed the meeting |
| | | that it is establishing 25 industrial parks nationwide by 2025, that is five parks annually |
| | | all aimed at job creation, easing land access, fostering research, skills development, and |
| | | enhancing export revenue. It emphasised that local governments have been instructed to |
| | | provide free land for these parks, avoiding UIA's need to purchase land. While the usual |
| | | 20% SME land allocation was not applied in this case, about 300 hectares remain |
| | | available for smallholder farmers under the project. UIA also pledged to issue a letter |
| | | confirming land ownership for commercial farmers within its jurisdiction. |

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| 18 th July – 01 st August 2025 | Chief Government Valuer (CGV) | There were correspondences between CGV and the Ministry of Water and Environment concerning the approval of the RAP methodology. The methodology was formally submitted to MWE on 18th July 2025 and subsequently approved on 1st August 2025. |
| 17 th July 2024 | Kiryandongo District Leaders Meeting | Leaders from Kiryandongo District expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Water and Environment for considering the district for the MWACRID project, citing long-standing water scarcity affecting both domestic use and livestock. The Water Engineer pledged to provide supporting data for the feasibility study. They emphasized the need to support smallholder farmers and requested clarity on how the consultant consortium would operate. They committed district support during implementation and highlighted the presence of settled refugees in the project area. They stressed the urgency of water needs, requested expansion of the feasibility study to more areas, and pledged to manage community expectations and prevent misinformation. |
| 17th – 18th July, 2024 | Masindi District Leaders Meeting | Masindi District officials welcomed the proposed Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project expressing strong support and commitment. They appreciated the initiative, seeking clarity on payment, management, and integration with the District Development Plan. They emphasized the project's relevance, pledged political support, and committed to community mobilization. They welcomed the project, highlighted the need for environmental consultation with NEMA, anticipated potential land issues, and pledged security and anti-corruption support throughout implementation. |
| 23 rd July 2024 | Masindi Port Sub-County Leaders Meeting | Leaders of Masindi Port Sub- County highlighted the area's reliance on livestock and emerging commercial farming, the challenges posed by drought and limited water access, and the potential benefits of the project in boosting beef and honey production. Other concerns raised included poor road infrastructure, inadequate healthcare and water supply, and limited energy access. The consultations underscored the critical need for reliable water to enhance agricultural productivity, health, and resilience in the Sub-County. |
| 13 th July 2024 | Kimengo Sub- County Leaders Meeting | The sub- county leadership expressed gratitude to government for initiating the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting the urgent need for water in the area for both domestic and livestock use. They emphasized Kimengo Sub-county's large livestock |

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| | | |
| | | population and lack of reliable water sources, sharing evidence of water stress among residents and animals. They called for an accelerated project timeline and broader coverage during feasibility studies, pledging full support and political mobilization to ensure successful implementation. |
| | Soul Agric Business Company | Soul Agric Business Company operates a 4,000-acre commercial farm cultivating crops such as cassava, soya beans, maize, coffee, macadamia, paw paws, and matooke. The proprietor emphasized challenges during droughts and appealed for urgent extension of water supply for production. |
| 15 th July 2024 | NWSC Masindi District (Area Manager) | The NWSC Area Manager shared service data, noting high domestic usage, a 91% customer satisfaction index, but indicated that challenges including inactive connections, bill payment reluctance, poor water quality, and supply disruptions due to power outages. He also reported operational issues with public stand posts. These insights underscore the project's importance in addressing water scarcity, improving supply reliability, and supporting agricultural and community resilience in the region. |
| 23 rd July 2024 | UNRA Masindi Port Ferry Docking Site | Observations and impromptu consultations at Kitukuza Village underscored community dependence on untreated Nile water for domestic use and livestock, limited access to safe water, and high water-fetching costs. Local women-led businesses, livestock farmers, and ferry users stand to benefit significantly from the project. Hygiene is supported by a public sanitary facility at the dock, and stakeholders welcomed the project's promise of improved water access. Key implications include the need for careful coordination with UNRA, mitigation of construction disruptions, and proactive stakeholder engagement to align the project with community priorities and maximize social and health benefits. |
| 22 nd July 2025 | NFA | NFA expressed concern that their office had not been involved in the initial stages of the ESIA process and sought clarification on its progress and approval status. Key requests included the coordinates of Kaduku and Kitukuza forests, where project infrastructure such as the reservoir, treatment plant, and transmission lines are planned, and a joint field inspection particularly in these hotspot areas for verification was suggested. They emphasized that the ESIA should have |

| Date | Stakeholder group | Key Issues discussed |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | been prioritized and managed under their oversight, and asked if the consultant had visited |
| | | Kiryandongo and Masindi offices. They suggested to reduce environmental impact, a single |
| | | transmission corridor was recommended, avoiding forest fragmentation. It was also clarified that |
| | | Kaduku Forest is managed by the NFA as a gazetted CFR, not the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom, and |
| | | formal documentation to support this are available. The meeting emphasized the need for forest |
| | | assessments, to prepare a biodiversity offset plan, valuation of affected assets like flora and fauna |
| | | inventories, consideration of legal tree farming licensees, and securing livelihoods. |
| 28 th July 2025 | Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom | Kaduku Hill is a proposed site for the construction of the Kings Palace. NFA is managing the |
| | | forest in coordination with the Kingdom under an MOU because the kingdom does not have |
| | | capacity to manage most these resources to prevent encroachment. The Kingdom recommended |
| | | a joint site visit with NFA to establish the boundaries of the forest. |
| 29 th July 2025 | Ministry of Works and Transport | The Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT) noted that land for the Rwenkunye–Masindi Port |
| | | section has already been acquired, eliminating the need for further land acquisition, and |
| | | emphasized that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) must seek formal approval to |
| | | cross the Gulu-Kampala Road. While marram roads may be crossed, they must be restored to |
| | | their original condition after construction. MoWT expressed satisfaction with the project design, |
| | | as it minimizes impact on the existing highway. The Ministry also stressed the importance of |
| | | comprehensive community sensitization during implementation to safeguard the interests of |
| | | affected populations and highlighted the need to compensate individuals whose livelihoods are |
| | | within the road reserve along the Rwenkunye-Kaduku-Kinomi-Masindi section. |

3.7.2 Pictorial evidence of feasibility studies and environmental and social impact assessment



Consultations with the Water Office - Kiryandongo District



Consultations with the CAO's office - Kiryandongo District



Consultations with the District Chairperson's office represented by the District Vice Chairperson



Consultations with the RDC - Kiryandongo District



Team in a discussion with management team at Soul Agric Business Company (Beneficiary)



Consultations with the District Chairperson – Masindi District

3.7.3 Stakeholder engagement during resettlement action planning

Table 3-6: Summary of Consultations

| Nature of Meeting | Stakeholder Group | Key Issues Discussed | Date |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| District Level | Chief Administrative | Concern was raised about whether relevant stakeholders in the district have | 17 th June 2025 |
| | Officer Kiryandongo | been adequately consulted, especially given the official's recent | |
| | | appointment to the district. No objection was raised to the planned study; | |
| | | the official expressed support for its implementation. Emphasis was placed | |
| | | on the need to engage both technical and political leaders throughout the | |
| | | project's implementation. The team was granted permission to proceed with | |
| | | necessary project engagements within the district. A pledge was made to | |
| | | support the project whenever the team reaches out for assistance. | |
| | RDCS Office Kiryandongo | The Deputy RDC expressed appreciation for the Masindi Port Bulk Water | 17 th June 2025 |
| | District | Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project and confirmed his awareness | |
| | | of its progress. | |
| | | | |
| | | He highlighted that monitoring government programs is within the RDC's | |
| | | official responsibilities. | |
| | | | |
| | | The RDC praised MWE and the consulting team for actively involving | |
| | | stakeholders and noted the high level of community engagement through | |
| | | prior meetings. | |
| | | He pointed out that the Kiryandongo community is generally friendly and | |
| | | supportive of the project. | |
| | | | |
| | | The Deputy RDC offered access to his office's radio airtime to support | |
| | | community sensitization and ensure broad public outreach at all stages of | |
| | | the project. | |

| | RDCS Office Masindi District | : The office of the RDC is fully informed about the project and has participated in several related meetings. Encouraged the project team to execute their duties with diligence and integrity. Advised the team to avoid compromise and maintain transparency throughout the project implementation. | 17 th June 2025 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Sub-County | LC III Chairperson | The community is eagerly awaiting the commencement of the project and is well-informed, suggesting minimal resistance or management challenges. Gratitude was expressed towards the Government of Uganda for bringing clean water and irrigation infrastructure to Masindi. A request was made to extend the project coverage to include Kyamwitta, which was proposed during previous engagements. No challenges are anticipated during survey activities, as the community is already aware of and supports the project. | 17 th June 2025 |
| | LC III Chairperson Kimengo | The community in Kimengo Sub- County is willing to offer free land for the project, provided they are assured of direct benefits. The local population is already aware of the project, having participated in several meetings during the design phase, suggesting minimal resistance to implementation. There is gratitude expressed toward the Government of Uganda for initiating a project that provides clean water and irrigation. A request was made to extend the project to cover the entire Kimengo Sub-county due to its classification as a water-stressed area. | 17 th June 2025 |
| Village Level | Myeba Village | The meeting highlighted the community's urgent need for reliable water access, with residents facing severe shortages for domestic use, livestock, and irrigation due to broken boreholes and long queues. There is strong optimism that the project, now at the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) stage following feasibility, design, and ESIA phases, will finally resolve this crisis. Local leaders emphasized the need for patience amid delayed implementation and encouraged full participation in the RAP process to ensure transparency, especially regarding land acquisition and | 18 th June 2025 |

| _ | 1 | , | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | | compensation using district rates. While most infrastructure will follow | |
| | | road reserves, some will cross private land, requiring careful coordination. | |
| | | Residents were also advised to avoid impersonation and to identify | |
| | | locations for public standpipes and cattle troughs. The water will be paid | |
| | | for at yet-to-be-determined rates, with the promise of long-term cost | |
| | | savings, and the project is expected to create job opportunities for locals. | |
| | | The LC III Chair reiterated the project's significance, calling for community | |
| | | support given the district's limited capacity to fund such a large initiative | |
| | | independently. | |
| | Kinumi Trading Centre | Key issues identified from the meeting include the community's urgent | 18 th June 2025 |
| | | need for reliable water access, as residents have long suffered from water | |
| | | scarcity, broken boreholes, and the challenge of sharing limited water | |
| | | sources with animals, affecting livestock, irrigation, and domestic use. | |
| | | Questions raised highlighted concerns about water fees, coverage, | |
| | | management of public water points (to be overseen by Water User | |
| | | Committees), inclusion of public institutions, project start timelines, local | |
| | | employment opportunities, and compensation only for directly affected | |
| | | land. The community also requested affordable water connection charges. | |
| | Kitwetwe Trading Centre | Key issues identified from the meeting included the LC I Chairperson's | 19th June 2025 |
| | | welcoming remarks, expressing gratitude that the consultant reached | |
| | | Kitwetwe and urging residents to be attentive. Questions clarified that | |
| | | transmission lines avoid buildings, pipes will be relocated if road works | |
| | | affect them, and water usage will be paid for in due course. The LC III | |
| | | Chairperson concluded by urging timely and fair compensation, noting | |
| | | concerns from other areas about delays, before adjourning the meeting. | |
| | Kididima-Karwala | The community was argued to allow government projects to pass through | 19th June 2025 |
| | | their land for overall development and service delivery, while encouraging | 1,011,0011,000 |
| | | active participation and questions during the meeting. The LC III | |
| | | Chairperson of Kimengo Sub-County expressed gratitude for the long- | |
| | | overdue project, highlighted that consultants have spent 18 months | |
| | | overage project, inginigated that consultants have spent to months | |

| | | planning it within the Sub-County, and called upon LC I leaders and the | |
|----------------|---------------------------|---|----------------|
| | | team to sensitize the community to ensure the project proceeds without | |
| | | obstruction during implementation. | |
| | Masindi Port Sub-County | Key concerns raised included the identity of the construction company, | 19th June 2025 |
| | | which will be disclosed at project commencement; the possibility for | |
| | | individuals to apply for private water connections, contingent on their | |
| | | resources and future information sharing; and the project's coverage, which | |
| | | will initially focus on select areas before expanding gradually to address | |
| | | water scarcity throughout the sub-county. | |
| | Kalwala-Nyakarongo | Key concerns raised were whether residents with plots in the trading center | 20th June 2025 |
| | Village | would have access to water for business, which was affirmed, and whether | |
| | | water supply would extend to deeper village areas, with the response | |
| | | indicating that extension depends on individual resources and future | |
| | | connection information. The Chairperson concluded by appreciating the | |
| | | community's engagement and highlighting the anticipated positive impact | |
| | | of the project on the lives of people in Kimengo Sub-county. | |
| | Kaduku Village | Key concerns raised included compensation for affected properties, with | 20th June 2025 |
| | | assurances that compensation would be provided transparently mainly for | |
| | | crops, trees, and movable assets, and that beneficiaries for irrigation would | |
| | | be selected fairly. The community also inquired about job opportunities for | |
| | | locals, which the project confirmed it would provide. Additionally, | |
| | | residents requested the project be implemented thoroughly and properly, | |
| | | noting previous water projects failed due to poor workmanship, and sought | |
| | | clarity on whether water access would be free or paid. | |
| National Level | National Forest Authority | Key issues raised during the meeting included clarifications on the legal | 22nd July 2025 |
| | | right-of-way dimensions for the transmission and distribution lines, | |
| | | confirmed at 6 meters and 3 meters respectively, and the decision to install | |
| | | transmission lines underground to reduce visual and environmental | |
| | | impacts. The National Forestry Authority (NFA) emphasized minimizing | |
| | | environmental disruption by recommending a single transmission corridor | |
| | | | |

| | through forested areas, particularly within Kaduku Central Forest Reserve | |
|------------------------|---|----------------|
| | (CFR), which was clarified to be under NFA jurisdiction rather than the | |
| | Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom. NFA also stressed the need for comprehensive | |
| | forest, ecological, and economic assessments prior to land valuation, to | |
| | inform the Resettlement Action Plan and mitigation strategies, with | |
| | particular focus on biodiversity offset planning to reduce habitat | |
| | fragmentation. Technical requests included sharing project coordinates in | |
| | .kml format for improved spatial analysis, and careful valuation of affected | |
| | natural resources such as pine trees and local flora and fauna. Additionally, | |
| | livelihood considerations related to tree farming licensing were | |
| | highlighted, and the meeting concluded with a call for a clear timeline for | |
| | the completion of all recommended assessments to guide project | |
| | implementation. | |
| Mwe Wetlands Resources | The Assistant Commissioner emphasized the critical need to protect | 24th July 2025 |
| Management Department | wetland buffer zones by ensuring all farming activities and physical | |
| | infrastructure are located outside these areas to maintain wetland integrity | |
| | throughout the project. He highlighted the importance of proper agro- | |
| | chemical management to minimize environmental contamination and | |
| | requested detailed information on the types of crops to be grown, the | |
| | chemicals to be used, and the estimated daily water abstraction volumes, | |
| | stressing that a water abstraction permit must be obtained. While raising no | |
| | objection to the project's progression, the Commissioner conditioned this | |
| | on clarifying environmental protection measures and water resource use. | |
| | He also recommended a field visit to better assess potential impacts, | |
| | particularly in farming zones, to guide informed decision-making. | |
| Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom | The Kingdom Secretary clarified that Kaduku Hill, site of the Central | 28th July 2025 |
| | Forest Reserve, is Kingdom land with plans to build the Kingdom Palace | - |
| | there, though currently lacking capacity to manage it, leading to an MoU | |
| | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| | with the National Forestry Authority for management. The Kingdom | |

| _ | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | unavailable but formally requested boundary opening and land valuation to | |
| | ensure fair compensation for their interests. Additionally, the Kingdom | |
| | owns over 49 acres for the proposed treatment plant, which is partly | |
| | occupied by squatters needing resolution. The Secretary emphasized the | |
| | need for official communication from the Ministry of Water and | |
| | Environment regarding development intentions, requested a site visit to | |
| | Kaduku CFR, and urged initiation of valuation, boundary assessments, and | |
| | discussions on compensation and squatter management. | |
| Ministry Of Works and | MoWT appreciated MWE's proactive stakeholder engagement and | 29th July 2025 |
| Transport | expressed confidence in the project, stating MoWT has no objection | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , |
| Tunsport | provided all impacts are managed and approvals, especially for road | |
| | crossings, are obtained. He cautioned against duplicating compensation | |
| | along the Rwenkunye–Masindi Port Road corridor where compensation | |
| | had already been done. MoWT commended the design team for minimizing | |
| | road crossings and stressed the need for comprehensive community | |
| | sensitisation during RAP implementation to ensure buy-in. Flooding risks | |
| | | |
| | at the Gulu-Kampala Highway crossing and concerns over HIV | |
| | transmission during construction, particularly with reduced donor support, | |
| | were noted. The Assistant Commissioner committed to sharing these | |
| | discussions with the Commissioner for National Roads for further guidance | |
| | and scheduling follow-up on national road crossing procedures. | |

3.7.4 Pictorial evidence of resettlement action planning engagements



Engagement with LC III Mirya Sub-County



Engagement with LC III Kimengo Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Myeba Parish in Kimengo Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Kinumi Parish in Mirya Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Rwemigali village in Mirya Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Kalwala-Kididima villages in Kimengo Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Kitwetwe village in Mirya Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Bishenyi village in Mirya Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Kaduku I and II villages in Masindi Port Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of Nyakarongo village in Kimengo Sub-County



Engagement with Residents of villages in Masindi Port Sub-County



Engagement with NFA officials



Engagement with Ministry of Works and Transport E&S Officials

3.8 Planned Stakeholder Engagement Activities

This section describes the phased stakeholder engagement activities to be implemented under the MWACRID Project, in accordance with the African Development Bank's Environmental and Social Operational Safeguards (OS).

3.8.1 Project implementation phase

OS 10 (Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure), the SEP will remain fully operational throughout construction. During the construction Phase the stakeholders mentioned under Section **Error! Reference source not found.**.1.2 will be engaged.

- Key activities will include: Regular information updates to communities on construction schedules, traffic management, safety protocols, and anticipated disruptions, to mitigate rumours and opposition.
- Real-time impact monitoring through community feedback channels to track and adaptively manage dust, noise, labour influx, and other construction-related effect.
- Ongoing grievance-redress support, ensuring new or evolving concerns particularly those affecting local livelihoods are addressed before escalation.

3.8.2 Project closure phase

During the completion stage the stakeholders listed under Section Error! Reference source not found.2 shall be involved in activities encompassing final inspections, ex-post RAP evaluation, and commissioning the following engagement activities will be conducted to secure sustainable handover:

 Validation of compensation and restoration outcomes, co-verified with affected persons to confirm delivery of agreed entitlements

- Lessons-learned workshops with stakeholders to capture effective practices and areas for improvement, informing future projects.
- Transition planning sessions with communities and local authorities to formalize longterm monitoring and maintenance responsibilities.

Table 3-7: Summary of planned stakeholder engagement by project implementation phase

| Engagement Type | Purpose | |
|--|---|--------------|
| | - Jack - San - | Number of |
| | | Meeting |
| RAP implementation meetings | The meetings will bring together key stakeholders including representatives from the project-affected persons, MWE project implementation unit, local government officials, the consultant team. The sessions will provide updates on compensation disbursements, grievance redress mechanisms, livelihood restoration activities, and community support interventions. | 25 |
| Pre-Construction Sensitization Meetings | Ensures early disclosure of construction plans, timelines, and risks to promote informed stakeholder participation. | 5 |
| Construction Kick-Off Meeting | Promotes coordination and clear communication of roles/responsibilities, aligned with inclusive engagement principles. | 1 |
| Monthly Community Feedback Forums | Fulfils OS 10's requirement for continuous consultation to manage emerging issues and maintain social license. | 20 |
| Grievance Redress Meetings | Provides access to an effective GRM as required by OS 10 to address construction-related complaints in real-time. | 8 |
| Environmental & Social Risk Monitoring Sessions | Ensures that construction risks (dust, waste, labour influx) are monitored with stakeholder involvement, as required. | 8 |
| Labour Engagement Meetings | Promotes non-discriminatory employment practices, working conditions, and grievance channels for workers. | 4 |
| Traffic and Public Safety Meetings | Informs stakeholders of potential access disruptions and ensures inclusion of vulnerable road users (per OS 10). | 8 |
| Women and Vulnerable Group Dialogues | Supports equitable participation, safeguards vulnerable populations, and captures gender-specific concerns. | 2 |
| Emergency Response and Preparedness Meetings | Ensures communities are informed and prepared to respond to construction-related incidents or health risks. | 4 |
| Decommissioning meeting | A decommissioning meeting will be convened to formally mark the closure of project activities and to ensure a transparent, inclusive, and accountable handover process. The meeting will bring together key stakeholders, including representatives from the implementing agency, local government officials, community leaders, project-affected persons (PAPs), and the project team. | 1 |

3.8.3 Process to be followed for arranging engagement activities

- a) Engagement planning & scheduling: This will involve drafting of an engagement calendar aligned with project timelines, selection of venues based on accessibility and security considerations.
- **b) Notification & mobilization:** This will involve issuing of formal invitations or public notices (radio, posters, local leaders), and mobilization at least 5 working days in advance.
- c) Logistics and resource preparation: This will include securing venues, arranging refreshments, transport support for vulnerable group, prepare communication materials (presentations, banners, feedback forms), setting up the venue etc.
- **d)** Conduct of engagements: This will recording of proceedings and gathering feedback systematically.
- e) Post-engagement follow-up: This will involve compiling of meeting minutes and sharing with participants, integration of feedback into project planning.

3.8.4 Engagement protocols

During engagement, the following protocols shall be applied;

- Respect and Inclusivity: Ensure respectful, inclusive participation with attention to gender, age, and disability considerations.
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC): Engagements must be voluntary, based on complete and timely information.
- Language and Communication: Use local languages and culturally appropriate methods to ensure understanding.
- Documentation and Transparency: Maintain detailed minutes, attendance records, and audio/visual documentation (if permitted).
- Feedback and Grievance Mechanism: Inform stakeholders of grievance procedures and encourage constructive feedback.
- Security and Ethics: Ensure safe environments and adhere to ethical standards of engagement.

3.9 Roles and Responsibilities for Implementing The SEP

Stakeholder engagement will occur throughout the project cycle. Overall management of stakeholder engagement shall rest with MWE and other entities as presented in the table below. This structure shall enhance communication by delivering consistent messaging and fostering

a localized understanding of the project's impacts and benefits, which shall help to prevent misinformation and miscommunication. hence strengthening coordination and collaboration among various stakeholders, leading to more effective resolution of concerns, increased trust, and smoother project implementation.

Table 3-8:Roles and responsibilities for implementing the SEP

| Primary Stakeholder | Roles and Responsibilities |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Ministry of Water and Environment | - |
| (MWE/DWD) | Providing overall strategic direction and policy guidance. |
| | - Ensuring alignment with national development |
| | goals and policies. |
| | - Coordinating with other government agencies |
| | and international bodies. |
| | - Monitoring and reporting on project |
| | implementation and compliance. |
| | Facilitating high-level stakeholder consultations and public announcements. |
| | Overall coordination and oversight of SEP implementation. |
| | - Ensuring compliance with local regulations and policies. |
| | Liaising with other government agencies and stakeholders. |
| | Organizing and facilitating public meetings and consultations. |
| | Addressing grievances and concerns from the community. |
| | Monitoring and reporting on SEP progress and effectiveness. |
| | Identify water resource potential and project justification |
| | Lead project planning and design oversight |
| | - Coordinate safeguard inputs with NEMA |
| | - Oversee RAP preparation and approvals |
| | - Manage implementation and provide supervision |
| | - Monitor performance and support sustainability |
| African Development Bank (AfDB) | - Providing financial resources and oversight for |
| | project implementation. |
| | - Setting conditions for funding and ensuring |
| | compliance with funding agreements Monitoring project progress and financial |
| | reporting. |
| | Conducting regular audits and evaluations. |
| | - Facilitating communication with international |
| | stakeholders and partners. |
| | - Review project concept and alignment with |
| | funding priorities |
| | - Provide technical and financial support during planning |
| | - Review ESIA reports and ensure safeguards |
| | alignment |

| Primary Stakeholder | Roles and Responsibilities |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| • | - Provide safeguards funding and review RAP |
| | compliance |
| | Monitor project disbursements and progress |
| | - Evaluate sustainability and ensure post-project |
| | accountability |
| Kafu Sugar / Kazi Mingi Jinja Millers | Engage in land acquisition discussions and provide access |
| | - Cooperate during construction near their land |
| | - Ensure land use compatibility with infrastructure |
| Masindi Port Subcounty | - Participate in site assessments and local consultations |
| | Mobilize local leadership for project planning |
| | - Support local data collection for ESIA |
| | - Participate in community consultations and |
| | disclosure |
| | - Facilitate contractor-community relations |
| | - Maintain local support and facilitate grievance |
| | redress |
| National Forestry Authority (NFA) | - Identify forest land that may be affected |
| | - Provide land data and legal guidance |
| | - Input on environmental impact on forests |
| | - Engage in land acquisition negotiations for forest |
| | areas |
| | - Monitor impact on forest reserves during works |
| | - Enforce forest management guidelines |
| Community Leaders (LC I–III) | - Identify community priorities and affected |
| | populations |
| | - Support community mobilization and awareness |
| | - Facilitate environmental data and consultation |
| | - Participate in census and asset verification |
| | - Monitor local issues and grievances |
| W' 1 D' C' L 1C | - Support operations and feedback channels |
| Kiryandongo District Local Government | Approve local feasibility and integrate into district plans |
| | Lead district-level planning meetings and approvals |
| | - Support ESIA data and review reports |
| | - Coordinate RAP consultations and district |
| | verification |
| | - Support supervision of works and labour compliance |
| | - Participate in monitoring and local service |
| | delivery |
| Masindi District Local Government | - Approve local feasibility and integrate into district plans |
| | - Lead district-level planning meetings and |
| | approvals Support |
| | - ESIA data and review reports Coordinate |
| | - RAP consultations and district verification |
| | - Support supervision of works and labour |
| | compliance |

| Primary Stakeholder | Roles and Responsibilities |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| | - Participate in monitoring and local service |
| | delivery |
| Ministry of Works and Transport | - Review proposed use of road reserves |
| | - Approve alignment along road corridors |
| | - Approve clearance for land acquisition in road |
| | reserves |
| | - Monitor works along roads and issue guidance |
| | - Inspect and maintain road safety standards |
| Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) | - Participate in needs assessments |
| | - Provide feedback on irrigation requirements |
| | - Highlight agricultural impacts in ESIA |
| | - Engage in consultations |
| | Use and protect infrastructure |
| | - Sustain usage and report service issues |
| Mirya & Kimengo Sub-Counties | - Support local stakeholder mapping |
| | Assist in organizing planning forums |
| | - Mobilize community for ESIA fieldwork |
| | Support enumeration and census activities |
| | - Monitor contractor conduct and local grievances |
| | - Support feedback and monitoring mechanisms |
| Property and Land Owners | - Provide land use data and access for assessment |
| | Participate in asset verification and compensation |
| | - Allow access for works upon compensation |
| | - Observe and report impacts or damages |
| Farmers (Beneficiaries) | - Participate in needs assessments |
| | - Provide feedback on irrigation requirements |
| | - Highlight agricultural impacts in ESIA |
| | - Engage in consultations |
| | - Use and protect infrastructure |
| | - Sustain usage and report service issues |
| Project Employees/Workers | - Participating in stakeholder engagement |
| i i j | activities. |
| | - Ensuring compliance with SEP guidelines during |
| | construction. |
| | Addressing concerns related to construction activities. |
| | - Reporting on engagement activities and |
| | feedback received. |
| | - Execute works under supervision and comply |
| Project Consultants | with safeguards Monitoring contractor compliance with SER |
| 1 Toject Consultants | Monitoring contractor compliance with SEP.Facilitating stakeholder consultations and |
| | feedback sessions. |
| | Reporting on SEP implementation and effectiveness. |
| | Advising on adjustments to engagement strategies based on stakeholder feedback. |
| | - Conduct feasibility studies and preliminary |
| | designs |

| Primary Stakeholder | Roles and Responsibilities |
|---|--|
| Office of the Prime Minister / RDC's | - Coordinate inter-agency inputs |
| Office | - Prepare technical designs, reports, and safeguard |
| | plans |
| | - Prepare and submit ESIA reports to NEMA |
| | - Conduct RAP surveys, valuation, and reporting |
| | - Supervise implementation and compliance |
| National Environment Management | - Monitor outcomes and prepare closure reports |
| National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) | - Guide environmental scoping process |
| Authority (NEWA) | - Review and approve ESIA reports |
| | Monitor environmental compliancePost-project audits and enforcement |
| Ministry of Lands, Housing, and Urban | - Guide land tenure clarification |
| Development/Chief Government Valuer | - Review and approve RAP and valuation reports |
| | - Monitor land transaction compliance |
| | - Ensure dispute resolution post-implementation |
| Ministry of Agriculture, Animal | - Align irrigation needs with national policy |
| Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) | - Advise on irrigation design and climate |
| | resilience |
| | - Support assessment of agricultural impacts |
| | - Provide technical backstopping |
| | - Monitor irrigation and livestock outcomes |
| Nile Basin Commission | - Review and approval of transboundary projects |
| | to ensure no significant harm to other riparian |
| | states. |
| | - Ensure equitable and reasonable water use in line with the Cooperative Framework Agreement |
| | (CFA). |
| | - Coordinate project planning and implementation |
| | among member states for mutual benefit. |
| | - Enforce environmental and social safeguards, |
| | including reviewing Environmental and Social |
| | Impact Assessments (ESIAs). |
| | - Provide technical support and data sharing, |
| | including hydrological modeling and climate |
| | risk analysis. |
| | - Facilitate dispute resolution in case of project-related conflicts among member countries. |
| | - Monitor project compliance with CFA principles |
| | and regional agreements. |
| | - Promote sustainable development goals through |
| | basin-wide planning and integrated resource |
| | management. |
| Vulnerable Groups | - Identify needs during scoping |
| | - Highlight specific vulnerabilities |
| | - Participate in ESIA consultations |
| | - Receive support through RAP entitlements |
| | - Receive support services |
| | - Benefit from inclusive services and feedback |

3.10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure Strategies

The project will deploy a combination of strategies to enhance meaningful stakeholder consultations.

Table 3-9: Stakeholder engagement and information disclosure strategies

| Name Phase of | | Engagement Methods |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Wille | Engagement | Engagement Methods |
| Ministry of Water and | Feasibility | Formal meetings, Email and Letter |
| Environment (MWE) | Preparation | Correspondences |
| | ESIA | _ |
| | RAP | |
| | Implementation and | |
| | handover | |
| | | |
| | 1 | |
| 16: 5 1 | Maintenance | |
| African Development Bank | Feasibility, | Formal meetings, Letters and Email |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | Correspondences |
| | RAP, Implementation and handover | |
| Kafu Sugar / Kazi Mingi Jinja | RAP | One-on-one Interviews, Formal |
| Millers | IVIII | Meetings, Letter Correspondence |
| Masindi Port Subcounty | Feasibility, | Community and Public Meetings, Focus |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | Group Discussions |
| | RAP, Implementation | • |
| | and handover, | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| National Forestry Authority | ESIA | Formal Meetings, Letter Correspondence, |
| | RAP | One-on-one Interviews |
| | Implementation and | |
| Community London (LCLIII) | handover | Dublic Meetings France Cross |
| Community Leaders (LC I-III) | Feasibility, Preparation, | Public Meetings, Focus Group Discussions, Formal Meetings |
| | ESIA, | Discussions, Pormai Meetings |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation and | |
| | handover | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| Kiryandongo District Local | Feasibility, | Public Meetings, Email and Letter |
| Government | Preparation, | Correspondence, One-on-one Interviews |
| | ESIA, | |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation and | |
| | handover | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| Masindi District Local | Feasibility, | Public Meetings, Email and Letter |
| Government | Preparation, ESIA, | Correspondence, One-on-one Interviews |
| | RAP, Implementation | |

| | and handover, | |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| Ministry of Works and | Preparation, | Formal Meetings, Letter Correspondence |
| Transport | ESIA, | a community of the control of the co |
| 11000 port | · · | |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation and | |
| | handover | |
| Uganda Investment Authority | Feasibility, | One-on-one Interviews, Formal Letters |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | |
| | RAP, Implementation | |
| | and handover, | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | 2111 1/2 2 |
| Mirya & Kimengo Sub- | Feasibility, | Public Meetings, Focus Group |
| counties | Preparation, ESIA, | Discussions, One-on-one Interviews |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| Property and Land Owners | Feasibility, | One-on-one Interviews, Public Meetings, |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | FGDs |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| - | Maintenance | |
| Farmers | ESIA, RAP | Public Meetings, social media, Radio |
| Project Employees/Workers | Feasibility, | Workshops, Formal Meetings, FGDs |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| During Committee | Maintenance | E-m-1Marking Emple |
| Project Consultants | Implementation | Formal Meetings, Emails |
| Office of the Prime Minister / | Feasibility, | Formal Meetings, Email and Letters |
| RDCs | Preparation, ESIA, | correspondence |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| NIEN (A | Maintenance | E1MiE1C1 |
| NEMA | Feasibility, | Formal Meetings, Email Correspondence |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & Maintenance | |
| Ministry of Landa Hansins 0 | | Formal Mastings, Latter Carress and and |
| Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Dev. | Feasibility, | Formal Meetings, Letter Correspondence, |
| Orban Dev. | Preparation, ESIA, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & Maintenance | |
| Ministry of Assigniture | RAP | Formal Mastings, Latters, Emails and |
| Ministry of Agriculture, | IXAF | Formal Meetings, Letters, Emails and |
| Animal Industry and Fisheries | 1 | correspondence |

| Vulnerable Groups | Feasibility, | Focus Group Discussions, One-on-one |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---|
| • | Preparation, ESIA | Interviews, Community meetings |
| Local NGOs & CSOs | Feasibility, | Workshops, Public Meetings, social |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | media, Radio |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| Local Media (California FM, | Feasibility, | Press Conferences, Radio, TV, social |
| Kibanda FM, etc.) | Preparation, ESIA, | media |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |
| Ministry of Gender, Labour | Feasibility, | Formal Meetings, FGDs, Letter |
| and Social Development | Preparation, ESIA, | Correspondence |
| | RAP, Implementation | |
| National Water and Sewerage | Feasibility, | Formal Meetings, Emails and Letter |
| Corporation (NWSC) | Preparation, ESIA, | Correspondence |
| | RAP, Implementation | |
| Uganda Police Force | Feasibility, | Formal Meetings, Public Meetings, Press |
| | Preparation, ESIA, | Conferences |
| | RAP, | |
| | Implementation, | |
| | Operation & | |
| | Maintenance | |

3.11 Proposed strategy to incorporate the views of vulnerable groups

This section outlines the strategies and measures designed to ensure the meaningful inclusion of vulnerable groups in the stakeholder engagement process for the MWACRID Project. Recognizing the diverse needs and challenges faced by these groups, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, low-income households, women-headed households, minority ethnic groups, children and youth, and people living with HIV, we are committed to adopting tailored approaches to address their specific concerns. The proposed strategy involves identifying each vulnerable group's unique needs, developing targeted engagement methods, and providing necessary support mechanisms to facilitate their active participation. MWE shall also integrate their feedback into project planning and decision-making to ensure that their voices are heard and considered. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of these engagement strategies will be an ongoing process to adapt and refine our approaches as needed. By prioritizing these inclusive strategies, MWE aims to uphold principles of equity and responsiveness, ensuring that the project's impacts are mitigated, and benefits are equitably distributed among all stakeholders.

Table 3-10: Strategies to be used to ensure meaningful inclusion of vulnerable groups

| Vulnerable | Specific | Engagement | Support | Feedback | Monitoring |
|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Group | Needs and | Strategies | Mechanisms | Integration | and |
| | Concerns | | | | Evaluation |

| Elderly Individuals | Limited mobility, hearing or vision impairments Physical, | Home visits, accessible meeting locations, and use of visual aids | Transportation assistance, hearing aids, and large print materials | Feedback will be incorporated into project design and planning to address accessibility concerns | Regular surveys and feedback sessions to assess engagement effectiveness and adapt strategies Ongoing |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| with Disabilities | sensory, or cognitive impairments | accessible formats, sign language interpreters, and adaptive technologies | accessibility support, accessible communication methods | feedback to improve physical accessibility and project impact on daily life | assessment of accessibility measures and feedback effectiveness |
| Low- Income Households | Financial constraints, limited access to resources | Community meetings in local areas, use of local media for updates | Financial assistance for transportation, and provision of information in local languages | Consideration of economic impact in project planning and compensation measures | Track participation rates and satisfaction levels among low-income households |
| Women- headed Households | Gender- specific challenges, economic and social vulnerabilities | Gender- sensitive outreach, focus group discussions with women | Support for childcare during meetings, female facilitators | Feedback will be used to address gender- specific needs and integrate into project planning | Evaluation of gender inclusivity and responsiveness of strategies |
| Minority Ethnic Groups | Cultural differences, potential language barriers | Culturally sensitive outreach, translation services | Translation and interpretation services, culturally appropriate materials | Ensure cultural considerations are reflected in project planning and implementation | Monitor engagement levels and effectiveness of culturally sensitive approaches |
| Children and Youth | Limited ability to participate in decision- making processes | School and youth group engagements, interactive methods | Age- appropriate materials and activities, parental consent | Incorporate youth feedback into project aspects affecting education and community facilities | Assess participation rates and impact of engagement strategies on youth involvement |
| People Living with HIV | Privacy concerns, stigma, health-related needs | Confidential consultations, targeted outreach in health centres | Health and social support services, privacy safeguards | Address health and stigma- related issues in project planning and ensure supportive measures | Evaluate confidentiality measures and effectiveness of health- related support during engagement |

3.12 Capacity Building Activities

To ensure the SEP is executed effectively, the following capacity-building activities will be delivered to project staff, contractors and other implementing partners:

| Capacity Building | Audience | Format | Outcome |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Activity | | | |
| Stakeholder | MWE project | In-person workshop | Ability to identify, categorize |
| Analysis & | managers, Project | | and prioritize irrigation users, |
| Mapping Workshop | field officers, | | riparian communities and other |
| | community | | stakeholders; updated |
| | liaisons | | engagement database tailored to |
| | | | MPWIP |
| Communication & | Community | Interactive training | Enhanced clarity and cultural |
| Facilitation Skills | engagement | with role-plays and | sensitivity in outreaches |
| Training | officers, | local case studies | |
| | sociologists | | |
| Conflict Resolution | GRMC, local | Half-day session | Confidence in logging, triaging |
| & Grievance | council leaders, | with mediation | and resolving water-related |
| Handling Course | irrigation | simulations based | grievances within MPWIP's |
| | committee | on water-use | GRM framework |
| | members | disputes | |
| Gender & | All MPWIP field | Briefing at project | Improved capacity to engage |
| Vulnerable Groups | staff, contractors, | camps co-facilitated | women irrigators, youth and |
| Sensitization | consultants | by a local gender | persons with disabilities in |
| | | specialist | project decision-making |

3.13 Periodic Review and Update of the SEP

This SEP is a living document that will be continuously reviewed and updated to reflect the evolving needs and dynamics of the. The MWACRID Project implementing team will annually conduct a review of the SEP, ensuring that it remains relevant and responsive to stakeholder concerns, project developments, and any unforeseen circumstances. Additionally, the SEP will be updated as necessary, in response to significant project changes, new stakeholder inputs, or emerging issues. This ongoing process of review and revision will help maintain the effectiveness of stakeholder engagement activities, ensuring that they are aligned with the project's objectives and the needs of all stakeholders.

3.14 Human Rights, Gender, and Equity Considerations in Stakeholder Engagement

In line with the Revised Uganda Gender Policy (2007) and international best practices, all stakeholder engagement processes under this project will be designed and implemented with full regard for human rights, gender equality, and equity principles. They emphasizes the need for inclusive development that promotes equal access, control, and benefit from resources, services, and decision-making opportunities for both men and women. In adherence to this, stakeholder meetings will be planned at accessible times and venues, with gender-sensitive facilitation, use of local languages, and provision of reasonable accommodation to ensure free and informed participation by all social groups.

The project will ensure meaningful participation of all stakeholders particularly women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), the elderly, and other marginalized groups at every stage of consultation, planning, and implementation.

The project will also integrate gender-disaggregated data collection, ensure that feedback mechanisms are inclusive and responsive, and put in place safeguards to prevent any form of discrimination, exploitation, or gender-based violence during engagement activities. Observing these commitments not only promotes compliance with national policy but also contributes to social inclusion, empowerment, and sustainable development outcomes.

4 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

4.1 National Policies

4.1.1 National Environment Management Policy, 1994

The Policy aims to establish a comprehensive framework for sustainable environmental management in Uganda, promoting public participation and stakeholder engagement. The policy aims to ensure that local communities, NGOs, and the private sector are actively involved in decision-making processes related to environmental management and development projects. It seeks to enhance transparency, address stakeholder concerns, and coordinate among government agencies and stakeholders for effective environmental management and policy implementation Section 3.7 of the policy emphasizes that "public participation in the development and implementation of environmentally sound policies and practices shall be ensured". The policy mandates the involvement of local communities, NGOs, and the private sector in environmental decision-making processes, stressing the need for transparency and inclusivity. MWE shall ensure transparent public participation by involving all stakeholders in the MWACRID Project, regularly consulting affected communities to address their concerns, and making project information accessible.

4.1.2 National Equal Opportunities Policy, 2006

The objective of the policy is to promote inclusivity and equality by ensuring that marginalized and disadvantaged groups, including women, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities, have equal access to opportunities and benefits. The policy aims to integrate these groups into decision-making processes through established consultation mechanisms, ensuring transparency and equitable access to information and resources. It seeks to enhance project outcomes by addressing barriers to participation and incorporating stakeholder feedback into project planning and implementation. The policy states under Section 4.2 that "marginalized and disadvantaged groups, including women, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities, shall have equal access to opportunities and benefits". It advocates for active involvement of these groups in decision-making processes. MWE commits to actively engaging marginalized and disadvantaged groups throughout the MWACRID Project, ensuring their concerns and inputs are integral to project planning and implementation.

4.1.3 National Policy on Elimination of Gender-Based Violence, 2016

The policy objective is to address and eliminate gender-based violence (GBV) through comprehensive and culturally relevant interventions. The policy aims to involve a diverse range of stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society, and community-based organizations, in designing and implementing GBV programs. It emphasizes community involvement, capacity building, and feedback mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness and transparency of GBV prevention and response efforts. Under Section 5.3, The policy emphasizes that "community involvement in the design and implementation of GBV programs are crucial for addressing barriers and prioritizing the needs of survivors. MWE will

incorporate comprehensive and inclusive GBV prevention and response efforts in the MWACRID Project, involving a diverse range of stakeholders to ensure culturally relevant and effective interventions.

4.1.4 Uganda National Land Policy, 2013

The objective of the Policy is to ensure the efficient, equitable, and sustainable management of land resources in Uganda. The policy aims to address land challenges and conflicts by mandating consultations with local communities, traditional leaders, and landowners during land development projects. It seeks to promote transparency, accountability, and effective conflict resolution through stakeholder engagement, capacity building, and grievance redress mechanisms. The policy mandates require under Sections 4.7.1 and 4.7.2 respectively that "all land acquisitions on private land must comply with an approved Resettlement Action Plan (RAP)" and that "local communities, traditional leaders, and landowners shall be consulted during the planning and implementation phases of land development". MWE will adhere to these guidelines by engaging all relevant stakeholders during land acquisition processes for the MWACRID Project, ensuring compliance with RAPs and addressing any conflicts through stakeholder dialogues.

4.1.5 National Gender Policy, 2007

The Policy aims to advance gender equality and ensure that the needs of all gender groups are addressed in development projects. The policy mandates active participation from both women and men, emphasizes gender mainstreaming, and calls for community participation to align projects with local needs and gender dynamics. It aims to build stakeholder capacity for gender-sensitive planning and ensure that gender perspectives are integrated throughout project implementation. Section 6.4 of the policy requires that "both women and men must participate in the design and implementation of development projects to ensure that gender perspectives are integrated". MWE will ensure gender equality in the MWACRID Project by actively involving all gender groups, integrating gender perspectives into all stages of the project, and establishing mechanisms for continuous feedback.

4.1.6 National Policy on Disability, 2006

The Policy aims to ensure that the rights and needs of persons with disabilities are addressed through inclusive development practices. The policy aims to involve individuals with disabilities in decision-making processes, ensure accessibility in projects, and consult with disability organizations. It emphasizes capacity-building, accessible communication, and feedback mechanisms to ensure equitable and inclusive participation for persons with disabilities. The policy under Sections 5.1 and 5.2 respectively calls for "active participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes and ensuring that projects and programs are accessible to them". MWE will ensure that the MWACRID Project is inclusive and accessible, actively engaging persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in all stages of project planning and implementation.

4.1.7 National Water Policy (1999)

The Policy provides the overarching legal framework for the sustainable development, management, and use of Uganda's water resources. It emphasizes integrated water resources management (IWRM), equitable access to safe water for all users, and the promotion of water for economic and social development while protecting the environment. The policy supports decentralized service delivery, private sector participation, and community involvement, and aligns with national goals of poverty eradication, public health improvement, and environmental sustainability. It forms the basis for water sector reforms and guides legislation, planning, and project implementation in Uganda.

4.1.8 Uganda National Road Safety Policy, 2006

The Policy aims to enhance road safety and reduce traffic accidents through a collaborative approach involving various stakeholders. The policy aims to incorporate community perspectives in road safety planning, foster collaboration among government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector, and implement targeted road safety education campaigns. It seeks to promote safe road behaviour and integrate road safety education into school curricula. The policy under Section 3.2 advocates for "community consultations in road safety planning to ensure that the perspectives of residents and road users are incorporated". MWE will incorporate community consultations in road safety planning under the MWACRID Project to ensure that the concerns of residents and road users are addressed.

4.1.9 Uganda Vision 2040

The Vision aims to transform Uganda into a modern, prosperous nation with high living standards and sustainable development by 2040. Vision 2040 emphasizes broad stakeholder engagement in development projects, ensuring diverse perspectives are integrated into planning and implementation. It aims to promote community participation, transparency, and accountability to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth. Section 7.3 of the Vision emphasizes "broad stakeholder engagement in both planning and implementation of development projects to ensure diverse perspectives are integrated". MWE will align with this vision by engaging a wide range of stakeholders in the MWACRID Project, ensuring their perspectives are integrated into the project for more effective and equitable outcomes.

4.1.10 National Development Plan III (2020/21 to 2024/25)

The Plan guide Uganda's development strategy by emphasizing inclusive stakeholder engagement and coordination. The plan aims to gather diverse input from communities, local government authorities, and other stakeholders to enhance program effectiveness. It seeks to foster ownership, address grievances, and ensure transparency and accountability throughout the project lifecycle. Section 4.5.1 of the NDP III mandates "inclusive involvement of communities and relevant stakeholders in planning and implementation phases to foster ownership and ensure projects meet local needs". MWE will incorporate these principles by ensuring that the MWACRID Project s are responsive to the needs of local communities,

fostering greater participation and collaboration for enhanced project effectiveness and sustainability.

4.2 National Legal Framework

4.2.1 The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995)

The Constitutions aims to guarantee the right to a clean and healthy environment and ensure proper management of land resources. The Constitution mandates public participation in environmental matters and consultation with landowners and stakeholders regarding land use and development. Article 39 guarantees the right to a clean and healthy environment, and Article 237 mandates the state to ensure proper management of land resources, requiring consultation with landowners. MWE will ensure that environmental considerations and stakeholder consultations are integral to the MWACRID Project, protecting the rights of landowners and the environment.

4.2.2 National Environment Act, No. 5 of 2019

The Act aims to regulate environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) for projects with significant impacts. The Act mandates stakeholder consultations, public hearings, and documentation of stakeholder input to ensure that environmental and social concerns are addressed. Sections 111-113 require ESIAs that include stakeholder consultations and public hearings for projects with significant impacts. MWE will conduct comprehensive ESIAs for the MWACRID Project, ensuring all stakeholders have opportunities to voice their concerns through consultations and public hearings.

4.2.3 National Environment (Environmental and Social Assessment) Regulations, 2020

The Regulations provide detailed regulations for conducting ESIAs, including mandatory public hearings and notice provisions. The Regulations aim to ensure that affected communities and stakeholders can provide input before project approval. Regulation 14 mandates public hearings for detailed ESIAs, ensuring affected communities and stakeholders can provide input before project approval. MWE will adhere to this regulation by organizing public hearings for the MWACRID Project, ensuring that all stakeholders are informed and have a platform to contribute their views.

4.2.4 The Land Act, Cap 227 (1998, amended 2010)

The Act aims to govern land use and development by requiring consultation with local communities regarding land decisions. The Act aims to involve affected communities in decisions about land use to ensure their concerns are addressed. Section 43 mandates that local communities must be consulted and involved in decisions regarding land use and development. MWE will engage local communities in all decisions regarding land use under the MWACRID Project, ensuring their input is considered in the project.

4.2.5 The Local Government Act, Cap 243 (1997, amended 2010)

The Act aims to promote community participation in the planning and implementation of development activities. The Act mandates local governments to engage with communities to address their needs and interests, ensuring transparency and inclusivity. Section 35 requires local governments to consult with communities during planning and implementation of development activities. MWE will actively engage and inform affected and benefiting communities about the MWACRID Project, addressing their concerns and ensuring their participation throughout the project.

4.2.6 The Access to Information Act, 2005

The Act seeks to ensure stakeholders have access to critical information held by public bodies. The Act aims to promote transparency and informed participation by mandating the availability of project information and establishing procedures for accessing and requesting information. The Act provides in Sections 5, 12, 16 and 17 that stakeholders have the right to access critical information held by public bodies, essential for informed participation. MWE will guarantee access to project information for stakeholders of the MWACRID Project, promoting transparency and accountability by proactively publishing and facilitating access to relevant documents.

4.2.7 The Public Health Act, Cap 281 (1935, amended 2000)

The Act aims at addressing public health concerns through community engagement and communication. The Act emphasizes integrating health issues into project planning and ensuring community involvement in addressing health risks and compliance with health regulations. Sections 17, 25 and 33 empowers local authorities to address public health concerns, which includes engaging the community about health risks related to projects. MWE will integrate public health considerations into the MWACRID Project, engaging the community to inform them about health risks and ensuring compliance with health regulations.

4.3 AfDB Integrated Safeguards System Requirements

The Environmental and Social Standards set out the requirements for Borrowers relating to the identification and assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts associated with projects supported by the Bank through Investment Project Financing. The application of these standards, by focusing on the identification and management of environmental and social risks, will support Borrowers in their goal to reduce poverty and increase prosperity in a sustainable manner for the benefit of the environment and their citizens. The standards will: (a) support Borrowers in achieving good international practice relating to environmental and social sustainability; (b) assist Borrowers in fulfilling their national and international environmental and social obligations; (c) enhance non-discrimination, transparency, participation, accountability and governance; and (d) enhance the sustainable development outcomes of projects through ongoing stakeholder engagement.

4.3.1 Operational Safeguard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risk and Impact

This standard applies to all projects supported by the Bank through Investment Project Financing. The Borrower will engage with stakeholders as an integral part of the project's environmental and social assessment and project design and implementation, as outlined in ESS1. Moreover, as pointed out in ESS10, the Borrower will continue to engage with, and provide sufficient information to stakeholders throughout the life cycle of the project, in a manner appropriate to the nature of their interests and the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the project. The aim of this overarching Operational Safeguard (OS), together with the OSs that complement it, is to mainstream environmental and social (E&S) considerations, including those related to climate change vulnerability. into Bank operations and thereby contribute to sustainable development in the continent. Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) work carried out under this OS helps to determine the scope and extent to which other OSs are addressed. It sets out the Borrower's responsibilities for assessing, managing, and monitoring E&S risks and impacts associated with each stage of an operation supported by the Bank Group. The Bank reviews and discloses all documentation related to an operation's ESA in accordance with this OS, OS10, and the Bank's Policy on Disclosure and Access to Information, prior to presenting an operation to the Bank's Board of Directors.

It is applied to all projects, activities, and other initiatives for which Bank financing is sought. It establishes the importance of: (i) the Borrower's existing Environmental and Social Framework in addressing the risks and impacts of the project; (ii) an integrated ESA to identify the risks and impacts of a project, activity, or other initiative; (iii) effective stakeholder engagement through the disclosure of relevant information, consultation, and effective feedback; and (iv) the management of E&S risks and impacts, including climate risk and adaptation, by the Borrower throughout the lifecycle of operations.

4.3.2 Operational Safeguard 2: Labour and Working Conditions

Labour and Working Conditions recognizes the importance of employment creation and income generation in the pursuit of poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth. Borrowers can promote sound worker-management relationships and enhance the development benefits of a project by treating workers in the project fairly and providing safe and healthy working conditions. Respect of workers' rights is one of the keystones for developing a strong and productive workforce. This OS is informed by the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work,103 and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The standard is applicable to project workers including full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, and migrant workers. Contractors, primary suppliers, and other service providers should be made aware of OS2 requirements in invitations to tender, contracts, and other documents so that they can internalize the costs of meeting OS2 requirements in their technical and financial proposals. The Borrower and third parties shall refrain from entering into disguised employment relationships such as contractual arrangements that have the effect of depriving workers of their due protection.

Situations may arise where people do not fit readily into the above categories. The Bank will identify the applicable requirements in such circumstances.

4.3.3 Operational Safeguard 3: Resources Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

This OS recognizes that economic activities often cause air, water, and land pollution, and consume finite resources that may threaten people, ecosystem services, and the environment at the local, regional, and global levels. This OS ensures the Borrower shall include resource-efficiency and pollution-prevention principles in the project activities or initiatives in accordance with the principles of cleaner production. The Borrower takes into consideration ambient conditions and apply technically and financially feasible resource efficiency and pollution prevention measures in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy. The measures will be proportionate to the risks and impacts associated with the project and consistent with GIIP, in the first instance, the ISS guidance notes.

4.3.4 Operational Safeguard 4: Community Health, Safety and Security

This OS recognizes that projects, activities, equipment, and infrastructure can increase community exposure to risks and impacts. In addition, communities that are already subjected to impacts from climate change may also experience an acceleration or intensification of impacts due to a project or activities. The standard addresses the health, safety, and security risks to and impacts on project-affected communities and the corresponding responsibility of the Borrower to avoid or minimize them, with particular attention to people who, due to their circumstances, may be vulnerable. The applicability of OS4 is established during the ESA described in OS1. This OS addresses potential risks to and impacts on communities that may be affected by project activities. Occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements for project workers are set out in OS2, and measures to avoid or minimize impacts on human health and the environment due to existing or potential pollution are set out in OS3.

4.3.5 Operational Safeguard 5: Involuntary Resettlement Instruments

This standard describes the elements of the plans addressing physical and/or economic displacement described. These plans shall be referred to as 'resettlement plans. Resettlement plans include measures to address physical and/or economic displacement, depending on the nature of the impacts expected from a project. Projects may use alternative nomenclature, depending on the scope of the resettlement plan, where a project involves only economic displacement, the resettlement plan may be called a 'livelihood plan', or where restrictions on access to legally designated parks and protected areas are involved, the plan may take the form of a 'riparian communities involvement plan'. The scope of requirements and level of detail of the resettlement plan vary with the magnitude and complexity of resettlement. The plan is based on up-to-date and reliable information on: (i) the proposed project and its potential impacts on the displaced persons and other adversely affected groups; (ii) appropriate and feasible mitigation measures; and (iii) the legal and institutional arrangements required for effective implementation of resettlement measures.

This OS applies to all Bank Group-funded operations, both public and private sector, and to projects funded through all financial instruments managed by the Bank. The applicability of OS5 is established during the ESA described in OS1. This OS applies to permanent or temporary physical and economic displacement resulting from the different types of land acquisition or restrictions on land access or use undertaken or imposed in connection with project implementation. This OS does not apply to disputes between private parties in land titling or related contexts. However, it will apply where people are required to vacate land as a direct result of a project-supported determination that the land in question is state land.

4.3.6 Operational Safeguard 6: Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation, and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

The OS reflects the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity to conserve biological diversity and promote sustainable management and use of natural resources. It also aligns with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, the World Heritage Convention, 207 the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. Its recommendations also align with the International Plant Protection Convention, which covers the movement of invasive alien species and pests, as well as pest risk analysis for quarantine pests, including an analysis of the risks and impacts of genetically modified organisms.

The applicability of this OS is established during the ESA described in OS1. Based on the ESA, the requirements of this OS are applied to all projects that may affect biodiversity or habitats, either positively or negatively, directly or indirectly, or that depend on biodiversity for their success. This OS also applies to projects that involve primary production and/or harvesting of living natural resources.

4.3.7 Operational Safeguard OS 7: Vulnerable Groups

This OS recognizes that some cultural groups, due to their lifestyle, culture, and strong dependence on the natural environment, have identities and aspirations that are distinct from mainstream groups in national societies and are often disadvantaged by traditional models of development. In many instances, they are among the most economically marginalized and vulnerable segments of the population. Their economic, social, and legal status frequently limits their capacity to defend their rights to, and interests in, land, territories, and natural and cultural resources, and may restrict their ability to participate in and benefit from development projects. In many cases, they do not receive equitable access to project benefits.

The applicability of this OS is established during the ESA described in OS1. This OS applies to vulnerable groups regardless of whether they are affected positively or negatively, regardless of the significance of any such impacts. This OS also applies irrespective of the presence or absence of discernible economic, political or social vulnerabilities, although the nature and extent of vulnerability will be a key variable in designing plans to promote equitable access to benefits or to mitigate adverse impacts.

4.3.8 Operational Safeguard 8: Cultural Heritage

This OS recognizes that cultural heritage is an inherent and essential part of self-identification, and that it provides continuity in tangible and intangible forms between the past, present, and future. People identify with cultural heritage as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It is defined as tangible and intangible resources inherited from the past that people identify, independently of ownership, as being a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge, and traditions. Cultural heritage is part of every culture throughout the world. In its many manifestations, it is an integral part of people's cultural identity, practice, and self-identity, and is important as a source of valuable scientific and historical information, and as an economic and social (E&S) asset for development. Cultural heritage is also deeply connected to the surrounding environmental and natural world. Operational Standard (OS)8 sets out measures designed to protect cultural heritage throughout the project life cycle.

The OS 08 is applicable to all projects that are likely to cause risks to or have impacts on cultural heritage. This will include a project that involves; excavations, demolition, movement of earth, flooding or other changes in the physical environment; the project located within a legally protected area or a legally defined buffer zone; located in, or in the vicinity of, a recognized cultural heritage site; and is specifically designed to support the conservation, management and use of cultural heritage and is located in an area that a stakeholder community believes contains cultural heritage of significance to their community.

4.3.9 Operational Safeguard 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

This OS therefore recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the E&S sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation. Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle. When properly designed and implemented, it supports the development of strong, constructive, and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's E&S risks. Stakeholder engagement is most effective when initiated at an early stage of the project development process and is an integral part of early project decisions and the assessment, management, and monitoring of the project's E&S risks and impacts.

OS10 applies to all of the Bank Group's funded operations where the MWACRID Project is subjected to these kinds of projects. In this regard, the Borrower is obliged to engage with stakeholders as an integral part of the project's ESA and project design and implementation, as outlined in OS1. To this OS10, 'stakeholder' refers to individuals or groups who are affected or are at risk of being affected by the operation, directly or indirectly (project-affected parties); and/or may have an interest in the operation (other interested parties). Borrowers shall engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, commencing as early as possible in the project development process and in a time frame that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on project design. The nature, scope, and frequency of stakeholder engagement

will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project, and its potential risks and impacts. Borrowers shall facilitate meaningful consultations with all stakeholders by providing them with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and consulting with them in a culturally appropriate manner.

5 GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

5.1 Introduction

A grievance refers to a perceived or actual concern or problem raised by an individual or group that may lead to a complaint. To address such grievances, MWE will implement the GRM described below, which is a key component of the SEP and will be maintained throughout the project's duration. The GRM is designed to be accessible, cost-free, and free from retribution, allowing stakeholders to raise grievances during all phases of the project. It does not impede access to judicial or administrative remedies and will be communicated to stakeholders during consultation phases.

5.2 Objectives

The objectives of the grievance redress mechanism are to:

- 1. Resolve grievances in a fair and transparent manner, ensuring adherence to internal policies and best practices.
- 2. Implement a systematic approach for handling, tracking, and resolving grievances, with effective monitoring mechanisms.
- 3. Establish a clear and accessible process for stakeholders to submit grievances and receive prompt responses.
- 4. Enable stakeholders to express concerns anonymously and confidentially, encouraging open and honest communication.
- 5. Cultivate an environment of trust and participation, ensuring that all stakeholders are aware of their roles and responsibilities in the grievance process.

5.3 Purpose of the GRM

This GRM has been developed to showcase MWE's dedication to social responsibility in planning and executing the MWACRID Project activities. It offers an effective mechanism for the prompt and efficient resolution of grievances, ensuring that disputes are addressed swiftly and equitably for the benefit of all stakeholders. By enabling early identification and resolution of issues, the GRM helps prevent the escalation of conflicts to higher authorities or external entities like the judicial system. The GRM is structured to involve the appropriate level of management, ensure a predictable and transparent process, and provide feedback without fear of retaliation. It also respects stakeholders' rights to pursue legal or administrative remedies as provided by law.

5.4 Principles of the GRM

The effectiveness of the GRM will be guided by the following principles:

- i. Promptness. Grievances will be addressed swiftly to maintain stakeholder trust and prevent escalation.
- ii. Transparency and accountability. The GRM will ensure clear communication about grievance management and resolution, with mechanisms in place to uphold public interest.
- iii. Fairness. Procedures will be impartial and equitable, providing all stakeholders with equal access to information and participation opportunities.
- iv. Accessibility. The GRM will be accessible to all, addressing barriers like language, literacy, cost, and fear of reprisal, with information available in various formats.
- v. Cultural appropriateness. The GRM will respect and incorporate relevant cultural norms and practices to ensure sensitivity to the affected communities.
- vi. Rights compatibility. The GRM will align with international and national human rights standards, ensuring that stakeholders retain their full range of rights.

5.5 Grievances Anticipated on The Project

Grievances, as defined by the AfDB's Integrated Safeguards System, to encompass any questions, concerns, complaints, or requests raised by project-affected parties (PAPs) regarding the environmental and social performance of a Bank-financed project (AfDB 2024). Similarly, Ugandan law describes grievances as disputes or complaints submitted by affected parties regarding project impacts, compensation, or other related aspects, emphasizing the importance of fair treatment and redress in development projects (Government of Uganda, 2017). Both frameworks stress the need for effective grievance redress mechanisms to ensure transparency, accountability, and stakeholder satisfaction throughout the project lifecycle. The following table outlines the expected grievances, categorized by source, and the potential stakeholders likely to raise these concerns.

Table 5-1: Project anticipated grievances

| Grievance | Description | Potential | Sources of | Stakeholders |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Category | | Examples | Grievances | Likely to Register |
| | | | | Grievances |
| Land | Issues related to | Insufficient | Poor valuation of | Project Affected |
| Acquisition and | the fairness, | compensation, | land, bureaucratic | Persons, Local |
| Compensation | adequacy, and | delayed | delays, lack of | Community |
| | timeliness of land | payments, | community | Leaders, Local |
| | compensation and | inadequate | involvement | NGOs, Whistle- |
| | resettlement. | resettlement | | blower |
| | | assistance | | |

| Environmental Impact Social | Concerns about adverse environmental effects resulting from the project. | Pollution, habitat destruction, loss of biodiversity, inadequate environmental mitigation measures Loss of | Inadequate Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), poor implementation of mitigation measures Lack of | Environmental Activists, Local Communities, Health and Environmental NGOs, Whistle- blower Project Affected |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Displacement | Impact on local communities due to displacement or changes in their social structures. | community cohesion, disruption of local services, cultural impacts | comprehensive resettlement planning, inadequate social support systems | Persons, Local Community Leaders, Social Services Agencies, Whistle-blower |
| Employment and Economic Opportunities | Disputes over job creation and economic benefits associated with the project. | Lack of local employment opportunities, unfair hiring practices, insufficient economic benefits to local businesses | Poor planning and implementation of local employment strategies, favouritism in hiring practices | Local Workers, Business Owners, Community Representatives, Whistle-blower |
| Health and Safety | Issues related to health and safety risks posed by the project. | Exposure to hazardous materials, inadequate health and safety measures, increased health risks | Inadequate safety protocols, poor management of health risks, lack of proper medical facilities | Affected Workers, Local Health Officials, Community Health Organizations, Whistle-blower |
| Project Transparency and Communication | Grievances related to the transparency and effectiveness of communication about the project. | Poor information dissemination, lack of public consultations, inadequate stakeholder engagement | Insufficient communication strategies, lack of timely updates, poor public relations | Local Media, Community Members, Stakeholder Advocacy Groups, Whistle-blower |
| Contractor Behaviour | Concerns regarding the behaviour and practices of contractors involved in the project. | Poor working conditions, unethical practices, disrespect towards local communities | Unregulated contractor practices, lack of oversight and enforcement of standards | Workers, Local Community Members, Contractor Oversight Agencies, Whistle- blower |
| Cultural Heritage | Impacts on cultural heritage sites or practices due to the project. | Damage to historical sites, disruption of cultural practices, neglect of cultural heritage | Insufficient cultural assessments, lack of respect for local traditions and heritage | Local Cultural Groups, Indigenous Communities, Heritage Conservationists, Whistle-blower |

| Infrastructure | Problems related | Road closures, | Poor planning and | Local Residents, |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| and Service | to the disruption | interruptions in | coordination, lack | Utility Service |
| Disruption | of existing | utility services, | of effective | Providers, Local |
| | infrastructure and | delays in service | communication | Government |
| | services during | restoration | with affected | Authorities, |
| | project | | communities | Whistle-blower |
| | implementation. | | | |
| Project | Grievances arising | Extended project | Inefficient project | Project Affected |
| Implementation | from delays in | timelines, | management, | Persons, Local |
| Delays | project execution. | missed | unforeseen | Government |
| - | | deadlines, | technical | Authorities, |
| | | incomplete work | challenges, | Community |
| | | | inadequate | Leaders, Whistle- |
| | | | resource | blower |
| | | | allocation | |

5.6 Grievances Management and Handling

Grievance handling and management involve systematic processes designed to address and resolve complaints and concerns raised by stakeholders affected by a project. The handling process will include the following;

5.6.1 Establishment and management of grievance redress management committees

Empirical evidence consistently underscores the emergence of grievances early in the project lifecycle, underscoring the critical importance of instituting a grievance mechanism from the feasibility stage. The following table outlines the procedural steps for establishing Grievance Redress Mechanism Committees (GRMCs) for the project. These procedures are designed to ensure the effective formation of GRMCs, emphasizing gender balance and inclusivity in alignment with best practices for grievance redress.

Table 5-2: Procedure for forming grievance redress mechanism

| Level | Procedure |
|-------------------|--|
| Community/Village | 1. Engage local leaders, community groups, and representatives to identify |
| | key stakeholders. Conduct mapping to ensure diverse representation. |
| | 2. Mobilisation of stakeholder for a through community meetings, local |
| | media, and public notices to inform about the formation of the GRMC and |
| | call for nominations or applications. |
| | 3. Select members focusing on their ability to represent diverse community |
| | interests and their commitment to fairness and transparency to form a |
| | GRMC with balanced representation, including community leaders, |
| | women, youth, and marginalized groups. |
| | 4. Ensure gender balance at least 30% of membership and inclusion of |
| | diverse community sectors. |
| Workers Level | 1. Engage workers and contractors and conduct mapping to ensure diverse |
| | representation. |
| | 2. Form a GRMC with representation from workers, management, and HR. |
| | Ensure inclusion of workers from different departments and levels. |

| | 3. Ensure gender balance at least 30% of membership and inclusion of |
|------------|--|
| | diverse community sectors. |
| Sub-county | 1. Engage division-level authorities, community representatives, and relevant stakeholders to form a GRMC. |
| | 2. Create a GRMC with representatives from various sectors, including political leaders and technical staff, community members, and civil society organizations. |
| | 3. Ensure gender balance at least 30% of membership and inclusion of diverse community sectors |
| District | 1. Consult project and Municipal Council authorities, and community representatives to form a GRMC. |
| | 2. Create a GRMC with representatives from various sectors, including political leaders and technical staff, community members, and civil society organizations. |
| | 3. Ensure gender balance at least 30% of membership and inclusion of diverse community sectors |

The GRMCs at different levels, shall have the following structures as presented in the table below;

1. Community/Village Level GRMC

The Community/Cell level GRMC shall be a locally established body to address grievances and concerns arising from community members directly impacted by project. The committee shall primarily handle issues related to community disruption, land use, and local infrastructure projects. Grievances managed at this level may include disputes over land acquisition, environmental impacts, or community welfare concerns. If grievances are not resolved satisfactorily at this level, they shall be escalated to the Division Level GRMC, where more structured support and higher-level mediation shall be provided.

Table 5-3: Composition of Community/Village level GRMC

| Po | sition | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|----|----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1. | Chairperson | Oversees committee meetings, ensures | Local Community Leader |
| | | adherence to procedures. | or respected Elder |
| 2. | Vice-Chairperson | Assists the Chairperson, takes over in their | Local Leader or Member |
| | | absence. | from a Women's Group |
| 3. | Secretary | Records minutes of meetings, manages | Youth Representative or |
| | | documentation. | Local Volunteer |
| 4. | Community | Represents general community concerns | Elected Community |
| | Representative | and interests. | Member or Village Head |
| 5. | Women's | Ensures women's concerns are addressed. | Female Community |
| | Representative | | Member or Leader |
| 6. | Youth Representative | Represents youth issues and perspectives. | Young Adult from the |
| | | | Community |
| 7. | Marginalized Groups | Advocates for the interests of marginalized | Member from a Local |
| | Representative | groups. | Marginalized Group |

| 8. | LC | 1 | C/P | (Ex- | Ensures community grievances are heard | LC 1 Chairperson |
|----|-----|--------|-----|------|---|------------------|
| | Off | icial) | | | and addressed at the grassroots level. | |
| | | | | | Serve as the initial contact for community | |
| | | | | | members raising grievances. | |
| | | | | | Assist in documenting and reporting | |
| | | | | | grievances. | |
| | | | | | Resolve minor disputes using local | |
| | | | | | knowledge and relationships to prevent | |
| | | | | | escalation. | |
| | | | | | Validate the legitimacy of grievances and | |
| | | | | | authenticity of claims based on local trust | |
| | | | | | and knowledge. | |

2. Workers Level GRMC

The Workers GRMC shall be focused on addressing grievances and issues specifically related to the workforce involved in the project. This committee shall be established to deal with concerns such as working conditions, safety violations, wage disputes, employment terms, sexual harassment, GBV among others. It will provide a platform for workers to raise complaints about their work environment or treatment. Unresolved grievances at this level shall be escalated to the Division Level GRMC, which shall offer additional resources and oversight for more complex or systemic issues affecting the workforce.

Table 5-4: Composition of workers Level GRMC

| Po | sition | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Chairperson | Leads meetings, addresses worker | Senior Worker or Union |
| | | grievances. | Representative |
| 2. | Vice-Chairperson | Supports the Chairperson and | Experienced Worker or Assistant |
| | | substitutes when needed. | Supervisor |
| 3. | Secretary | Manages records and | Administrative Staff or HR |
| | • | communication. | Representative |
| 4. | Treasurer | Oversees financial aspects if | Finance or Payroll Officer |
| | | applicable. | |
| 5. | Worker's | Represents worker's concerns and | Elected Worker from the |
| Representative | | feedback. | Workforce |
| 6. | Health and Safety | Addresses health and safety-related | Health and Safety Officer or a |
| | Representative | grievances. | Safety Representative |

4. Sub-County Level GRMC

This GRMC shall be responsible for overseeing and managing grievances that have been escalated from the Sub-County Level GRMC. It will deal with more complex or systemic issues affecting multiple communities or larger project areas, such as significant environmental impacts, large-scale land acquisition disputes, or project related conflicts. The committee shall ensure that these grievances are addressed comprehensively, leveraging division-wide resources and coordination. Persistent or unresolved grievances at this level shall then be escalated to the District Level GRMC for resolution and higher-level intervention.

Table 5-5: Composition of District Level GRMC

| | sition | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1. | Chairperson | Leads and oversees grievance management at the division level. | Town Clerk |
| 2. | Secretary | Handles all administrative tasks and records. | Community Development Officer |
| 3. | Women's and Youth Representatives | Ensures gender and youth concerns are addressed. | Female and Youth Leaders from the Division |
| 4. | Marginalized Groups Representatives | Ensures marginalized groups' voices are included. | Division Representatives from Marginalized Groups |
| 5. | Representative of the Health Unit Management Committee | - Raise and follow up on grievances related to health impacts or services affected by the project. | In-Charge |
| | Commuce | - Provide health-related insights during GRM meetings to ensure informed decision-making. | |
| | | - Engage with affected community members to understand their health-related concerns and report these to the GRM committee. | |
| 6. | Representative of the School Management Committee | - Report and follow up on grievances related to educational facilities or impacts on students and teachers. | Parents Teachers Association Chairperson |
| | | - Participate in GRM discussions, bringing in the perspective of the educational sector. | |
| | | - Ensure that resolutions are communicated to schools and that any necessary adjustments are made to protect the educational environment. | |
| 7. | Rep of CSO, NGOS, CBOs | - Participate in GRM meetings, advocating for the interests of the communities they represent. | Nominated by organisations |
| | | - Report on grievances raised by the communities, especially those related | |

| Position | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| | to social, environmental, and rights-based issues. | |
| | Monitor the implementation of grievance resolutions, ensuring that they align with community needs and expectations. | |
| 8. PAP Representative | - Collect and present grievances from PAPs during GRM meetings. | To be nominated |
| | - Ensure that PAPs are informed about the outcomes of grievance discussions and decisions. | |
| | - Advocate for fair compensation, resettlement, and other forms of support for PAPs. | |

5. District Level GRMC

The District Level GRMC is the highest level in the grievance redress mechanism, responsible for addressing unresolved grievances that have been escalated from the District Level GRMC. This committee shall handle significant or complex grievances impacting the overall project or municipal area, including major disputes over project impacts, large-scale environmental or social issues, and critical compliance concerns. It shall provide final oversight and resolution, and if necessary, coordinates with external bodies or legal channels. Unresolved issues at this level shall be referred to judicial or arbitration processes for further action.

Table 5-6: Composition of District Level GRMC

| Po | sition | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|----|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Chairperson | Leads and oversees grievance management at | Chief Administrative |
| | | the division level. | Office |
| 2. | Secretary | Handles all administrative tasks and records. | Community |
| | | | Development Officer |
| 3. | Women's and Youth | Ensures gender and youth concerns are | Female and Youth |
| | Representatives | addressed. | Leaders from the |
| | | | District |
| 4. | Marginalized Groups | Ensures marginalized groups' voices are | District |
| | Representatives | included. | Representatives from |
| | | | Marginalized Groups |
| 5. | Representative of the | - Raise and follow up on grievances related | In-Charge |
| | Health Unit | to health impacts or services affected by | |
| | Management | the project. | |
| | Committee | - Provide health-related insights during | |
| | | GRM meetings to ensure informed | |
| | | decision-making. | |

| Position | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|--|---|--|
| | - Engage with affected community members | |
| | to understand their health-related concerns | |
| | and report these to the GRM committee. | |
| 6. Representative of the School Management Committee | Report and follow up on grievances related to educational facilities or impacts on students and teachers. Participate in GRM discussions, bringing in the perspective of the educational sector. Ensure that resolutions are communicated | Parents Teachers Association Chairperson |
| | to schools and that any necessary adjustments are made to protect the educational environment. | |
| 7. Rep of CSO, NGOS, CBOs | Participate in GRM meetings, advocating for the interests of the communities they represent. Report on grievances raised by the communities, especially those related to social, environmental, and rights-based | Nominated by organisations |
| | issues. Monitor the implementation of grievance resolutions, ensuring that they align with community needs and expectations. | |
| 8. Labour Officer | - Ensures that grievances related to labour practices, workers' rights, and employment conditions are addressed effectively within the GRM framework. | Labour Officer |
| | - Monitor the project's adherence to labour laws, regulations, and standards, ensuring that workers' rights are protected throughout the project lifecycle. | |
| | - Mediate disputes related to employment, wages, working conditions, and other labour-related issues, helping to resolve conflicts between workers and employers. | |
| | - Receive and address grievances related to labour issues such as wages, working hours, health and safety, and unfair treatment. | |
| | - Ensure that the project complies with labour laws and regulations, reporting any violations or concerns to the GRM committee. | |
| | - Participate in GRM meetings, providing expert advice on labour-related grievances and helping to develop fair and just resolutions. | |
| | Facilitate training and awareness sessions on labour rights for workers involved in the project. | |
| 9. MWE Technical Representative | - Ensures that grievances related to the technical aspects of the project, such as construction quality, safety, and | The Municipal Engineer |

| Position | Responsibilities | Suggested Members |
|----------|---|--------------------------|
| | environmental impact, are properly addressed. | |
| | Monitor the quality of construction work, ensuring that it meets the required standards and specifications, and addressing any concerns related to technical deficiencies or safety hazards. Assess the potential impacts of the project on local infrastructure and ensure that any | |
| | negative impacts are mitigated. - Investigate and address grievances related to construction quality, safety concerns, and technical issues that arise during the | |
| | project Provide technical input during GRM meetings, helping to identify practical solutions to grievances related to engineering and construction. | |
| | - Monitor the implementation of grievance resolutions to ensure that they meet technical standards and do not compromise the safety or quality of the project. | |
| | - Liaise with contractors and other technical staff to address any construction-related grievances promptly and effectively. | |

5.6.2 Terms of Reference for Grievance Redress Management Committees

The Terms of Reference (ToRs) presented in the table below clearly define the purpose, scope, roles, and responsibilities of the GRMCs, ensuring that all committee members understand their duties and the procedures to follow. They provide a structured framework for the operation of GRMCs, promoting transparency, accountability, and consistency in handling grievances. They will facilitate efficient decision-making and resource allocation, hence ensuring that issues are resolved promptly and fairly. They will also enhance stakeholder confidence in the grievance redress process by ensuring that it is systematic, equitable, and aligned with project objectives and legal standards.

Table 5-7: Terms of reference for GRMCs

| Level | Purpose | Terms of Reference |
|----------------|--|---|
| Community/Cell | Address and resolve grievances from community members. Provide a platform for local community members to voice concerns and receive timely resolutions. | Receive and log grievances from community members. Investigate and address issues related to community disruption, land use, and local infrastructure. Conduct community meetings to discuss grievances and possible resolutions. Ensure fair representation of all community groups. Maintain records of grievances and resolutions. |

| Level | Purpose | Terms of Reference |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| | | - Escalate unresolved grievances to the Sub- |
| Project/Workers Level | - Address and resolve grievances related to the workforce Ensure fair and safe working conditions for all project employees. | County Level GRMC. - Receive and log grievances from workers Investigate and address issues related to working conditions, safety, wage disputes, and employment terms Conduct meetings with workers to discuss grievances and possible resolutions Ensure fair representation of all worker groups Maintain records of grievances and resolutions Escalate unresolved grievances to the Sub-County Level GRMC. |
| Sub-County Level | - Oversee and manage grievances escalated from the Sub-County Level GRMC Address more complex or systemic issues affecting multiple communities or larger project areas. | Receive and log grievances escalated from the Sub-County Level GRMC. Investigate and address issues related to significant environmental impacts, large-scale land acquisition disputes, and regional project planning conflicts. Conduct meetings with relevant stakeholders to discuss grievances and possible resolutions. Ensure fair representation of all affected groups. Maintain records of grievances and resolutions. Escalate unresolved grievances to the Project/District Level GRC. |
| District Level | - Address and resolve grievances escalated from the Sub-County Level GRMC Handle significant or complex grievances impacting the overall project or municipal area. | Receive and log grievances escalated from the Sub-County Level GRMC. Investigate and address issues related to major project impacts, large-scale environmental or social issues, and critical compliance concerns. Conduct meetings with relevant stakeholders to discuss grievances and possible resolutions. Ensure fair representation of all affected groups. Maintain records of grievances and resolutions. Coordinate with external bodies or legal channels for unresolved issues. |

5.6.3 Procedure for grievance reporting and resolution

Stakeholder with project related grievances shall be free to log in their complaints, comments, and suggestions. Confidentiality shall be maintained, with the names and contact details of those initiating complaints kept private unless they consent to disclosure, and only the investigation team will have access to such information. The process for receiving and handling grievances is outlined below.

Step 1: Submitting a Grievance

✓ Community members, workers, or any affected parties can lodge a grievance through various channels such as regular or formal public meetings, consultative forums, informal meetings, direct communication with management (e.g., letters), telephone calls, community suggestion boxes, telephone phone text message, face-to-face meeting, email communication, written communication, presentation through a third party (e.g., via Local Leader), email or through a designated Grievance Officer.

Step 2: Logging the Grievance

- ✓ All grievances must be logged in a Grievance and Concerns logging database.
- ✓ A designated grievance officer or committee member is responsible for recording the grievance in the log.
- ✓ The grievance is screened to determine if it will be processed or rejected.
- ✓ An initial acknowledgment of the grievance should be provided within five days.

Step 3: Providing an Initial Response

- ✓ The responsible team acknowledges the receipt of the grievance and provides an initial response within five days.
- ✓ If further investigation is required, a team with the necessary expertise is identified to review the issue.
- ✓ The complainant is informed about the review process, findings, and any actions to be taken.

Step 4: Investigating the Grievance

- ✓ If immediate corrective action is available, it should be taken within five days. If not, a detailed response should be provided within 30 days, and for complex cases, within 45 days.
- ✓ The investigation approach and personnel involved will vary depending on the nature of the grievance. External experts may be involved for complex issues.
- ✓ The complainant is continuously updated on the progress and expected timeline for resolution.

Note:

The GRM committee should maintain communication with law enforcement/Police to investigation, track the progress and ensure that the grievance is being handled appropriately.

Based on the roles and responsibilities outlined for each level in the GRMC) in Table 5 7:, the time required to resolve a typical grievance at each level can be estimated as follows:

Table 5-8: Days required to resolve a typical grievance

| Level | Ideal Days | Rationale |
|---------------------|------------|--|
| Community/Cell | 14 | Delays might occur due to the need for additional |
| | | consultations or challenges in gathering community |
| | | members, especially in remote areas. |
| Project/Workers | 20 | Delays could stem from the need for more in-depth |
| | | investigations, especially if the grievance involves |
| | | complex workforce issues or requires the involvement |
| | | of external parties. |
| Sub-County | 30 | Complex cases at the Division level may require |
| | | extended time due to broader stakeholder consultations |
| | | and the necessity to address multiple layers of issues. |
| District | 45 | At the Municipal level, delays may arise due to the |
| | | involvement of external bodies, legal channels, or the |
| | | need for coordination with higher authorities and more |
| | | complex investigations. |
| Courts of Law | 90+ days | Grievances escalated to the courts may face significant |
| | | delays due to the legal process, including case |
| | | preparation, hearings, and potential appeals. The time |
| | | needed can vary widely depending on the complexity |
| | | of the case and the court's schedule. |
| Criminal Grievances | 60 | Criminal grievances related to SHEA and GBV may |
| (SHEA, GBV) | | require extended time due to the sensitive nature of |
| | | these cases, the need for specialized investigations, |
| | | victim support services, and coordination with law |
| | | enforcement and judicial authorities. |
| Criminal Grievances | 60 | Non-SHEA/GBV criminal grievances may also face |
| (Other Crimes) | | delays due to the complexity of criminal investigations, |
| | | legal proceedings, and the involvement of multiple law |
| | | enforcement agencies. |

Step 5: Concluding and Resolving the Grievance

- ✓ The steps taken to resolve the grievance are recorded, and the root causes are addressed to prevent recurrence.
- ✓ The project outlines measures to ensure the issue does not reoccur and consults with the complainant to ensure satisfaction with the resolution.
- ✓ If the complainant agrees, the grievance is closed and recorded as resolved.

Step 6: Escalation if the Grievance Remains Unresolved

✓ If the grievance is not resolved at the initial level, it is escalated to higher levels for further investigation and action.

- ✓ The escalation pathway involves moving from community/village level committees to sub-county, division, and project/municipal council levels as necessary.
- ✓ If unresolved at the highest project level, the complainant may seek resolution through external mechanisms such as courts or other relevant authorities.

5.7 Appeal and Disclosure

5.7.1 *Appeal*

The Grievance Mechanism does not replace existing legal processes. If the Grievance Mechanism fails to provide satisfactory results, affected parties can seek alternative legal remedies through the courts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

5.7.2 Disclosure

The grievance mechanism will be disclosed to local community stakeholders via posters and/or leaflets. Copies of the poster will be displayed in prominent external and internal locations with easy public access in each village. Additionally, leaflets explaining the grievance mechanism, along with a "tear-off" form for lodging a grievance, may be distributed to every household in each village.

5.8 GRM Implementation Roles and Responsibilities

The implementation of the GRM shall be a combined effort of several groups as presented in the table below. Each group shall play a crucial role in the effective implementation and operation of the GRM to ensure that grievances are addressed promptly, fairly, and transparently.

Table 5-9: Responsibility for implementing the project GRM

| Group | Roles and Responsibilities | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Community Members | - Submit grievances, comments, and suggestions. | |
| | - Participate in consultations and feedback processes. | |
| | - Serve as members of community-level grievance committees. | |
| Project Workers | - Report grievances related to working conditions, safety, and rights. | |
| | - Participate in grievance resolution processes as required. | |
| | - Adhere to the grievance mechanism procedures. | |
| Contractors | - Establish and maintain grievance logging and resolution systems. | |
| | - Ensure all workers are aware of the grievance mechanism. | |
| | - Collaborate with supervising consultants to resolve grievances. | |
| Supervising | - Monitor contractors' compliance with the grievance mechanism. | |
| Consultants | - Provide technical assistance in grievance investigations and resolutions. | |
| | - Report grievances to higher-level committees as necessary. | |
| MWE | - Ensure the grievance mechanism is effectively implemented within the | |
| | municipality. | |
| | - Provide resources and support for grievance resolution. | |
| | - Coordinate with the project administration and line ministries. | |
| | - Provide oversight and policy guidance for the grievance mechanism. | |
| | - Support capacity building and training on grievance management. | |
| | - Ensure alignment with national laws and AfDB guidelines. | |

| Group | Roles and Responsibilities | | | | |
|----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Project Funder | - Monitor the effectiveness of the grievance mechanism. | | | | |
| | - Ensure compliance with World Bank safeguard policies. | | | | |
| | - Provide support for capacity building and resource allocation for | | | | |
| | grievance redress. | | | | |

5.9 GRMCs Capacity Building

Upon the formation of GRMCs, the MWE project team shall train the GRMCs in several area at various levels. The table below presents information on the specific areas of capacity building required for each GRMC level which shall ensure comprehensive and effective grievance management.

Table 5-10: GRMCs, areas of capacity building

| Table 5-10: GRMCs, areas of capacity building | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| GRMC Level | Areas of Capacity Building | | | | | |
| Community/Village | - Grievance submission and management: Training on processes for | | | | | |
| Level | submitting grievances, maintaining grievance logs, and track | | | | | |
| | resolution progress. | | | | | |
| | - Conflict resolution: Techniques for mediating disputes, negotiating | | | | | |
| | settlements, and fostering mutual understanding among community | | | | | |
| | members. | | | | | |
| | - Communication skills: Effective methods for interacting with community | | | | | |
| | members, including active listening, empathetic responses, and clear | | | | | |
| | explanation of procedures. | | | | | |
| | - Confidentiality and sensitivity: Procedures for handling sensitive | | | | | |
| | information confidentially and managing issues with discretion. | | | | | |
| | - Awareness of rights: Educating community members on their rights and | | | | | |
| | the grievance mechanism's role in protecting those rights. | | | | | |
| Workers Level | - Grievance reporting procedures: Understanding formal and informal | | | | | |
| | channels for reporting workplace grievances, including filling out forms | | | | | |
| | and using grievance boxes. | | | | | |
| | - Rights and responsibilities: Training on workers' rights, grievance | | | | | |
| | policies, and the responsibilities of both workers and management in | | | | | |
| | grievance handling. | | | | | |
| | - Conflict management: Techniques for resolving workplace conflicts, | | | | | |
| | including mediation and negotiation skills. | | | | | |
| | - Health and safety: Knowledge of health and safety regulations, | | | | | |
| | procedures for reporting safety issues, and understanding the | | | | | |
| | mechanisms for addressing health-related grievances. | | | | | |
| Sub-County Level | - Grievance processing and oversight: Detailed training on handling, | | | | | |
| | documenting, and processing grievances at the Sub-County level, | | | | | |
| | including escalation procedures. | | | | | |
| | - Legal and regulatory compliance: Understanding relevant local and | | | | | |
| | national regulations affecting grievance management and ensuring | | | | | |
| | compliance with these regulations. | | | | | |
| | - Coordination skills: Skills for coordinating with community members, | | | | | |
| | project workers, and higher-level GRMCs to ensure seamless grievance | | | | | |
| | management. | | | | | |
| | managomon. | | | | | |

| GRMC Level | Areas of Capacity Building |
|------------------------------------|---|
| | - Monitoring and reporting: Techniques for monitoring the grievance process, analysing data, and reporting on grievance management outcomes. |
| Project/Municipal Council Level | Policy implementation: Training on implementing and enforcing grievance policies and procedures at the division level, including developing action plans. Resource allocation: Managing and allocating resources (financial, human, technical) to support effective grievance management. Interdepartmental coordination: Skills for coordinating with various departments and divisions, ensuring consistent application of grievance procedures. Data management: Methods for managing and analysing grievance data, including using databases and reporting tools to track trends and outcomes. Strategic oversight: Skills for overseeing and guiding the grievance mechanism's strategic implementation, including aligning it with project goals and objectives. Stakeholder engagement: Techniques for engaging with diverse stakeholders, including community groups, local authorities, and other relevant entities, to ensure their feedback is incorporated. Policy review and improvement: Methods for reviewing and improving grievance policies and procedures based on feedback, performance metrics, and lessons learned. Compliance and auditing: Ensuring adherence to national and international standards, conducting regular audits, and implementing corrective actions as needed. |

5.10 Record Keeping

All comments, responses, and grievances shall be recorded using GRM tools, including detailed information about the grievance or complaint, the individual or group raising it, and the resolution steps taken. Hard copies of these records will be kept at the designated office, while electronic copies will be stored on the Secretaries of the committee and shared with the Secretary of the District GRMC. Any additional documentation, such as written statements, photographic evidence, or investigation reports, will be filed alongside the grievance log in both physical and digital formats. This will facilitate the monitoring and enhancement of the GRM and response effectiveness.

6 MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1 Introduction

Effective stakeholder engagement and grievance management are crucial for successful project implementation. MWE has developed a robust Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework to track performance, assess the impact of engagement and grievance practices, and facilitate continuous improvement.

6.2 Objectives

The M&E framework aims to:

- 1. Systematically assess progress in stakeholder engagement and grievance management against set targets.
- 2. Identify and address challenges in these processes to ensure timely resolution.
- 3. Ensure prompt addressing of feedback and grievances, implementing corrective actions to improve practices.
- 4. Provide regular updates on performance, enhancing transparency and accountability.
- 5. Utilize data and insights to refine engagement and grievance strategies, maintaining their effectiveness and responsiveness.

6.3 Purpose

The M&E framework is designed to track and improve stakeholder engagement and grievance management throughout the MWACRID Project lifecycle. It aims to enhance transparency, ensure accountability, and identify opportunities for improvement by systematically collecting and analysing relevant data.

6.4 Scope

The framework encompasses all project stages planning, implementation, and completion. During planning, it focuses on establishing effective processes. In implementation, it monitors ongoing effectiveness and responsiveness. In completion, it evaluates overall performance, documents lessons learned, and informs future projects. This approach ensures continuous assessment and refinement throughout the project's duration.

6.5 M&E Framework

This section details the indicators, data collection methods, and analysis techniques that will be used to monitor the SEP activities on MWACRID Project. This will ensure that both stakeholder engagement and grievance management practices are effectively tracked and assessed.

Table 6-1: M&E framework for SEP implementation

| Component | Description | Indicators | Data Collection Methods | Frequency | Responsibility |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Stakeholder Engagement | Measures the effectiveness and reach of stakeholder engagement activities. | Number of engagement meetings held. Stakeholder satisfaction levels Diversity of engagement activities Number of stakeholder queries addressed. Frequency of engagement activities Level of stakeholder participation | - Surveys - Interviews - Meeting minutes - Feedback forms | Monthly (for meetings) Quarterly (for overall performance) | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |
| Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) | Assesses the efficiency and responsiveness of the grievance redress process. | Number of grievances received. Average resolution time Percentage of grievances resolved within a set timeframe. Complainant satisfaction levels Number of unresolved grievances Follow-up actions taken | - GRM logs - Surveys - Interviews - Resolution reports | Monthly (for grievance tracking) Quarterly (for overall performance) | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |
| Communication and Feedback | Evaluates the effectiveness of communication strategies and feedback mechanisms. | - Timeliness of communication - Clarity of information provided. | Feedback formsSurveysCommunication logs | Monthly Quarterly | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |

| Component | Description | Indicators | Data Collection Methods | Frequency | Responsibility |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | Number of feedback forms received. Stakeholder responses to feedback | Wethous | | |
| Compliance Monitoring | Ensures adherence to SEP and GRM protocols and standards. | Compliance with engagement and grievance protocols Frequency of protocol violations Corrective actions taken | Internal reviewsSpot checksCompliance reports | Quarterly Annually | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |
| Resource Allocation | Monitors the adequacy and utilization of resources allocated for SEP and GRM activities. | Budget utilization Resource adequacy Cost-effectiveness of activities Number of resource constraints reported | - Financial reports - Resource usage logs - Budget reviews | Monthly Quarterly | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |
| Training and Capacity Building | Assesses the effectiveness of training programs for SEP and GRM staff. | Number of training sessions conducted Staff competency levels Training feedback scores Improvement in SEP/GRM performance post-training | Training recordsFeedback formCompetency assessments | Annually Post-training evaluations | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |
| Impact Assessment | Evaluates the overall impact of SEP and GRM activities on project outcomes and stakeholder relationships. | Changes in stakeholder perceptions Impact on project acceptance Effectiveness in addressing community concerns. Improvements in grievance resolution | - Surveys - Interviews - Impact assessments | Mid-term End of project | - GRMCs - MWE Project Management Team |

6.6 Monitoring Activities

MWE shall conduct regular monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of stakeholder engagement and grievance management. This will involve monthly reviews of ongoing engagement and grievance handling to verify adherence to procedures and achievement of objectives. Quarterly assessments will provide a broader performance evaluation, identifying trends and areas for improvement. Spot checks will be performed to conduct unannounced reviews, ensuring compliance, and verifying the effectiveness of engagement and grievance resolution. Feedback forms and checklists will support these activities, with responsibility assigned to the Project Coordinating team to ensure systematic and effective monitoring.

6.7 Evaluation Activities

Evaluation activities will offer a thorough assessment of stakeholder engagement and grievance mechanisms at critical stages. MWE shall perform mid-term evaluations to assess progress, effectiveness, and areas for improvement in stakeholder engagement and grievance management. Both quantitative and qualitative data will be reviewed to measure performance and inform adjustments. An end-of-project evaluation will provide a comprehensive analysis, including independent and internal reviews, to document lessons learned and guide future practices. Findings will be used to refine and enhance stakeholder engagement and grievance management strategies.

6.8 Feedback and Reporting

To ensure transparency and accountability, MWE shall actively gather feedback from stakeholders and complainants to integrate into the stakeholder engagement process. Monthly internal updates and quarterly and annual public reports will be issued, detailing findings from M&E activities, actions taken in response to feedback, and improvements made. This structured approach will communicate all relevant information to stakeholders, reinforcing trust and engagement throughout the project.

6.9 Reporting Back to Stakeholder Groups

This shall involve sharing information about project progress, outcomes, and any changes with stakeholders. Reporting back ensures accountability, strengthens relationships, and keeps stakeholders informed about how their input has influenced the project. It also helps address concerns, manage expectations, and maintain stakeholder trust. Effective reporting back shall be achieved through;

- i) **Regular Stakeholder Meetings:** Schedule periodic meetings to present project updates, share reports, and gather feedback.
- ii) **Tailored Communication Channels:** Use newsletters, social media, emails, or community radio broadcasts to reach different stakeholder groups effectively.

- iii) **Progress Reports:** Share detailed, accessible reports summarizing key milestones, challenges, and resolutions.
- iv) Community Notice Boards: Key updates and project timelines shall be displayed in public spaces accessible to all stakeholders.
- v) Feedback Integration Sessions: Forums shall be hosted where stakeholders can discuss reports and provide feedback, ensuring inclusivity and dialogue.
- vi) **Stakeholder-Specific Briefings:** Customized reports and presentations for specific groups, such as vulnerable communities, to address their unique concerns shall be prepared.

6.10 Budget for the Implementation and Monitoring of Stakeholder Engagement Activities

This table below indicates the key activities and proposed costs related to stakeholder engagement plan to be implemented by MWE during the implementation of the MWACRID project. The total estimated budget for the implementation and monitoring of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan over a six-year project period is UGX 1,936,200,000/=, based on an annual allocation of UGX 322,700,000/=.

Table 6-2: Key activities and proposed costs for one financial year related to stakeholder engagement

| Planned Activity | Method Used | Responsibilities | Frequency/Timeline | Annual Cost (UGX) | Six-Year Cost (UGX) |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| General Stakeholders Sensitization Meetings | Meetings, Workshops, Forums | Project Manager, Facilitators | Quarterly | 55,500,000 | 333,000,000 |
| Sensitization Meetings on Right of Way | Meetings, Public Consultations | Project Manager, Field Staff | Bi-monthly | 66,600,000 | 399,600,000 |
| Formation & Dissemination of Grievance Redress Committee Guidelines | Meetings, Workshops | Project Manager, Legal Advisor | Annually | 18,500,000 | 111,000,000 |
| Capacity Building | Meetings, Workshops | Project Manager, Legal Advisor | Annually | 21,000,000 | 126,000,000 |
| Stakeholder Engagement with Special Interest Groups | Meetings, Workshops | Project Manager | Bi-annually | 22,200,000 | 133,200,000 |
| Stakeholder Engagement Monitoring | Field Visits, Consultations, Documentation Review | M&E Officer, Project Manager | Quarterly | 15,000,000 | 90,000,000 |
| Grievance Redress Mechanism Monitoring | Review Meetings, Case Tracking | Grievance Officer, Project Manager | Quarterly | 12,000,000 | 72,000,000 |
| Communication and Feedback Monitoring | Surveys, Feedback Forums | Communications Officer | Quarterly | 10,000,000 | 60,000,000 |
| Compliance Monitoring | Site Inspections, Audits | Compliance Officer | Quarterly | 12,000,000 | 72,000,000 |
| Resource Allocation Monitoring | Financial Tracking, Reporting | Finance Officer, Project Manager | Quarterly | 8,000,000 | 48,000,000 |
| Training and Capacity Building | Workshops, Hands-on Training | Project Manager, Trainers | Bi-annually | 15,000,000 | 90,000,000 |

| Impact Assessment | Surveys, Field Studies | M&E Officer, Project | Annually | 20,000,000 | 120,000,000 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| | | Manager | | | |
| Monitoring Activities | Field Visits, Data | M&E Officer | Quarterly | 12,000,000 | 72,000,000 |
| | Collection | | | | |
| Evaluation Activities | Mid-term & End-term | External Evaluator, | Mid-term & End- | 20,000,000 | 120,000,000 |
| | Reviews | M&E Officer | term | | |
| Feedback and Reporting | Reports, Briefings | Project Manager, M&E | Quarterly | 7,000,000 | 42,000,000 |
| | | Officer | | | |
| Reporting Back to Stakeholders | Community Meetings, | Project Manager, | Annually | 7,900,000 | 47,400,000 |
| | Feedback Forums | Facilitators | | | |
| Total | | | | 322,700,000 | 1,936,200,000 |

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APPENDIX I: CONSULTATION MINUTES

Preliminary Consultations with Masindi Port Sub County Leadership.

A. Introduction and overview of the project.

- During the consultation and presentation of the overview, the consultants from Tawi Research Limited and Segamu 14 Consults Ltd gave an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The team emphasized the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The team lead pointed out that the main goal of the project is to create a multi-purpose, bulk water transfer system that will be used to irrigate a minimum of 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.
- The team lead noted that the project targets four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). The team lead noted that the Masindi-Port sub-county is one of the sub-counties benefiting from the project and hosting the proposed intake point for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- The team lead clarified to the Sub-County chief and the rest of the Sub-County technical team that the primary goal of the project is to establish a sustainable source of potable water for rural industries and farming, including crop husbandry and livestock farming.
- The team lead noted that the project is focused on bringing water to farmers in four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). These farmers face challenges due to the lack of water for irrigation, livestock, and domestic use.
- The pre-feasibility and feasibility study is being funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) grant. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is actively working to secure total funding for the project.
- Land acquisition becomes a significant concern when it comes to projects that involve permanent and temporary displacement. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) has identified stakeholders such as farmers and other potential land users in this regard.
- To better understand the ferry's operation, the consultant sought support from UNRA (Uganda National Roads Authority) regarding the Masindi Port ferry docking/terminal/UNRA yard. UNRA has effectively addressed challenges related to such operations and has provided valuable information on current and future developments pertaining to the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- The consultant clarified to the Sub County leadership that involving them as key informants in the pre-feasibility phase study or preliminary studies was to obtain information in preparation for the proposed project including understanding the socioeconomic status

(including the economic activities carried out in the area, the land use and water sources and usage, the population and the status of the commercial/large scale farming in the area), environmental concerns, geographical concerns, any anticipated challenges and any relevant information concerning the project and how these could be mitigated concerning the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project

B. Feedback/Concerns - Masindi Port Sub County leadership

- During the preliminary consultation with the leadership of Masindi Port Sub-County to feed the pre-feasibility study regarding the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, several concerns and suggestions were raised
- The leadership expressed concerns about the agricultural practices in the Sub-County, pointing out that most farmers are engaged in livestock farming. The leadership noted that there is also growing interest in commercial farming, with crops such as maize, cassava, and coffee being cultivated. However, they noted that unreliable rainfall patterns significantly impact the agriculture sector in the Sub County.
- The Sub-County leadership informed the team that the Sub-County's ample rangelands were identified as having significant potential for expanding beef production. The availability of a consistent water source from the bulk water transfer system would enable farmers to enhance livestock farming and increase beef production. The leadership also emphasized the growing interest in apiculture (beekeeping) among local farmers, which presents an opportunity to expand honey production. They noted that the water infrastructure would play an essential role in supporting the beekeeping industry, especially in ensuring water availability for sustaining bee colonies and improving honey production activities.
- Another major challenge raised was the long drought spells experienced in the Sub-County. The Sub County chief and the technical leadership clarified that these extended dry periods severely affect both crop and livestock farming. The leadership stressed that having a reliable water supply from the project would help mitigate these challenges, particularly for irrigation and livestock watering.
- Regarding infrastructure, the leadership acknowledged the ongoing efforts to improve road access, especially upgrading the road from the Gulu highway to the ferry. They recognized that while the road and transportation conditions are still challenging, the improvements have made them motorable. Ongoing construction to upgrade Masindi Port Road from gravel to tarmac is expected to enhance transport and market access, which will complement the benefits of the water project.
- The Sub County chief and her technical team informed the consulting team that access to safe drinking water remains a serious concern in the Sub-County, with only a few boreholes available to the local population. The leadership welcomed the project in the sub-county. She noted that the project would potentially address the issue of water scarcity in the Sub-

county, ensuring that potable water is made accessible, especially to rural communities that currently struggle with water shortages.

- On matters related to health, the Sub-County Chief reported that two government health centres are providing general health medication to the population. However, they noted that malaria remains a major health issue in the Sub-County, and challenges in healthcare accessibility persist due to the uneven distribution of health facilities. The water crisis increases complex health concerns, especially with a lack of water supply at those health facilities in the Sub County.
- Finally, the leadership raised concerns about the limited energy supply in the Sub-County. Grid electricity is available only in Kitukuza and Waibango parishes, while the rest of the community relies on solar power. They expressed hope that the water project could support efforts to expand energy infrastructure, thereby improving the overall living conditions in the Sub-County.

C. Implication

The feedback by the Sub County leadership highlighted significant implications for the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The feedback/concerns address the need to improve agricultural productivity and drought resilience by providing reliable water for irrigation and livestock, which would boost both crop and livestock production.

Preliminary Consultations with NWSC Masindi District (Area Manager).

A. Presentation (introduction and overview of the project)

- During the consultation and presentation of the overview, the consultants from Tawi Research Limited and Segamu 14 Consults Ltd gave an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The team emphasized the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The team lead pointed out that the main goal of the project is to create a multi-purpose, bulk water transfer system that will be used to irrigate a minimum of 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.
- The team lead noted that the project targets four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). An intake is proposed at the Nile River in Masindi Port Sub-County.
- The team lead clarified to NWSC Masindi District Area Manager that the project's primary goal is to establish a sustainable source of potable water for rural industries and farming, including crop husbandry and livestock farming.
- The team lead noted that the project is focused on bringing water to farmers in four subcounties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). These farmers face challenges due to the lack of water for irrigation,

livestock, and domestic use. The pre-feasibility and feasibility study is being funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) grant. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is actively working to secure total funding for the project.

The team informed the NWSC Area manager that they intended to involve him as a key informant in the pre-feasibility phase study or preliminary studies to gather information for the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The information the team sought was to understand water supply coverage, quality and quantity of water, community willingness to use the water, estimated water users for domestic and commercial levels, existing and planned water coverage and supply initiatives, target areas/consumers, sustainability of water use, and any available opportunities for the project.

B. Feedback/concerns raised - NWSC Masindi District (Area Manager)

- The manager of NWSC Masindi District provided information and data regarding his territory and the service delivery, according to the NWSC Manager for Masindi District; out of 7,766 total water connections, 6,535 (84%) are in use, while 1,211 (16%) are not in use. Domestic connections dominate, with 5,872 (75%) of the total, and 4,992 (85%) of these domestic connections are active. Commercial connections, totalling 1,356 (17% of the total), have 1,084 (80%) in use, but 268 (20%) are not. This inactive rate in the commercial sector suggests potential challenges with service affordability or operational inefficiencies that will likely be addressed as part of the proposed project.
- NWSC Manager (Masindi District) revealed that approximately 50% of customers hesitated to pay their water bills. This reluctance to pay may be due to concerns about service reliability or water quality. Despite the district's high % Customer Satisfaction Index (CSI) of 91%, as reported in the NWSC Customer Satisfaction Survey, there are still concerns about poor water quality. It's important to address this quality issue, as it could be a factor in the 1,211 inactive water connections, particularly in the domestic (864 inactive) and commercial (268 inactive) sectors. According to the NWSC area manager, Kimengo is one of the areas that are proposed to benefit from the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, which is facing water stress issues. The district leadership and the area sub-county chairperson earlier retaliated against this as the sub-county is stressed by water scarcity.
- The NSWC (Masindi District) manager also provided information on the public stand posts, introduced to improve access to safe drinking water, and also faced operational challenges. While public stand posts are priced at UGX 1,060 per cubic meter, operators have raised concerns about customers using oversized jerrycans beyond the standard 20-litre capacity, which reduces profits. With 282 (90%) of the 315 public stand posts active, these facilities play a significant role in community water access. Ensuring the use and management of these stand posts, alongside improving the profitability for their operators, will be important for sustaining access to affordable water, especially for low-income households.

- The NWSC (Masindi District) manager also noted that Power outages sometimes disrupt the water supply, causing a shortage for consumers and the territory's water supply in the territory.

C. Implications of the feedback/concerns

- The proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project has significant implications for extending water to underserved areas and ensuring a reliable water supply. Since many areas, particularly Kimengo and other water-stressed subcounties, currently face severe water shortages, the project's large reservoir and backup systems for pumping water will enhance water access. This will increase the supply to areas lacking reliable potable water and ensure consistency, even during power outages or increased demand.
- The project's capacity to store and pump water on a large scale addresses the issue of interrupted supply, which currently affects domestic and commercial users. By creating a dependable water source for irrigation, livestock farming, and domestic use, the project is likely to transform agricultural productivity, improve livelihoods, and reduce the vulnerability of communities that depend heavily on unpredictable rainfall and limited water access.

Preliminary Consultation with UNRA (Ferry docking/terminal point).

A. Presentation (introduction and overview of the project)

- During the preliminary consultation and presentation of the overview, the consultants from Tawi Research Limited and Segamu 14 Consults Ltd gave an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The team emphasized the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The team lead pointed out that the main goal of the project is to create a multi-purpose, bulk water transfer system that will be used to irrigate a minimum of 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.
- The team lead noted that the project targets four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). It is proposed that an intake be made at the Nile River, near the ferry docking/terminal/UNRA yard. Engaging UNRA, especially the ferry captains and technical personnel, as key informants in the prefeasibility phase study or preliminary studies is to obtain information in preparation for the proposed project, including understanding the socioeconomic status of the area, environmental concerns, the restriction at the Nile river, the operating hour at the ferry docking/terminal, the challenges the ferry operations have faced, geographical concerns, and any relevant information concerning the project and how these could be mitigated concerning the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project
- The project's primary goal is to establish a sustainable source of potable water for rural industries and farming, including crop husbandry and livestock farming. The project is

focused on bringing water to farmers in four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). These farmers face challenges due to the lack of water for irrigation, livestock, and domestic use.

- The pre-feasibility and feasibility study are funded by an African Development Bank (AfDB) grant. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is actively working to secure total funding for the project.
- Land acquisition becomes a significant concern when projects involve permanent and temporary displacement. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) has identified stakeholders such as farmers and other potential land users in this regard.
- To better understand the ferry's operation, the consultant sought support from UNRA (Uganda National Roads Authority) regarding the Masindi Port ferry docking/terminal/UNRA yard. UNRA has effectively addressed challenges related to such operations and has provided valuable information on current and future developments pertaining to the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project.

B. Feedback/concerns raised - UNRA Ferry Captain and other technical team

- In discussions with a ferry captain, important considerations about ferry operations and related matters at the ferry docking/terminal, which is also the proposed location for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, were brought up.
- The captain noted that the ferry operates daily from 0730 to 1940, providing vital transport services across the Nile River. However, the captain highlighted a challenge with illegal kiosks that have developed around the ferry dock and the UNRA yard, creating unauthorized business activities in the area.
- Concerning future development, the captain mentioned plans for the construction of a bridge to facilitate passenger and cargo traffic between Masindi Port and Amolatar District, extending to the Lango subregion. Notably, the proposed bridge will be designed to avoid interference with the existing high-power voltage line running across the river. It is proposed that the bridge be constructed on the right-hand side just before the last trading centre on the road leading to the ferry point/docking point. Therefore, the proposed bridge will not affect the high-power voltage line. The plan is to construct the bridge on the right-hand side, just before the last trading centre on the road leading to the ferry point/docking point, ensuring no impact on the high-power voltage line.
- One significant issue is the high traffic volume near the ferry docking point, leading to congestion. The current ferry is relatively small compared to the number of passengers and commodities it transports, which creates delays and logistical challenges.
- Fluctuating water levels have also become a concern, affecting ferry operations. The captain explained that rising and inconsistent water levels, particularly during the rainy

season, make it difficult to maintain consistent ferry services. Additionally, floating islands, debris, and even snakes are sometimes encountered during periods of high water.

- Despite these challenges, the UNRA team maintains positive relations with the local community, ensuring smooth operations. The captain also noted that no cultural rituals are performed at the ferry dock or UNRA yard, a point that might be relevant in certain areas where such practices are common.
- Fishing activities near the ferry are restricted to around 100 meters downstream of the river, specifically on the Karuma side. This regulation helps ensure safety and avoids interference with ferry operations.
- The captain raised waste management as an issue, noting that liquid bottles (primarily water and other drinks) make up the bulk of waste at the ferry dock and UNRA yard. UNRA expressed interest in incorporating water utilization into the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, which could provide a sustainable water source for the ferry operation and the surrounding community. The captain noted that water is often transported from Masindi town to meet the needs of UNRA workers.
- Finally, UNRA prepared for emergencies by having a special boat on standby, which is used to respond to unforeseen situations that may arise during ferry operations.

C. Implications of the feedback/concerns

- The preliminary consultation with UNRA for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project reveals several important implications. First, the ferry docking point near the proposed water intake is critical for maintaining ferry operations across the Nile River and accommodating future developments like the proposed bridge. The project must carefully coordinate with UNRA to ensure that ferry operations, traffic flow, and logistical challenges at the dock are not disrupted, especially given the existing congestion and fluctuating water levels.
- Concerns regarding illegal kiosks and environmental issues such as waste management and
 water level fluctuations around the ferry docking point will need to be addressed.
 Considering the ferry schedules and operations design offers potential benefits, such as not
 interrupting the passengers' movement.

D. Observations and impromptu Consultations at the Intake

- Impromptu preliminary consultations were conducted at Kitukuza Village in Masindi Port Sub County, covering the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project intake area. During these consultations, stakeholders, including residents earning a living near the Nile River and at the ferry crossing point, provided information concerning the area's economic activities, everyday life, and potential impacts related to the project. Key issues raised and observations included several key aspects of life in the area.

- Various activities were observed at the ferry crossing point, including food and restaurant businesses and transport businesses. Most operators were women who had been in the area for several years, often spending the night at their business locations. A significant concern the community shared is the lack of safe drinking water. Observations revealed that the water used for domestic activities, such as cooking, washing utensils, and handwashing, is directly drawn from the Nile River. This reliance on untreated water poses health risks for the community.
- In the areas, several activities were observed, including livestock grazing, boat making, and businesses, including shops, along the road where the proposed water line for the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project is expected to traverse. Among other activities, the high traffic on the road to the ferry docking/terminal was also observed.
- Among the observed facilities included the presence of a public sanitary facility at the ferry docking/terminal/Ferry yard positively impacts hygiene and sanitation standards. It provides clean and safe restroom facilities for residents and visitors, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases and other sanitation-related issues. This facility promotes better public health outcomes and supports the community's overall well-being, enhancing the quality of life and creating a more welcoming environment for local businesses and tourists. This commitment to hygiene reflects the community's dedication to maintaining a healthy and sustainable living environment. The Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project is expected to have positive impacts. It is likely to provide a reliable source of safe drinking water, complementing existing public sanitary facilities and ensuring good hygiene practices across the community. Access to clean water will help individuals maintain personal hygiene more effectively, reducing health risks associated with inadequate sanitation.
- The area is also characterized by livestock farming, where farmers provide untreated, raw river water for their animals. This practice raises concerns about the health of both livestock and humans, as it can lead to the spread of waterborne diseases.
- The local business community, including the UNRA team at the ferry crossing, expressed stress due to the high costs of obtaining safe drinking water. One ferry captain noted that they frequently transport water from Masindi town for the UNRA workers, illustrating the financial burden these places on the community.

The feasibility study will capture a comprehensive stakeholders' detailed socioeconomic concerns at the project's intake point.

E. Implication of the Observations

- During the planning phase, it is important to engage local stakeholders to ensure their voices are heard and incorporated into project designs. Effective stakeholder engagement will help identify community needs and potential challenges that may arise. Assessing the

socio-economic dynamics of the area will enable project planners to understand better how the proposed project aligns with local priorities. Additionally, planning will address potential disruptions to traffic and accessibility at the ferry crossing, ensuring that construction schedules minimize inconvenience for local businesses and residents.

- The proposed areas' proximity to the ferry crossing point raises considerations regarding accessibility and the potential impacts of construction activities on local businesses and ferry operations. Careful planning and construction are important to mitigate potential disruptions during implementation. Construction will likely temporarily affect traffic and accessibility at the ferry crossing, which may impact businesses reliant on foot traffic. Regular communication with the community about construction timelines and potential disruptions will help manage expectations and minimize conflicts.
- Once operational, the project has the potential to significantly improve the well-being and livelihoods of community members, particularly female food and restaurant operators who currently struggle to access safe water for their daily activities. Providing a reliable source of safe drinking water is vital for these businesses that require clean water for food preparation and sanitation. Furthermore, the project's implementation will benefit local farmers, especially livestock farmers relying on untreated water sources. Ensuring access to treated water will enhance livestock health and overall farming productivity, reducing health risks associated with unclean water.
- Overall, implementing the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project will bring about positive changes and substantial improvements in the daily lives of community members at the ferry crossing point. It addresses pressing issues of water access, public health, and economic sustainability for local businesses and farmers, ultimately promoting a healthier and more productive community.

Preliminary Consultations with Farmer.

A. Presentation (introduction and overview of the project)

- In preparation to develop a feasibility study, preliminary consultations were sampled and conducted with a few farmers. The farmers to whom preliminary consultations were conducted included Soul Agric-business, which operates on a large scale with 4,250 acres of leased land from the Uganda Investment Authority; Keith Farm has approximately 100 acres of freehold land, and Kiiza Farm owns 250 acres under freehold tenure. Ebenezer Farm with over 100 acres of agricultural production.
- During the consultation and presentation of the overview, the consultants from Tawi Research Limited and Segamu 14 Consults Ltd gave an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The team emphasized the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The team lead pointed out that the main goal of the project is to create a multi-purpose, bulk water transfer system that will be used to irrigate a minimum of 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.

- The team lead noted that the project targets four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). The team lead clarified to farmers that the project's primary goal is to establish a sustainable source of potable water for rural industries and farming, including crop husbandry and livestock farming.
- The consulting team noted that the project is focused on bringing water to farmers in four sub-counties: Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). These farmers face challenges due to the lack of water for irrigation, livestock, and domestic use.
- Farmers were informed about the funding institution of the project, noting that the project's pre-feasibility and feasibility studies are being funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) grant. The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is actively working to secure total funding for the project. The farmers were reminded that the initiation of the project started with the Uganda Investment Authority approaching the Ministry of Water and Environment about the government of land occupied by the different farmers and personally owned land farming, raising their concerns about the difficulties they face in accessing water for agricultural production, industrial and domestic use.
- The consultant clarified to the farmers that they were visited and preliminarily consulted to provide feedback and any concerns related to understanding the view/concerns regarding large-scale farmers as beneficiaries for the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The consultant's main focus was to understand the welfare and livelihood of the farmers and the general community in relation to access to water for both production and domestic use. The farmers were asked to provide feedback on the following aspects:
 - Farm Location
 - Size of the Farm
 - Type of Ownership
 - Duration of Farming in this Location
 - Type of agriculture (crop or livestock farming)
 - Type of irrigation system used (if any)
 - Annual Crop Yield (per hectare)
 - Access to extension services
 - Major challenges faced in livestock and crop production
 - Size of the farm (Small-scale, Medium-scale, or Large-scale)
 - Main source of income for the household
 - Average annual household income (UGX)
 - Employment of workers (both male and female)
 - Current source of water for domestic and farming use
 - Willingness to use and support the development of the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project.

- Socio-economic benefits expected from the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project
- Perception of the impact of the project on the local community
- Environmental concerns related to the proposed project in the area

B. Feedback/concerns raised by the farmers

- Availability of land for agriculture: The availability of land for commercial farming varied significantly among the farmers we spoke with. Soul Agric-business operates on a large scale with 4,250 acres of leased land from the Uganda Investment Authority, allowing for diverse crop production and other agricultural activities. In contrast, Keith Farm has approximately 100 acres of freehold land, while Kiiza Farm owns 250 acres under freehold tenure. With over 100 acres, Ebenezer Farm utilises its land for crop and livestock farming. The size of the landholding plays a crucial role in determining the scale and type of farming enterprises these stakeholders undertake.
- **Duration in the agricultural sector:** The consulted farms have varying operation durations. Keith Farm and Kiiza Farm have existed for over 20 years, showing a long-term commitment to farming and likely possessing more established practices and market connections. Ebenezer Farm has been operating for over ten years, and Soul Agric-business has existed for over five years. These farms' longevity suggests resilience and a depth of knowledge in managing agricultural enterprises.
- Type of farming: Farmers practice crop production and livestock farming in agriculture. Soul Agric-business engages in diverse agricultural activities, including crop production such as cassava, maize, matooke, beekeeping, coffee cultivation, and maintaining orchards. On the other hand, Keith Farm focuses on livestock farming, raising approximately 500 cattle, 400 goats, 20 sheep, and 300 poultry. Similarly, Kiiza Farm specializes in dairy farming with around 180 Friesian cows. At the same time, Ebenezer Farm combines livestock farming with grass farming, maintaining approximately 74 cattle and 29 goats and selling grass to other livestock farmers. These diverse farming types show a range of specialization and diversification among commercial farmers.
- Annual yields: The annual yields and income from farming activities vary. Keith Farm generates approximately 60 million Ugandan shillings annually, reflecting high productivity, likely due to its livestock operations. Kiiza Farm, on the other hand, earns around 30 million Ugandan shillings per year from its dairy farming activities. Ebenezer Farm reports an annual yield of over 20 million Ugandan shillings. These figures highlight the varying scales of operation and productivity levels among commercial farmers, influenced by factors such as farm size, type of farming, and access to resources.
- The primary source of income for the household and Average annual household income: Most of the farmers, especially those who have existed for over ten years, confirmed that farming is their primary source of income.

- Technical and Extension Services: Access to technical and extension services is crucial for enhancing productivity and addressing farming challenges. Soul Agric-business employs technical workers and consults with district extension officers for additional advice. Similarly, Keith Farm and Kiiza Farm receive timely technical services to support their farming operations. Ebenezer Farm benefits from regular extension services, enabling effective maintenance of their agricultural activities. Access to these services allows farmers to adopt improved farming practices and respond better to their challenges.
- *Irrigation systems:* The irrigation systems used by the farmers we preliminarily consulted vary, reflecting different levels of investment and access to water resources. Soul Agric-business primarily uses manual watering, which may limit the scale and efficiency of its farming operations. Keith Farm and Kiiza Farm rely on unprotected dams for livestock watering, which may pose water quality risks. In contrast, Ebenezer Farm uses a solar-powered borehole to supply water to the farm and about 20 households, and has an unprotected dam for livestock. The variety in irrigation methods highlights the diverse approaches to water management and the need for more sustainable water solutions.
- *Employment and gender inclusion:* In terms of employment and gender inclusion, these farms play a significant role in the local economy. Soul Agric-business is a major employer, with over 50 permanent workers and around 500 casual or seasonal workers, 60% of whom are female. This indicates a considerable contribution to gender-inclusive employment. In contrast, Keith Farm employs around 20 workers, including 5 females, while Kiiza Farm has about 12 workers, with only 2 being female. Ebenezer Farm employs 6 workers, with just one female. The data suggests a need for more balanced gender representation in the workforce across these farms.
- Challenges farmers face (livestock and crop production): Commercial farmers face various challenges, with water scarcity being the most significant. Soul Agric-business, Keith Farm, and Kiiza Farm all experience water stress, impacting their livestock and crop farming activities. Ebenezer Farm relies on an unprotected dam, posing water quality and availability risks. These challenges underscore the critical need for improved water management solutions, such as the proposed Masindi Bulk Water Transfer Project. This project aims to support sustainable agricultural practices and enhance regional commercial farmers' productivity.
- Concerning the Socio-economic benefits expected from the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project and perception of the impact of the project on the local community, all farmers preliminarily consulted urged that if the project is successfully implemented and commissioned for use, they expect to use it appropriately. The farmers and general community expect the water supply project to increase agricultural production yields through irrigation and drinking water for their livestock. Additionally, they hope that the safe water will improve their welfare, especially in reducing the diseases in the community that are caused as a result of dirty water they use

- Willingness to use and support the development of the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project: All the farmers preliminarily consulted showed interest in supporting and readiness to use the water for production and domestic; they were also willing to pay for the water bills, although they asked that the government should subsidise them to enable them to pay the bills promptly.

C. Implication of the feedback

- The preliminary consultations with farmers for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project reveal several key implications. Water scarcity is a critical challenge for domestic use, crop and livestock farming, making the project vital for improving irrigation systems and water access.
- Farmers expressed readiness to support the project and highlighted the expected socioeconomic benefits, including increased agricultural yields and improved community health. However, they called for government subsidies to ensure affordability. The employment of community members in the agriculture sector indicated the inclusion of both men and women.
- The presence and access to extension services provide advantages, and the proposed projects would just improve productivity.

District Leadership Initial Planning Meeting, Consultations, And Reconnaissance Visit

Consultation date: 17th – 18th July, 2024

A. Introduction

The feasibility study reconnaissance was conducted on July 17-18, 2024, to engage with key stakeholders, visit potential project sites, and assess the feasibility of the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. This project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Mirya and Kimengo in Masindi District. Additionally, the project seeks to develop a sustainable source for potable water, as well as water for rural industries and livestock.

The purpose of this reconnaissance was for the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) to introduce the Consortium of Consultants (TECHNITAL S.P.A in association with BETA Studio and Segamu 14 Consultants Ltd, Italy), to the hosting and benefiting stakeholders in the districts.

On July 17, 2024, the team, led by the MWE and the consortium of consultants visited Kiryandongo District. The day began with courtesy visits to the offices of the District Water Officer, who led the team to the offices of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), the Resident District Commissioner (RDC), and the District Chairperson. These visits were followed by site inspections, starting at Masindi Port, the location identified for the water intake. The team then

proceeded to Kaduku Village to assess the proposed area for the Tank reserve at Kaduku Hill. The day concluded with a visit to the commercial farm, Soul Agric Business Company, where potential project benefits were discussed with the farm's management.

On July 18, 2024, the team continued with the reconnaissance in Masindi District. Similar courtesy visits were made to the offices of the CAO, RDC, and District Chairperson to discuss the project's scope and expected outcomes, and to further introduce the consortium of consultants. Site visits included an inspection of the sugar cane plantation, Kaduku Farm under Kiryandongo Sugar, formerly known as Lokyamu Farm. Additionally, the team visited Kimengo Sub County, meeting with the Sub County Chairperson to further understand residents' needs and concerns.

These visits provided preliminary findings and considerations into the current infrastructure, stakeholder concerns, and the project's potential impact on local communities. The information gathered will inform the preparation of a comprehensive feasibility study report, which will provide significant justification for financial funding and guide the actual implementation and considerations for the project.

Date, Location

Date: July 17, 2024

Location: Kiryandongo District

B. Minute 1: Courtesy Visits - Kiryandongo District:

1. Water Engineer:

Brief Introductions:

The visit commenced with brief introductions of all participants. The team from the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the Water Engineer and his colleagues from the Water Office.

A. Presentation:

- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The presentation highlighted the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Mirya and Kimengo in Masindi District. Additionally, the project is designed to develop a sustainable source for potable water, as well as water for rural industries and livestock.
- The MWE team leader emphasized the need for support from the Water Engineer and his team, specifically requesting access to available information and documentation concerning water use and coverage to facilitate the smooth undertaking of the feasibility studies.

- The team leader also requested the Water Engineer's assistance in guiding the team to the CAO, District Chairperson, and RDC, as well as leading the site visits to the proposed intake at Masindi Port, the Tank reserve area at Kaduku Hill, and the commercial farms. These requests were promptly implemented.

B. Concerns Raised the District office (Water Engineer):

- The Water Engineer expressed appreciation for considering Kiryandongo District for the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. He highlighted the district's long-standing water stress issues and noted that the project's implementation would significantly support domestic use and production.
- The Water Engineer committed to providing necessary documentation, such as water coverage data and relevant statistics, to support the feasibility study report.

C. Responses:

The MWE team leader appreciated the Water Engineer and his colleagues for their willingness to support the team. The Consortium of Consultants was encouraged to work closely with the district team to obtain the required support and information.

D. Closing Remarks:

The Water Engineer thanked the team for their visit and echoed his commitment to provide any necessary support as needed.

E. Summary of Key Takeaways:

- The district will provide key information and documentation to the Consortium of Consultants.
- The MWE/Consortium of Consultants will formally request documentation such as the District Development Plan (DDP).

2. Office of the CAO:

- All participants introduced themselves.
- After a courtesy visit to the District Water Office, the team was introduced to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) by the District Assistant Water Engineer. The team from the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the CAO.

A. Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes:

- The team leader informed the CAO that the team comprised personnel from the ministry and a consortium of four consultants. The purpose was to introduce the consultants to key stakeholders (District personnel, project-hosting sub-counties, and potential

commercial farmers) and to show the team the location of the proposed intake and area for the water tank.

- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes.
- The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Mirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.
- The team leader informed the CAO that the project is designed to develop a sustainable source for potable water, as well as water for rural industries and livestock.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the CAO and his technical team, particularly in providing documentation and raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the smooth undertaking of the feasibility studies.

B. Remarks and concerns by the CAO:

- The CAO thanked the MWE for considering Kiryandongo District for the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. He highlighted that the proposed area indeed lacks water for their animals.
- The CAO mentioned that the district has made several interventions like drilling boreholes, but these were insufficient. Even the valley tanks they constructed could not meet the needs.
- He noted that the number of animal farms is significant, and he believes the proposed project will support these farms and improve domestic water use.
- The CAO emphasized the need to consider small and subsistence farmers to benefit from the project. He asked the team to explain how this would be achieved and sought details on how the consortium of consultants would work and implement the assignment.
- He stressed the community's urgent need for water, particularly for modern farming practices, as the area is mainly occupied by maize growers.

C. Responses:

Regarding project execution, the MWE team leader explained that water would be
extracted from the bulk water source, the River Nile, and supplied to the Bulk Water
Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. This would cater to large commercial
farms, domestic farmers, and water for domestic use, thereby transferring a large
volume of water for production.

- Concerning the consortium of four consultants and their roles, the consultant's team leader explained the responsibilities of each consultant.

D. Closing Remarks

The CAO reiterated his appreciation to the MWE and the consortium for considering Kiryandongo District for this important project.

The CAO assured the team of his full support and the district's commitment to facilitating the project's smooth implementation.

He encouraged continuous communication and collaboration between all stakeholders to ensure the project's success.

3. Office of the District Chairperson:

A. Brief introductions of all participants.

- All participants introduced themselves.
- After a courtesy visit to the CAO, the team was introduced to the District Vice Chairperson, who also represented the District Chairperson, by the District Assistant Water Engineer. The reconnaissance team was led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). The team from MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the District Vice Chairperson.

B. Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes;

- The team leader informed the District Vice Chairperson that the team comprised of personnel from the MWE and a consortium of four consultants. The purpose was to introduce the consultants to key stakeholders (District personnel, project-hosting subcounties, and potential commercial farmers) and to show the team the location of the proposed intake and area for the water tank.
- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes.
- The District Vice Chairperson was informed that the feasibility studies are being funded by the AfDB.
- The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Mirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.

- The team leader informed the District Vice Chairperson that the project is designed to develop a sustainable source for potable water, as well as water for rural industries and livestock.
- The team leader informed the District Vice Chairperson that a number of studies, including socioeconomic and geotechnical etc., will be conducted.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the District Vice Chairperson and his political team, particularly in raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the smooth undertaking of the feasibility studies.

C. Remarks and concerns District Vice Chairperson:

- The District Vice Chairperson thanked the MWE for considering Kiryandongo District for the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. He highlighted that the proposed area indeed lacks water for their animals.
- The District Vice Chairperson acknowledged that Kiryandongo District cannot stand alone and manage without the support from the ministries, and therefore welcomed the team to Kiryandongo District. He committed to providing support to the team while executing the assignment. He added that when the right time comes, the district will support in mobilization and engagements.
- He noted that the project areas have some refugees who have bought land and settled in the areas where the project has been proposed.

4. Office of the RDC:

A. Brief introductions of all participants.

- All participants introduced themselves.
- After a courtesy visit to the District Chairperson, the team was introduced to the RDC's Office by the District Assistant Water Engineer. The reconnaissance team was led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). The team from MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the District Vice Chairperson.

B. Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes.

- The team leader informed the RDC that the team comprised personnel from MWE and a consortium of four consultants. The purpose was to introduce the consultants to key stakeholders (District personnel, project-hosting sub-counties, and potential commercial farmers) and to show the team the location of the proposed intake and area for the water tank.

- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting the project's objectives, scope, and expected outcomes.
- The RDC was informed that the feasibility studies are being funded by the AfDB.
- The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Mirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.
- The team informed the RDC that the project is designed to develop a sustainable source for potable water, as well as water for rural industries and livestock.
- The team leader informed the RDC that a number of studies, including socioeconomic and geotechnical, will be conducted.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the RDC and his team, particularly in raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the smooth undertaking of the feasibility studies.

C. Remarks and concerns by the District Vice Chairperson:

- The RDC welcomed and thanked the MWE for considering Kiryandongo District for the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. He highlighted that the proposed area indeed lacks water for their animals.
- The RDC emphasized the serious need for water in the area and requested that the feasibility study be extended to other areas not initially considered for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- The RDC committed to supporting the project, including addressing accessibility, social, and cultural issues.
- The RDC assured the team that he would communicate with the local communities to prevent misunderstandings, such as mistaking the feasibility team for land grabbers.
- The RDC emphasized the importance of selecting serious contractors for the project to avoid issues of poor performance and contract terminations. He assured the team that Kiryandongo District will not tolerate unserious contractors.

5. Sub-Counties Visited:

The team proceeded to Masindi Port sub-County for a courtesy visit. However, the sub-county officials were not available. The support staff (office assistant) provided contacts for the personnel and local council I leadership for conducting feasibility studies.

6. SITE VISIT – OBSERVATIONS AND CONCERNS

A. Water Source Intake:

- The proposed intake area is along the Masindi Port (ferry), connecting Kiryandongo (Masindi Port Sub-County) to Apac District through the River Nile.
- Consideration must be given to the busy schedules of people moving from either side to avoid interruptions during feasibility and construction activities.
- Consultations with the Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) are necessary for clear movement and traffic flow in the area. Contacts for UNRA personnel on the ground were obtained.
- Economic activities like fishing, livestock farming, and selling ready food were observed. These activities highlight the presence of Project Affected Persons (PAPs), but also indicate the need for a Bulk Water Supply for production. Detailed information on economic activities will be captured during the socioeconomic survey.
- The road (Masindi Port Road) is under construction. The feasibility team will consult UNRA to gather necessary information, especially concerning way leaves and right of way.
- Consultations with utility entities like the Ministry of Energy and Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Limited (UETCL) are required to understand the rightful corridor and align the project with existing UETCL projects.
- Uganda Railway was identified as a stakeholder. Abandoned structures believed to belong to Uganda Railway (UR) were observed. The feasibility team will engage with the Ministry of Works and Transport to identify plans for the railway line and other structures.
- Settlement was observed along the proposed project corridor. Before construction, resettlement action plans must be in place. Feasibility studies will capture information on PAPs, including household members, land ownership, housing conditions, income, and willingness to allow the project to proceed through their land.
- Crop and livestock farming were observed along the proposed corridor. Feasibility studies will capture information on value addition processes and limitations.
- Adequate water flow and quality were observed.
- Accessibility for construction equipment was noted.
- Potential environmental impacts were identified, as the area is a catchment for fish breeding. Consultations with NEMA will be necessary.

B. Proposed Area for the Tank Reserve – Observations and concerns

- The proposed water tank area is located on Kaduku Hill, Kaduku Village, Masindi Port, in Kiryandongo District.
- The topography is suitable for construction; however, geotechnical surveys are needed to confirm suitability.
- Proximity to target beneficiaries will be determined during the detailed feasibility survey.
- Existing infrastructure support was assessed. The UPDF had earlier indicated willingness to provide space for the tank area.

C. Proposed Actions:

- Conduct geotechnical surveys to confirm suitability.
- Design plans to optimize water storage capacity.
- Conduct community consultations for feedback on location.

7. Potential Commercial Farms Visited:

Brief introductions of all participants.

- After visiting the proposed intake and water reserve tank area, the team visited Soul Agri Business Company.
- The team was introduced to the commercial farm proprietor and his team by the District Assistant Water Engineer. The reconnaissance team was led by MWE. The team from MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves.

A. Presentation

- The MWE team leader provided a background of the project.
- The team leader informed the commercial farm proprietor that the team comprised personnel from MWE and a consortium of four consultants. The purpose was to introduce the consultants to key stakeholders and show the team the location of the proposed intake and water tank area.
- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting its objectives, scope, and expected outcomes.
- The commercial farm proprietor was informed that the feasibility studies are funded by the AfDB.

- The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers in the sub-counties of Masindi-Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Mirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.
- The team informed the commercial farm proprietor that the project is designed to develop a sustainable source for potable water, as well as water for rural industries and livestock.
- The team leader informed the commercial farm proprietor that various studies, including socioeconomic and geotechnical, will be conducted.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the commercial farm proprietor in providing information, especially regarding crop and animal production, yield, and production timelines.

B. Remarks and concerns from Soul Agri Business Company

- The commercial farm proprietor mentioned that the farm spans approximately 4,000 acres, growing crops like cassava, soya beans, maize, coffee, macadamia, paw paws, and matooke, among others.
- He highlighted the difficulties faced during drought seasons and requested the expeditious extension of water supply for production to their farm.

8. Courtesy Visits – Masindi District:

A. Office of the CAO

Brief introductions of all participants.

The team, led by the Water officer, visited the office of the CAO. The reconnaissance team, led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), included a consortium of four contractors (TECHNITAL S.P.A in association with BETA Studio and Segamu 14 Consultants Ltd, Italy). The team from the MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the CAO.

Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes:

- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting its objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.
- The project targets four sub-counties: two in Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and two in Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). The scope may be adjusted to fit the budget.

- The project aims to develop a sustainable source for potable water, water for rural industries, and livestock. It focuses on bringing water to farmers, particularly in the Kimengo sub-county, where livestock farmers are struggling, as well as to small-scale industries and for domestic use.
- The feasibility study is funded by a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The MWE is working to secure full funding for the project.
- This is the first project of its kind, receiving significant attention. The MWE will engage with the Ministry of Finance to explore funding options.
- Land acquisition is a key concern, and the MWE has identified stakeholders (farmers and other potential users). The list can be shared for review and the district can add other potential users.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the CAO and her technical team, particularly in providing documentation and raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the feasibility studies.

Remarks from the Consortium of Consultants:

- The team leader for the consortium of consultants thanked the CAO for hosting the team and appreciated the brief provided by the MWE team leader.
- He informed the CAO that various teams will be collecting data on the ground soon, including a socioeconomic team. He requested support from the CAO in this process.

Remarks and concerns by the CAO:

- The CAO thanked the MWE for proposing the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. She noted that she was only two days into her role as CAO.
- The CAO acknowledged that since the project is demand-driven, people are likely to be willing to use and pay for the service. However, she sought clarity on whether the project would be free or if users would have to pay, how the management system would work, and whether the District Development Plan (DDP) captures these future plans.

Responses:

- Regarding user payment, the MWE team leader replied that there would be a cost. The consultant will propose the rate in consultation with stakeholders like the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC).
- The team leader informed the CAO and members that a management system would be established, as stakeholders need to know the water they require.

- Concerning the management system, the MWE team leader mentioned that the consultant for the feasibility study has been asked to benchmark the Katosi water supply system and develop a better system for managing the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- Regarding the DDP capturing the plans, the leader asked the CAO to provide the DDP for review to support the feasibility study. He also urged the consultant to consult with the NWSC about the plans for water supply in the proposed area and the entire district.

Summary of Closing Remarks by the CAO

- The CAO thanked the Ministry of Water and Environment team and the consortium of consultants for their presentation and visit. She expressed appreciation for the proposed project and its potential benefits for farmers, livestock, and rural industries in the district.
- The CAO assured her full support and emphasized the importance of collaboration and communication to address challenges, particularly land acquisition and community awareness.
- She committed to mobilizing her technical team to assist with documentation and community engagement. The CAO looked forward to a successful partnership, ensuring the project's objectives are met efficiently and effectively.

B. Office of the District Chairperson:

Brief introductions of all participants.

The team, led by the Water officer, visited the office of the district chairperson. The reconnaissance team, led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), included a consortium of four contractors (TECHNITAL S.P.A in association with BETA Studio and Segamu 14 Consultants Ltd, Italy). The team from the MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the district chairperson and the political leadership

Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes;

- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting its objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.
- The project targets four sub-counties: two in Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and two in Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). The scope may be adjusted to fit the budget.
- The project aims to develop a sustainable source for potable water, water for rural industries, and livestock. It focuses on bringing water to farmers, particularly in the

Kimengo sub-county, where livestock farmers are struggling, as well as to small-scale industries and for domestic use.

- The feasibility study is funded by a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The MWE is working to secure full funding for the project.
- Land acquisition is a key concern, and the MWE has identified stakeholders (farmers and other potential users). The list can be shared for review, and the district can add other potential users.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the district chairperson and his political team, particularly in raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the feasibility studies. He further noted that the MWE needs the project to be bankable to ease the process of securing funding. Currently, MWE has funding only for the feasibility studies.

Remarks and concerns by the District Chairperson

- The district chairperson thanked the MWE for proposing the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- The district chairperson noted that this project has come at a much-needed time for the people. He informed the team that, as a district, they have tried to drill boreholes in this area but have not succeeded.
- The district chairperson assured his full support and emphasized to the team
- He committed to mobilizing his political team to assist with community engagement. The district chairperson looked forward to a successful partnership, ensuring the project's objectives are met efficiently and effectively.

C. Office of the RDC:

Brief introductions of all participants.

After a courtesy visit to the District Chairperson, the team was introduced to the RDC's Office by the District Water Officer. The reconnaissance team was led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). The team from MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the RDC.

Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes.

- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting its objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.

- The project targets four sub-counties: two in Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and two in Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba). The scope may be adjusted to fit the budget.
- The project aims to develop a sustainable source for potable water, water for rural industries, and livestock. It focuses on bringing water to farmers, particularly in the Kimengo sub-county, where livestock farmers are struggling, as well as to small-scale industries and for domestic use.
- The feasibility study is funded by a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The MWE is working to secure full funding for the project.
- Land acquisition is a key concern, and the MWE has identified stakeholders (farmers and other potential users). The list can be shared for review, and the district can add other potential users.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the RDC, as some issues require the intervention of the RDC and security, as well as raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the feasibility studies. He further noted that the MWE needs the project to be bankable to ease the process of securing funding. Currently, MWE has funding only for the feasibility studies.

Remarks and concerns by the RDC:

- The RDC welcomed and thanked the MWE for considering Kiryandongo District for the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- The RDC noted that the project has environmental concerns and there is a need to consult and engage with NEMA.
- The RDC anticipated land wrangles and pledged to support the team, informing them to approach him at any time when encountering such land-related issues. He committed to providing security support whenever necessary.
- The RDC informed the team that the office of the president is committed to dealing with corruption. He committed to providing support in the sensitization process of the project.

D. Sub-Counties Visited:

Miirya Sub County:

The team proceeded to Miirya sub-County for a courtesy visit; however, the sub-county officials were unfortunately not available. The office assistant was present and provided contacts for the personnel and local council I leadership to facilitate communication during the preparation and conducting of the feasibility studies.

E. Office of Kimengo Sub County Chairperson:

Brief introductions of all participants.

The team, led by the Water officer, visited Kimengo Sub County where the team had an opportunity to be introduced and discuss with the sub county chairperson. The reconnaissance team, led by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), included a consortium of four contractors (TECHNITAL S.P.A in association with BETA Studio and Segamu 14 Consultants Ltd, Italy). The team from the MWE and the consortium of consultants introduced themselves to the sub county chairperson.

Presentation: Overview of the project objectives, scope, and expected outcomes;

- The reconnaissance team leader noted that this was the second visit to the sub-county regarding water supply for domestic use and production.
- The MWE team leader provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project, highlighting its objectives, scope, and expected outcomes. The project aims to establish a multi-purpose bulk water transfer system to irrigate at least 4,000 hectares for both smallholder and commercial farmers.
- The project targets four sub-counties: two in Masindi District (Mirya and Kimengo) and two in Kiryandongo District (Masindi-Port and Kigumba).
- The team leader emphasized that Kimengo Sub County, being one of the proposed areas and water-stressed, especially for human consumption and livestock, was important to visit.
- The project aims to develop a sustainable source for potable water, water for rural industries, and livestock. It focuses on bringing water to farmers, particularly in the Kimengo sub-county, where livestock farmers are struggling, as well as to small-scale industries and for domestic use.
- The feasibility study is funded by a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The MWE is working to secure full funding for the project.
- Land acquisition is a key concern, and the MWE has identified stakeholders (farmers and other potential users). The list can be shared for review, and the district can add other potential users.
- The MWE team leader requested the support of the sub-county chairperson and his political team, particularly in raising awareness of the project within the hosting communities to facilitate the feasibility studies.

Remarks and concerns by the Sub County Chairperson

- The sub-county chairperson thanked the MWE for proposing the Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project.
- The sub-county chairperson noted that this project has come at a much-needed time for the people. He informed the team that the entire sub-county does not have adequate water for consumption or livestock. Efforts to drill boreholes have failed, and the sub-county has never seen tapped water.
- He mentioned that an animal census survey indicated Kimengo Sub County had the highest number of livestock in the area, yet they lack water for their livestock.
- The sub-county chairperson shared pictures of water-stressed people and livestock, requesting an expedited project timeline and the inclusion of other areas in the sub-county during the feasibility studies.
- He assured his full support and commitment to mobilizing his political team for community engagement. The sub-county chairperson looked forward to a successful partnership, ensuring the project's objectives are met efficiently and effectively.

F. Site (Proposed Scope) – Observations and Concerns

Kaduku Farm under Kiryandongo sugar Factory

- During the reconnaissance exercise, the team observed various economic activities along the route from Masindi District to the two sub-counties (Miirya and Kimengo). The primary economic activities observed included maize farming and sugar cane growing.
- The team conducted a stopover at the sugar cane plantation and engaged in a discussion with the workers present at the farm. The workers provided some preliminary information, pending a detailed study. The key observations were as follows:
 - Kaduku Farm, formerly known as Lokyamu Farm, is now under the management of Kaduku Farm.
 - The farm has been in existence for 6 years.
 - The farm acquired 23 square miles from the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) and has utilized 16 square miles for the sugar cane plantation.
 - At the time of the reconnaissance, the farm employed approximately 200 workers, with 15% of them being female.
 - The farm's yield was approximately 60 tons per hectare.
 - The farm has outgrowers, with an office located at Kisanja village.

Consultation Meeting Held At Kimengo Sub-County HQR

1. Project details:

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 29 November 2024

Venue: Kimengo Sub-County Headquarters Client: Ministry of Water and Environment Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Consultant: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Total Participants: 38 (29 males, 9 females)

2. Opening remarks by LC I Chairperson

The meeting commenced with an address from the LC I Chairperson, who welcomed the team and expressed appreciation to the community members for their time and participation. He encouraged the community to provide any relevant information to the project team when requested, emphasising the importance of their input in shaping the project's success.

3. Purpose of the meeting

The meeting aimed to consult the residents of Myeba village (Kimengo Sub-County) about the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The engagement sought to introduce the project, clarify its goals, and collect community input regarding expected impacts, concerns, and opportunities.

4. Presentation and project overview by the consultant

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties: Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries. The consultants emphasised that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants

highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use changes. However, they assured participants that the project design would prioritise the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimise displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasised the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

5. Discussion and concerns

Male participant: Consider the water project for community consumption rather than the previous power line initiative, primarily focusing on a few locations and large companies.

Response: The Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project aims to provide water for production and domestic use for both commercial and subsistence farmers.

Male participant: Why do you come to us when you are majorly considering big companies/farms? How should we access water?

Response: The project aims to provide water for both production and domestic use for commercial and subsistence farmers. Since the community is the project's primary target and consumer, it is essential to understand your concerns, as well as the socioeconomic conditions and general environment of the project area. This understanding will enable effective planning, implementation, and operation.

Regarding water accessibility, the government plans to extract water from the Nile River while adhering to all quality standards and procedures. A water management system will be established, and/or an existing entity, such as the National Water and Sewerage Corporation, will be responsible for managing the project after construction. Consequently, water accessibility will be provided through this service provider.

Male participant: What will happen to the people whose properties, such as land, houses, and crops, will be affected during project construction?

Response: The project will prioritise minimising damage to crops and trees. The surveyors and planners will aim to align the project within the road reserve as much as possible. However, in cases where this is unavoidable, especially concerning the main transmission line and areas requiring significant land acquisition, such as the locations for the treatment unit and main

reservoir tanks, the government will provide compensation following the national compensation guidelines.

Male Participant: Will the project provide jobs to the community? Will the jobs be for skilled people or even for unskilled people?

Response: If the proposed project receives all necessary approvals and secures funding for construction along with a contractor to carry out the construction phase, the contractor will be encouraged to prioritise local content. This includes providing job opportunities for community members, both skilled and unskilled, in positions that suit their qualifications. Additionally, the contractor will be advised to take gender considerations into account during the recruitment process, ensuring that women also benefit from these job opportunities.

Female participant: Will we women have the opportunity to get jobs on the project? When is the project starting?

Response: If the proposed project obtains all necessary approvals and secures funding for construction, along with hiring a contractor to manage the construction phase, the contractor will be encouraged to focus on utilizing local resources. This means providing job opportunities for community members, both skilled and unskilled, based on their qualifications. Furthermore, the contractor will be advised to take gender into consideration during the hiring process to ensure that women also have access to these job opportunities. The commencement of the project will depend on the approval process and available funding; however, a consultant is currently in the process of conducting feasibility studies.

Female participant: What are the payment procedures for water access and bills? How much will be required for the water bills?

Response: The water service provider will offer clear guidance regarding payment procedures. Water bills are based on the amount of water consumed. The service provider will inform customers of the unit cost rate at the appropriate time after construction and handover for operationalisation. Please note that these rates may change over time.

Female participant: Are you bringing us hard water?

Response: The project will strictly adhere to all quality standards and procedures to ensure the quality of water. A processing unit is proposed to be established in Kitukuza Parish in Masindi Port Sub County, where water will be treated to meet the needs of both human and animal consumption. All national and World Health Organisation (WHO) standards will be followed. As a result, this project will provide safe water suitable for all purposes, including production and domestic use.

| Topic | Feedback Summary | |
|---------------|--|--|
| Project Focus | Community members expressed a desire for the project to prioritise | |
| | their needs over large companies. | |

| Water Accessibility | Concerns about equitable access to water for all community |
|---------------------|--|
| | members. |
| Property Impact | Questions regarding compensation for affected properties during |
| | construction. |
| Employment | Interest in job opportunities for both skilled and unskilled labour, |
| Opportunities | with emphasis on gender inclusivity. |
| Project Timeline | Inquiries about the project's commencement and duration. |
| Payment Procedures | Questions about water billing procedures and costs. |
| Water Quality | Concerns about the quality of water to be supplied. |

7. Closeting remarks by LC III Chairperson

The meeting concluded with a call from the Sub-County Chairperson for the community to fully support and welcome the project. He urged the government to expedite the project's approval and implementation processes. The community expressed readiness to utilise the water once available and indicated their capacity to afford the water bills, although they requested government assistance in subsidising the rates to ensure broader access to clean water.

Myeba Parish Consultation Meeting Minutes – Kimengo Sub County

1. Meeting details

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 30th November, 2024

Venue: Along Myeba Road, Kimengo Sub-County

Organised by: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Uganda

Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Participants: [37 Total] (29 Male and 8 Female from Myeba village) Beneficiaries: Myeba Village, Kimengo Sub-County, Masindi District

2. Purpose of the Meeting

The meeting aimed to consult the residents of Myeba village, particularly those living along the road from Myeba to Masindi Port, about the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The engagement sought to introduce the project, clarify its goals, and collect community input regarding expected impacts, concerns, and opportunities.

3. Opening Session

The LCI Vice Chairperson welcomed the community and highlighted the purpose of the meeting—to prepare for a feasibility study aimed at improving access to clean water for

domestic use and reliable water for agricultural production (irrigation). He encouraged community participation to ensure local needs are considered.

4. Project Presentation by Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

The consultant team provided an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. They explained that the project aims to deliver a reliable and multi-purpose water transfer system serving four sub-counties: Kimengo and Miirya in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District.

The core objective of the project is to provide bulk water for irrigation and domestic use in rural communities. The project will benefit smallholder and commercial farmers alike by providing consistent water access, especially during dry seasons, and will boost agricultural productivity, food security, and rural livelihoods.

It was noted that the feasibility study is funded by a grant from the African Development Bank, while the Ministry of Water and Environment is leading efforts to secure funding for full project implementation. The consultant emphasized the importance of engaging the community early to ensure the design reflects local needs, priorities, and environmental and social considerations.

The team also explained that issues such as land acquisition, compensation, employment opportunities, affordability of water services, and gender inclusion are being assessed as part of the feasibility study.

5. Community Questions and Consultant Responses

During the discussion session, the following questions and concerns were raised by community members:

Male Participant: Water scarcity is a big problem in our village. We welcome this project. When is the construction starting?

Response: The consultant team thanked the participant for the warm reception and explained that the current phase is the feasibility study. Once the study is completed and approved, the Ministry of Water and Environment will work on securing implementation funding. If all progresses well, construction could begin in the near future, but a specific start date will be communicated after final approvals and procurement processes.

Male Participant: Will people with small farms be allowed to use water from the project, or will it be limited to large commercial farms?

Response: The project is designed to benefit both smallholder and commercial farmers. The consultant assured the community that equitable access is a core principle of the project, and distribution mechanisms will be put in place to allow even small-scale farmers to access water for production.

Male Participant: What will happen to people whose property—land, houses, or crops—is affected during construction?

Response: The consultant assured the community that in any cases where land, crops, or property are affected by the project, compensation will be provided following Uganda's national compensation guidelines. Detailed assessments will be done to ensure fairness and transparency.

Male Participant: Will the project provide jobs for the local community? Will these jobs be available for both skilled and unskilled workers?

Response: Yes, the project will offer employment opportunities. Both skilled and unskilled labor will be needed, and priority will be given to local residents during recruitment for construction and related activities.

Female Participant: Will women also have the opportunity to be employed under this project?

Response: Absolutely. The project is committed to promoting gender inclusion. Women will be encouraged and supported to take part in both skilled and unskilled roles, including administrative, construction support, and community mobilization activities.

Female Participant: When exactly is the project starting?

Response: As previously noted, the project is still in the feasibility study stage. Once the study is completed, approved, and funding secured, the implementation phase will begin. The Ministry will communicate exact timelines when confirmed.

Female Participant: How will we be paying for water? What procedures will be followed and how much will we pay?

Response: The exact tariffs and payment procedures will be developed by the Ministry of Water and Environment in consultation with communities. The aim is to ensure affordability. Likely, households will have metered access and payment will be based on consumption, but arrangements for communal access points may also be considered for low-income users.

Female Participant: We are concerned about water quality. Are you bringing us hard water?

Response: The consultants clarified that water quality is a top priority. The project will include water treatment facilities to ensure the water meets national standards for domestic use. The issue of hardness will be addressed in the treatment process to ensure the water is safe and suitable for all household uses.

| Feedback | Area | | Com | munity Feedl | oack | | | | | |
|----------|---------|-----|-------|----------------|--------------|----------|-------------|--------|------|----------|
| General | Support | for | The | community | expressed | strong | support | for | the | project, |
| Project | | | parti | cularly due to | persistent v | water sc | arcity in t | the ar | rea. | |

| Project Timeline | Many residents asked about when construction would begin, |
|--------------------|--|
| | eager for improvements to water access. |
| Equity in Access | Residents emphasized the importance of including smallholder |
| | farmers in the distribution of water for production. |
| Compensation for | Concerns were raised about how people whose land or property |
| Affected Persons | is affected would be compensated, seeking fairness and |
| | transparency. |
| Employment | Community members asked whether the project would provide |
| Opportunities | local jobs for both skilled and unskilled individuals. |
| Gender Inclusion | Women expressed interest in employment opportunities and |
| | requested assurance of inclusion. |
| Affordability and | Participants were concerned about how much they would pay for |
| Payment Mechanisms | water and how payments would be managed. |
| Water Quality | Some community members expressed concern about whether the |
| | supplied water would be hard, and requested assurance of quality |
| | treatment. |

7. Next Steps

Completion of the feasibility study and submission to the Ministry of Water and Environment. Community feedback to be incorporated into the design and planning.

Further consultations to be conducted as the project moves toward implementation

Kinumi Village Community Consultation Meeting Minutes – Miirya Sub County

1. Project details:

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 6th December 2024

Venue: Kinumi Centre, Miirya Sub-County, Masindi District

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Consultant: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Total Participants: 27 (22 males, 5 females)

2. Meeting Objectives

The primary objectives of the consultation meeting were to inform the residents of Kinumi Village about the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, gather community feedback, and address any concerns. This engagement aligns with the Ministry of Water and Environment's commitment to ensuring that all environmental and social safeguards are adequately addressed, as outlined in the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Policy.

3. Opening Remarks

The meeting commenced with a welcome address from the area (LCI Chairman), who expressed gratitude to the consulting team for their presence and acknowledged the importance of the project for the community. He emphasised the need for improved water services in the area and encouraged active participation from all attendees.

4. Consultant's Presentation

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties: Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries for the first phase. The consultants emphasised that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use changes. However, they assured participants that the project design would prioritise the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimise displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasised the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

5. Community Questions and Concerns

During the open forum, several questions and concerns were raised by the community members:

Male Participant: How do we know that you're coming from the Ministry of Water and Environment?

Response: The consultants provided identification and explained their affiliation with the Ministry, assuring the community of their legitimacy.

Female Participant: What is the time frame for the water supply to reach our area?

Response: The consultants outlined the project timeline, indicating that the water supply would be extended to Kinumi Village within the project's implementation phase.

Male Participant: If I am far from the proposed pipeline route, how will I access water?

Response: The consultants explained that the project includes provisions for extending water access to areas not directly on the pipeline route, ensuring broader community coverage.

Male Participant: Where is your office located?

Response: The consultants provided the location of their office and contact details, encouraging community members to reach out with any further questions or concerns.

Male Participant: Some people came to this village promising to provide agricultural products and services, but disappeared. How can we trust this project?

Response: The consultants acknowledged past experiences and emphasised the project's backing by the Ministry of Water and Environment and the African Development Bank, assuring the community of its credibility and commitment.

Female Participant: Will compensation be provided for any damaged crops during the project's implementation?

Response: The consultants confirmed that compensation would be provided for any affected crops, in line with national policies and the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework.

Female Participant: Can we access water for irrigation purposes?

Response: The consultants assured that the project includes provisions for irrigation, aiming to support agricultural activities in the community.

Female Participant: We request the government to provide a grace period before the project commences.

Response: The consultants acknowledged the request and assured the community that the project timeline would consider such concerns.

| Topic | Feedback Summary | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Project Legitimacy | Community members sought assurance of the consultants' affiliation | | |
| | with the Ministry. | | |
| Project Timeline | Inquiries about the time frame for water supply to reach the area. | | |
| Water Access | Concerns about accessing water if located far from the pipeline route. | | |
| Office Location | Requests for the location and contact details of the consulting team. | | |
| Trust in the Project | Skepticism due to past unfulfilled promises by other entities. | | |
| Compensation | Questions regarding compensation for damaged crops. | | |
| Irrigation Access | Interest in accessing water for irrigation purposes. | | |
| Grace Period | Request for a grace period before project commencement. | | |
| Request | | | |

7. Closing Remarks

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from the Chairman, who expressed appreciation for the information shared and the opportunity for community engagement. He reiterated the importance of the project for the development of Kinumi Village and encouraged continued collaboration between the community, the Ministry of Water and Environment, and the consulting team to ensure the project's success.

Kitwetwe Village Community Consultation Meeting Minutes – Miirya Sub County

1. Project details:

Project Title: Feasibility Study for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 2nd December 2024

Venue: Kitwetwe Village, Miirya Sub-County, Masindi District

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Consultant: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Total Participants: 98 (46 males, 52 females)

2. Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the consultation meeting was to inform the community of Kitwetwe Village about the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The meeting served as a platform for dialogue, where the project team presented an overview of the feasibility study and collected input from the local population to shape the project's design in line with community needs and expectations.

3. Opening Remarks

The LCI Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the consulting team and expressing appreciation to the Government of Uganda and the Ministry of Water and Environment for

initiating the project. He emphasised the community's need for a sustainable water supply and encouraged full participation and honest engagement.

Following this, the SAS (Sub-Chief) addressed the gathering. He noted that the proposed project would bring benefits to the local population through improved water access for domestic use and agriculture. He called on community members to support the project and to take ownership of its outcomes for long-term sustainability.

4. Consultant's Presentation

The team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the project, explaining that it is a government-led initiative funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB). The primary objective is to establish a multi-purpose water transfer system that will supply piped water for domestic use and irrigation across four sub-counties in Masindi and Kiryandongo districts.

The consultants emphasised that the project is being conducted in compliance with both Uganda's national regulations and the Environmental and Social (E&S) Safeguards of the AfDB. These standards require the project to:

Conduct a comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to identify and mitigate potential impacts.

Promote gender equality and social inclusion, ensuring women and vulnerable groups benefit equally.

Follow national land acquisition and compensation laws in cases where private property is affected.

Ensure labour standards, including fair recruitment, protection against child labour, and ethical conduct of contractors.

Maintain community engagement through continuous dialogue, feedback mechanisms, and grievance redress systems.

The team also clarified that the feasibility study includes gathering information about land use, water needs, population trends, and environmental concerns to guide proper planning. They highlighted that while the government aims to use public land (especially road reserves), in cases where private assets are affected, compensation will be guided by Uganda's laws and AfDB's involuntary resettlement policy.

5. Community Questions and Consultant Responses

Male Participant: Will the project provide jobs for casual workers in our community?

Response: Yes, the project will create temporary and long-term employment opportunities, including for unskilled labour. Priority will be given to local residents.

Female Participant: What if the pipeline goes through my house? Will I be compensated?

Response: If any part of your home or structure is affected, compensation will be provided according to Uganda's national resettlement and compensation policy and AfDB safeguards.

Male Participant: Will we be getting water from existing wells, or will there be new piped water?

Response: The project is designed to supply treated piped water from the Nile River, not from existing wells.

Male Participant: How will we be charged for the water – is it based on quantity or a flat fee?

Response: Water usage will be metered and billed based on the amount consumed. The Ministry will ensure affordability for rural users.

Male Participant: Will we be paying monthly for water?

Response: Billing schedules (e.g., monthly or bi-monthly) will be determined during implementation. Prepaid options may also be considered.

Female Participant: Will every household have a tap installed at the door?

Response: The project may include individual household connections (bring the service line near to households) and/or communal water points. The final design will depend on affordability and community preference.

Female Participant: If the pipe passes through my latrine area, what happens?

Response: If any sanitation facility is affected, it will be either protected or relocated, and compensation will be provided.

Female Participant: Is this a government project or a private one?

Response: It is a government project, fully owned and managed by the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Water and Environment, with funding from the AfDB.

Male Participant: How deep will the trench be for laying the pipeline?

Response: The pipeline trench will typically be dug between 1 to 1.5 meters deep, depending on terrain and safety standards

| Issue/Concern | Community Feedback |
|-------------------|--|
| Job Opportunities | Strong support for hiring local workers for both skilled and unskilled |
| | roles. |
| Compensation | The community wants assurance of compensation for any affected |
| _ | houses, crops, or latrines. |

| Water Access | Preference for piped water; questions on whether connections will be |
|--------------------|---|
| | individual or communal. |
| Tariff and Billing | Concerns about how water usage will be billed and the affordability of |
| | tariffs. |
| Project Ownership | Clarification requested on whether it's a public or private initiative. |
| Trench | Questions on depth and implications for land and property. |
| Construction | |

Consultation Meeting At Bisenyi Village – Kigulya Parish – Miirya Sub County

1. Meeting Details

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 2nd December, 2024

Venue: Bishenyi Village, Kiguulya Parish, Miirya Sub-County, Masindi District

Organised by: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Uganda

Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB) Participants: 50 (33 males, 17 females)

Beneficiaries: Miirya & Kimengo (Masindi District); Masindi Port & Kigumba (Kiryandongo

District)

2. Purpose of the Meeting

The consultation meeting was organised to engage community members in Bishenyi Village on the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. This session formed part of the feasibility study, which aims to determine the viability of establishing a large-scale water transfer system to support both irrigation and domestic water needs across selected sub-counties in Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts. The meeting sought to raise awareness about the project, gather critical community insights, and ensure that the voices of local stakeholders are captured early in the project planning process.

3. Opening Session

The meeting began with a prayer offered voluntarily by a female community member. This was followed by a welcome and introduction session facilitated by the LCI Chairperson. He introduced the consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd, the Sub-County Chief, and the Parish Councillor. Because the community members knew one another well, individual self-introductions were deemed unnecessary.

In their opening remarks, the LCI Chairman and the Parish Councillor expressed appreciation for the government's initiative, noting that the proposed water infrastructure would greatly benefit the area. They encouraged the community to cooperate fully with the consultants and to share accurate and useful information. The Sub-County Chief also emphasised the

importance of water infrastructure to local development and called upon the residents to prepare themselves socially and economically for the opportunities the project may bring.

4. Project Presentation by Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties: Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries. The consultants emphasised that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use changes. However, they assured participants that the project design would prioritise the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimise displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasised the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

5. Community Questions and Consultant Responses

Following the presentation, several community members raised concerns and inquiries, which were addressed by the consulting team. These interactions are summarised below:

Male (Representative from Birch Investment Ltd): As a sugar plantation with more than 12,000 workers, will our company be considered in the water supply design?

Response: The consulting team confirmed that commercial enterprises such as Birch Investment Ltd would be considered during the stakeholder engagement and infrastructure planning phase. The project seeks to serve both community and industrial water needs, as long as resource availability and sustainability are maintained.

Male Participant: How much will it cost for my household to be connected to this new water system?

Response: The consultants explained that connection fees and tariffs will be developed in alignment with national rural water pricing guidelines. These rates will be set with sensitivity to household income levels to ensure affordability and access for all, particularly vulnerable populations.

Male Participant: What will happen if the construction affects my crops or land? Will I receive compensation?

Response: Yes. Any loss of land, crops, or property resulting from project construction will be compensated following Uganda's laws and compensation framework. Detailed asset valuation will be conducted before any construction activity, and affected persons will be duly informed and compensated.

Male Youth Participant: Can we use the water from this project to start fish pond projects in our area?

Response: The consulting team acknowledged aquaculture as a potential secondary benefit of the project. If environmental impact assessments indicate that such use will not affect the sustainability of water supply or interfere with priority uses, community-based fish farming could be promoted as a livelihood enhancement initiative.

Female Participant: Will individuals be allowed to sell water from this project to earn income? **Response:** Yes, under regulated circumstances. Water vending may be supported where direct connections are not available. Local water user committees will oversee such activities to ensure fair pricing and protect community interests.

Male Participant: Will people who do not have latrines be allowed to access water from this project?

Response: Yes. Access to water will not be denied based on sanitation conditions. However, the consultants stressed that the project will promote hygiene education and sanitation improvements alongside water provision to encourage healthier practices.

| Feedback Area | Community Feedback |
|------------------------|---|
| General Support | The community expressed strong enthusiasm for the project, |
| | recognising its potential to improve local livelihoods, water |
| | access, and agricultural productivity. |

| Commercial | Local businesses, including Birch Investment Ltd, expressed a |
|-------------------------|---|
| Engagement | desire to participate in the water supply design and benefit from |
| | the water infrastructure. |
| Land and | Participants raised concerns about the potential impact of |
| Compensation | construction on their land and crops, with requests for fair |
| Concerns | compensation in case of displacement or land take. |
| Livelihood | Community members are interested in diversifying their |
| Opportunities | livelihoods through activities such as fish farming and water |
| | vending as part of the project's economic benefits. |
| Water Accessibility | The community emphasised the need for affordable and accessible |
| and Affordability | water services, especially for low-income households and those |
| | without access to sanitation facilities. |
| Gender Inclusion | Female participants highlighted the importance of ensuring equal |
| | access to the water project and expressed interest in roles such as |
| | water vending or small-scale farming. |
| Sanitation Needs | There was concern regarding access to water for those without |
| | latrines, but the community appreciated the project's commitment |
| | to hygiene and sanitation improvements. |

7. Closing Remarks

The Sub-County Chief concluded the meeting by thanking the consulting team and the residents for their constructive engagement. He reiterated the importance of community readiness and support in ensuring the success of government-led development programs. He encouraged the residents to remain informed, organised, and cooperative as the project progresses toward its implementation phase.

8. Next Steps

The consulting team will proceed with site-specific technical assessments, community profiling, and environmental evaluations. Feedback gathered from this consultation will directly inform the feasibility report. Additional community engagements and validations will be held during the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) phase.

Waibango Parish Community Consultation Meeting Minutes – Masindi Port Sub County

1. Project details

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date: 4th December 2024

Venue: Masindi Port Sub-County Headquarters Client: Ministry of Water and Environment Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB) Consultant: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd Participants: 33 (16 males, 17 females)

2. Introduction and Purpose of the Meeting

This community consultation meeting was held to engage residents of Waibango Parish in the ongoing feasibility study for the Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the community about the project objectives, collect their views, and address any concerns they might have. This consultation is part of a broader stakeholder engagement process that ensures local communities are actively involved from the planning stage through implementation.

3. Opening Remarks

The Sub-County Chief opened the meeting by welcoming the consulting team and the community. He thanked the Ministry of Water and Environment and expressed gratitude for bringing such a development project to the area. He informed participants that many people in Waibango Parish depend on small dams and rainwater for water, which are often unreliable, especially during dry seasons. He urged the community to embrace the project, emphasising that infrastructure placed along road reserves does not warrant compensation, as such land is considered government property.

4. Consultant's Presentation

The consulting team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd gave an overview of the proposed bulk water transfer and irrigation infrastructure project. The team explained that the project is part of the Ugandan government's efforts to address water scarcity in rural areas and promote agricultural productivity. The project will extract water from the Nile River, treat it, and distribute it through a piped system for domestic and productive use in four sub-counties: Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Kimengo and Miirya in Masindi District.

The consultant's team highlighted that the project is being implemented in accordance with both Uganda's national policies (standards) and the Environmental and Social (E&S) Standards of the African Development Bank. These standards require comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), clear stakeholder engagement processes, and attention to gender and social inclusion, particularly ensuring that women, youth, and vulnerable groups benefit equally from the project.

In line with AfDB's E&S standards, the team committed to minimising involuntary resettlement by using road reserves as much as possible. Where land acquisition is unavoidable, compensation will follow national guidelines. The consultants also emphasised the project's focus on sustainable water use, affordable service delivery, and local employment opportunities, including both skilled and unskilled labour.

5. Community Questions, Concerns, and Responses

During the open forum, several concerns were raised, especially regarding past infrastructure projects like the Karuma–Kawanda high-voltage transmission line, which reportedly excluded local residents from employment opportunities. Below are the key concerns raised:

Chairman, Kitaleba (Male): He welcomed the project and acknowledged that most of the land along the road reserves belongs to the government, encouraging the community to cooperate. Response: The consultants agreed, noting that the project would prioritise government land to minimise displacement.

LC III Chairman (Male): He asked for clarification on the width of the road reserve that the project intends to use.

Response: It was explained that road reserves generally range from 15 to 30 meters, depending on road classification. Detailed technical assessments will guide the final routing.

Male Participant: He expressed frustration that past projects like Karuma–Kawanda and the Masindi Port Road did not hire local workers and asked if this project would be any different. Response: The consultants assured that local labour, both skilled and unskilled, will be prioritised during the project construction and maintenance phases.

Male Participant: He raised concerns over abusive behaviour from some workers in previous projects.

Response: The consulting team emphasised that all workers will be required to follow strict codes of conduct as part of the project's labour and social safeguards. A grievance mechanism will be established for the community to report misconduct.

Male Participant: He requested the inclusion of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities such as water kiosks or support to local schools and health centres. Response: The team confirmed that CSR measures will be considered, depending on needs and resources during implementation.

Male Participant: He expressed concern about high water bills.

Response: The Ministry of Water and Environment will regulate tariffs to ensure affordability. Options such as communal taps may be implemented to increase access for low-income households.

Male Participant: He warned against potential social issues arising from external workers, especially concerning child safety and gender-based exploitation. Response: The consultant responded that contractors will be briefed on child protection policies, and workers found violating them will be held accountable. Sensitisation programs will also be conducted in the community.

| Topic Feedback Summary | |
|------------------------|--|
|------------------------|--|

| Employment | The community asked for fair employment opportunities, citing |
|---------------------------|---|
| | exclusion in past projects. |
| Social Behaviour | The community demanded strict behavioural conduct among |
| | project workers. |
| CSR Contributions | Requests were made for CSR interventions such as community |
| | water points or schools. |
| Water Affordability | Residents emphasised the need for affordable tariffs and |
| | installation costs. |
| Land and Road Reserve | The community acknowledged road reserves as public land but |
| Use | wanted clarity on width. |
| Child Protection & Social | Concern was raised over exploitation risks from external |
| Safety | workers. |
| Engagement | Residents requested ongoing updates through regular meetings. |

7. Closing Remarks

In his closing remarks, the LC III Chairman thanked the consulting team for involving the community from the beginning. He noted that people in Waibango had long awaited such a water project and were pleased to finally see progress. He cautioned contractors against overlooking community leaders and advised that local concerns must be fully addressed. He acknowledged the fears raised from past project experiences and encouraged the project implementers to ensure transparency, accountability, and community benefit.

He concluded by encouraging the government and the community to maintain regular engagement and warned that no individual should be allowed to sabotage the project. He expressed confidence in the community's willingness to cooperate throughout all phases of the project.

8. Next Steps

Finalise community input for incorporation into the feasibility study.

Begin technical and environmental assessments.

Continue consultations during the ESIA process.

Establish community liaison systems for regular updates and grievance redress.

Kaduku - Masindi Port Community Consultation Meeting Minutes - Masindi Port Sub County

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure

1. Date of Meeting: 4th December, 2024

Venue: Kaduku II, Masindi Port

Organised by: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Uganda

Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB) Participants: 66 (42 males, 24 females) Beneficiaries: Kaduku II (Masindi District)

2. Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to engage with the community in Kaduku Parish (Kaduku I, and Kaduku II) regarding the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The objective was to gather feedback, raise awareness, and address concerns from the community about the potential impacts and benefits of the project.

3. Opening Session

The meeting began with a warm welcome from the LC I Chairperson, who introduced the consulting team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd to the community. The LC I Chairperson also thanked the attendees for taking the time to participate in the meeting.

The opening remarks were given by the Kaduku Parish Chief, who represented the Sub-County Chief. The Parish Chief emphasized the importance of the water supply project for Kaduku II and surrounding villages, stressing that the community's participation and feedback were crucial for the success of the project. He encouraged the community to express any concerns or suggestions during the meeting.

4. Project Presentation by Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries. The consultants emphasized that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use

changes. However, they assured participants that the project design will prioritize the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimize displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasized the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

5. Community Questions and Consultant Responses

During the consultation, several community members raised important questions and concerns. Below are the main questions and the consultants' responses:

Male Participant: How deep will you excavate and bury the water pipeline? Will we be allowed to cultivate and grow crops on top?

Response: The consultants explained that the pipelines will be buried at a depth that ensures their protection from damage. In general, it will be safe for the community to cultivate crops on top of the pipelines, provided the soil structure is not disturbed. However, the final decisions on land use along the pipeline route will be made in consultation with landowners.

Male Participant: Will the government extend the water supply to our village, Kaduku II?

Response: Yes, the project plans to extend the water supply to Kaduku II, along with other villages in the surrounding areas. Details of the water access points and coverage will be clarified in the final project design.

Male Participant: Will the project provide jobs to the community? Will the jobs be for skilled people or even for unskilled people?

Response: The consultants confirmed that the project will create both skilled and unskilled employment opportunities. Local labor will be prioritized for tasks such as construction, maintenance, and other project-related work. Job details will be made available in the implementation phase.

Male Participant: We request that the government regulate and subsidize the water bill rates and installation fees to encourage the entire community to utilize the proposed project.

Response: The consultants acknowledged the importance of affordable water access and assured the community that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is working on a tariff structure that will make water affordable for all households, including low-income families.

Female Participant: We are concerned about the high-water bills and installation fees. Response: The consultants assured the community that the fee structure would be designed to be affordable and equitable. Consideration would be given to the needs of low-income households and renters, ensuring that water access remains financially accessible to all.

Female Participant: During the dry season, which lasts from December to February, accessing water becomes difficult. Are there any arrangements that allow tenants to install piped water in rented houses or to have separate water meters?

Response: The consultants explained that the project would help address water scarcity by increasing the supply and capacity of the water system. Regarding renters, the government is considering options for installing individual meters to ensure fair distribution and payment, allowing tenants to access water directly from the system.

Male Participant: There are disparities in the compensation of the PAPs (Project-Affected Persons). What criteria will you use to minimise these inequalities during compensation?

Response: The consultants clarified that the compensation process would follow national guidelines to ensure fairness and transparency. All affected properties will be evaluated based on accurate assessments, and any inequalities will be addressed through a transparent compensation process.

Male participants: In Kaduku, we have piped water managed by NWSC, but accessing it is difficult due to low pressure. What actions will be taken to improve both the quantity and quality of water services in this area?

Response: The consultants acknowledged the low water pressure and explained that the new project would create a more reliable water distribution system. The aim is to improve both the quantity and quality of water supply, ensuring that the community has consistent and adequate water access.

| Feedback Area | Community Feedback |
|------------------------|--|
| General Support | The community expressed full support for the project, |
| | committing to embrace it through all phases: planning, |
| | construction, and operation. |
| Water Supply to Kaduku | The community was pleased to learn that Kaduku will be |
| | included in the water supply coverage and appreciated the plan |
| | to extend services to the area. |
| Employment | There was interest in the job creation potential of the project, |
| Opportunities | with local residents hoping to access both skilled and unskilled |
| | employment. |

| Cost of Water Services | Concerns were raised about the affordability of water bills and |
|---------------------------|---|
| | installation fees, with requests for subsidies and regulations to |
| | make water accessible to all. |
| Water Access During Dry | The community emphasized the difficulty of accessing water |
| Seasons | during the dry season, particularly for renters, and sought |
| | assurances that the project would help. |
| Compensation for Project- | Questions were raised about compensation for displaced |
| Affected Persons (PAPs) | persons, with concerns about minimizing disparities during the |
| | compensation process. |
| Water Supply Pressure | Community members expressed frustration with the current |
| Issues | low water pressure from the NWSC system and sought |
| | improvements in both water quality and supply. |

7. Closing Remarks

The LC III Chairperson closed the meeting by thanking the community for their active participation and valuable feedback. He emphasised the importance of continued community involvement throughout the project's planning and implementation stages. He also urged the government to consider extending the project to Kaduku I village, highlighting the need for better water access across the entire sub-county.

8. Next Steps

The consultants will continue with the feasibility study, integrating the feedback gathered from the community into the project design. Further consultations will take place to ensure that all community concerns are addressed before implementation.

Kitukuza Parish Community Consultation Meeting Minutes – Masindi Port Sub County

1. Project details:

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 4th December 2024

Venue: Rwempondo Village, Kitukuza Parish

Organised by: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Uganda

Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Participants: 32 (23 males, 9 females)

Beneficiaries: Kisenyi, Kimyoika, Rwempondo, Kyeria, Kibiran, Kitukuza, and Barkweyo

Villages

2. Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of this community consultation meeting was to inform and engage residents of Kitukuza Parish about the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project. The meeting aimed to provide detailed project information, clarify the community's role in the project, and gather concerns, suggestions, and expectations from residents of the seven villages in Kitukuza Parish.

3. Opening Session

The meeting was held in Rwempondo Village and attended by representatives from all seven villages of Kitukuza Parish. The opening remarks were delivered by local leaders and representatives of Segamu 14 Consults Ltd. The consulting team appreciated the community's turnout and emphasised the critical role that local input plays in shaping the feasibility study and ensuring the successful implementation of the project.

4. Project Presentation by Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries. The consultants emphasized that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use changes. However, they assured participants that the project design will prioritize the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimize displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasized the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender

equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

5. Community Questions and Consultant Responses

During the interactive session, participants raised the following questions and comments:

Male Participant: How will water installation and billing be managed in our community?

Response: Water services will be metered and priced affordably, with payment structures to be finalised in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment. Community water points may also be set up for shared access in low-income areas.

Male Participant: Based on the information you've shared; I believe everyone here will support this project.

Response: The consulting team thanked the participant for this show of support and reaffirmed their commitment to delivering a sustainable and inclusive water supply system that benefits all community members.

Male Participant: What land size is required to benefit from irrigation water? Will people with small plots also benefit?

Response: Yes, smallholders will benefit. The irrigation component will include provisions for both large and small-scale farmers. Access points will be distributed to support all land sizes.

Male Participant: How will the government benefit from the project? Will residents have to pay for the water they use?

Response: The government benefits by improving livelihoods and increasing agricultural productivity, which boosts local economies. Yes, water use will involve a cost, but it will be kept affordable, and the revenue helps maintain the system.

Male Participant: When will the construction and operation of the project begin? When will we start receiving water?

Response: The project is currently at the feasibility study stage. After this phase, detailed engineering designs will be developed, followed by procurement and construction. The timeline depends on approvals and funding availability. Updates will be shared with the community.

Male Participant: The water is drawn from the Nile, treated at Kitukuza near our health centre, then sent to Kaduku Hill. Why don't you provide a small tank to serve nearby places first, before sending water to Kaduku?

Response: A water tank is indeed proposed near the treatment point in Kitukuza to serve nearby communities, including the sub-county headquarters. Your concern is valid, and the system design will include such provisions.

Female Participant: We're concerned that this is just a trick to say water will go to Kaduku, and not benefit us here in Kitukuza.

Response: The project includes a local distribution tank near Kitukuza Health Centre III, ensuring the surrounding communities are directly served before the water is transmitted to distant areas. Your community is a priority.

Male Participant: My home is far from the road where the pipeline will pass. Will I still be able to access water?

Response: The main transmission lines will follow road reserves, but service lines and secondary distribution lines will be extended to reach households away from the main road. Efforts will be made to include all areas within the parish.

6. Summary of Community Feedback

| Feedback Area | Community Feedback Summary |
|-------------------------|--|
| General Support for the | Community members, especially men, expressed unanimous |
| Project | support and readiness to participate in the project's |
| | implementation. |
| Water Access for | Community sought assurance that those with small land sizes |
| Smallholders | would benefit from the irrigation component, which was |
| | confirmed. |
| Timeline of | Residents are eager to know when construction will begin and |
| Implementation | when water services will be operational. |
| Water Billing and | Questions were raised regarding installation fees and billing |
| Affordability | systems. Residents requested a fair and affordable payment |
| | system. |
| Concern Over Water | Some residents questioned the logic of pumping water to |
| Route | Kaduku before serving nearby areas. This concern was clarified |
| | by the consultants. |
| Doubt About Benefit to | A few residents expressed skepticism about whether the project |
| Kitukuza Residents | would truly benefit their villages. Reassurance was provided. |
| Request for Inclusive | Villages far from the main road, such as Kaliro and Kikaito, |
| Coverage | requested to be included in the project coverage. |

7. Closing Remarks

In closing, the LC II Chairperson encouraged residents to welcome the project and treat it as a major opportunity for improving clean and safe water access. He urged them not to worry about

property impacts, as efforts would be made to use road reserves, and compensation would be provided where necessary. He also echoed the request to ensure all villages in Kitukuza Parish—including remote ones like Kaliro and Kikaito—are considered in the final project design.

8. Next Steps

Feasibility findings will be compiled and submitted to the Ministry of Water and Environment.

Community feedback will be used to refine the project's design.

Further consultations will be conducted as the project moves into the engineering and implementation phases.

Wakisanyi Parish Community Consultation Meeting Minutes – Masindi Port Sub County

1. Project details:

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Date of Meeting: 5th December 2024

Venue: Nyakalongo/Wakisanyi

Organised by: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Uganda

Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Participants: 38 (29 Males, 9 Females)

Beneficiaries: Villages of Myeba, Wakisanyi, Katugo, Kemiyambi, and Nyakalongo

2. Purpose of the Meeting

The consultation was held to introduce the proposed Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure project to residents of Wakisanyi Parish and to obtain community input on the design, implementation, and potential impacts of the project. The engagement aimed to ensure inclusive participation by gathering perspectives from the community, especially regarding water accessibility, compensation concerns, and expectations about the delivery of water services.

3. Opening Session

The meeting took place at Nyakalongo/Wakisanyi and brought together residents from the five villages in the parish. The consulting team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd introduced the purpose of the feasibility study, shared the project's scope, and emphasized that local participation was essential to ensure the infrastructure addresses actual community needs. Community members were warmly welcomed and encouraged to speak freely.

4. Project Overview by Segamu 14 Consults Ltd

The consultants explained that the proposed project, funded by the African Development Bank and implemented by the Ministry of Water and Environment, seeks to construct a large-scale bulk water system to supply both irrigation and domestic water to four sub-counties in Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts. The project is currently in the feasibility stage, with consultations ongoing to gather community insights.

Water will be drawn from the River Nile, treated at a centralized facility, and distributed through a network of main and secondary pipelines. Residents were informed that the system will cater to both household needs and agricultural production. The project includes measures to ensure environmental sustainability, fairness in land acquisition, gender inclusion, and affordability in water access. Where land or crops may be affected during construction, the consultants emphasized that compensation will follow national guidelines.

5. Community Questions and Consultant Responses

The following are the key questions and comments raised by the community during the consultation, along with responses from the consulting team:

Female Participant: I come from Kafu in Kimengo sub-county. Do I have a chance of benefiting from this proposed project?

Response: Yes, Kimengo is one of the sub-counties directly targeted by the project. Kafu and surrounding areas will be considered during the design of service lines and water distribution infrastructure.

Female Participant: Will the government compensate for crops likely to be destroyed during construction?

Response: Yes, any crops or properties affected by the project will be assessed, and fair compensation will be provided according to Uganda's national resettlement and compensation policies.

Male Participant: Will the water bills for this project (water for production) be the same as the water bills from National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC)?

Response: The billing rates for the new system may differ from NWSC rates and will be determined based on affordability and sustainability. Tariffs will be communicated clearly before the system is operational.

Male Participant: What happens if a Project Affected Person (PAP) refuses to vacate land needed for the pipeline?

Response: Every effort will be made to use public land and road reserves. If private land must be acquired, compensation and negotiations will be handled transparently. Refusal to vacate will be resolved in accordance with national procedures involving local leaders and legal guidelines.

Male Participant: Will water for domestic use and water for production be billed at the same rate?

Response: Different uses may attract different tariffs. Typically, water for production (such as irrigation or livestock) is priced differently from domestic use. Specific rates will be announced during implementation.

Male Participant: I have a borehole. Can the Ministry help me upgrade it for better supply?

Response: The current project focuses on bulk water infrastructure, but such individual needs will be documented and shared with the Ministry for potential integration with other rural water programs.

Male Participant: If my neighbor has water access, can I connect from their point?

Response: Yes, water sharing from one connection point to another is allowed, subject to agreement between households. However, it's recommended that each household installs its own meter for accountability and fairness.

Male Participant: When is construction starting?

Response:

The project is currently in the feasibility stage. Once the study is approved, the Ministry will proceed with detailed design, budgeting, and procurement. Construction timelines will be communicated as soon as funding and plans are finalized.

Male Participant: How will water be supplied? Through house taps or boreholes?

Response: The project will supply piped water via a centralized system, with options for household taps, communal points, and potential extensions depending on location. It is different from borehole systems.

Female Participant: Is the water going to be free or do we pay for it?

Response: Water will not be free. Users will pay based on consumption, but the costs will be affordable and regulated by the Ministry of Water and Environment to ensure accessibility.

Female Participant: Will the government supply water to every household?

Response: The goal is to reach as many households as possible, either through direct connections or communal access points. The final coverage will depend on design and available resources.

Male Participant: Can someone get water for both domestic and production use?

Response: Yes, the system is designed to support both uses. Users can apply for service lines that allow for irrigation, livestock, and home use, depending on their needs.

Male Participant: We thank the government for providing us with information at this early stage. Sometimes we only hear about projects when they're nearly complete.

Response: The consulting team appreciated the remark and emphasized that early engagement is essential for a successful, inclusive project.

6. Summary of Community Feedback

| Feedback Area | Summary of Community Feedback |
|-----------------------|---|
| General Project | Participants appreciated early involvement and welcomed the |
| Support | project as a solution to ongoing water scarcity. |
| Geographic Coverage | Residents from Kimengo, including Kafu, sought clarity on their |
| | inclusion. |
| Compensation for | The community requested fair compensation for crops and land, |
| Affected Property | which the project guarantees under national policy. |
| Water Billing and | Questions were raised about billing systems and whether they |
| Affordability | would align with NWSC rates. Residents stressed the need for |
| | affordability. |
| Access and | Participants wanted to know if every household would receive |
| Distribution Strategy | piped water or if communal points would be installed. |
| Equity of Access and | Residents asked if neighbours could share water points—this was |
| Sharing | confirmed as possible. |
| Gender Inclusion and | Female participants asked about access, fairness, and inclusion, |
| Employment | assured by the consultant team. |
| Borehole Integration | Some requested support for upgrading existing boreholes, a matter |
| | to be considered separately by the Ministry. |
| Project Timeline | The community requested updates on when construction would |
| | begin. |

7. Closing Remarks

The parish chief, representing the sub-county leadership, gave closing remarks, expressing gratitude to the consulting team for offering clear and detailed information. He also thanked the community members for attending and sharing their views. He urged residents to fully embrace the project as a life-changing opportunity for safe and accessible water. He affirmed the sub-county's commitment to work closely with the Ministry and consultants throughout the process.

8. Next Steps

Finalisation of feasibility study with community feedback integrated. Detailed engineering designs and implementation plans to follow. Continued engagement with local leaders and residents.

Kaduku Community Consultation Meeting Report - Kigumba Sub County

1. Project details:

Project Title: Feasibility Study for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation

Infrastructure

Meeting Venue: Kaduku II, Kigumba Sub-County

Meeting Date: 6th December 2024

Client: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)

Funder: African Development Bank (AfDB)

Consultant: Segamu 14 Consults Ltd Participants: 20 (14 Males, 6 Females)

2. Opening Remarks

The meeting began with welcoming remarks from the Kaduku II LCI Chairperson, who introduced the project team and members of the village leadership. He highlighted that the community faces significant water challenges, including poor access and reliance on unsafe water sources. He noted that many children fetch water before going to school, negatively impacting their academic performance. The LCI appreciated the effort by Excellence Farm, a local agricultural business, in advocating to the government for the extension of water services to the area. The Chairperson emphasised the community's need for water, not only for domestic use but also for agricultural purposes to boost productivity.

3. Consultant's Presentation

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties: Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries. The consultants emphasised that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use changes. However, they assured participants that the project design would prioritise the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimise displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasised the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

4. Community Questions and Concerns

VHT Male: This is a dry place. We appreciate the project. It will improve the yields. We are also thankful for government projects like this and for electricity. However, electricity (Umeme) didn't reach my home. I am worried this project might be the same.

Response: The consultants reassured the community that unlike the electricity project, this water supply project is being designed specifically with community inclusion in mind. Public access points such as standpipes or communal taps will be installed to ensure that all residents can benefit, even if they are unable to afford private connections.

Male Participant: Is water for paying?

Response: Yes, the water will be provided as a paid service to support sustainability. However, tariffs will be regulated by the service provider following government policies. Public taps may offer subsidised or lower-cost water access, especially for vulnerable households.

Female Participant: How shall we access water? Some of us cannot afford to install water in our houses. Are there any arrangements? I heard you mentioned public taps.

Response: The consultant confirmed that part of the project plan includes installing public water access points (taps or kiosks) in strategic locations to ensure that even households unable to afford individual connections can access safe and reliable water.

| Issue Raised | Community Feedback/Concern |
|--------------------------|---|
| Access to water | The area is extremely dry; access to clean water is a priority. |
| Affordability of private | Many residents may not afford house connections; they |
| connections | requested public access points. |
| Payment concerns | The community asked whether the water would be paid for and |
| | how fees would be structured. |

| Skepticism | from | past | Concerns were raised that past projects (e.g., electricity) did not |
|--------------|------|------|---|
| experiences | | | reach all homes. |
| Appreciation | for | the | The project is welcomed and seen as a timely and necessary |
| project | | | intervention for farming and health. |

6. Closing Remarks

The meeting ended with words of encouragement from the LCI Chairperson, who urged the community to remain engaged and supportive of the project. He noted that this is a major opportunity to transform water access in Kaduku II. The consultant reiterated the importance of community input in guiding the planning and implementation phases and committed to continued dialogue with stakeholders.

Community Consultation - Kigumba Meetings Held at The Sub-County Headquarters

1. Project details

Project Title: Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project

Meeting Date: 16 April 2025

Venue: Kigumba Sub-County Headquarters

Facilitators: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), [Insert Consultant's Name]

Attendees: 46 (28 males, 18 females)

Represented Parishes: Kigumba I, Buhoomozi, Kiigya, Mpumwe

2. Presentation by the Sub-County Agriculture Officer

The Sub-County Agriculture Officer emphasised the importance of community participation in the project. He urged attendees to provide information on:

- Water Needs: Specific areas requiring water for domestic and agricultural purposes.

- Agricultural Activities: Types of crops and livestock currently being cultivated or raised.
- Group Farming Practices: Existing farmer groups and how they collaborate to support each other.

This information will assist in tailoring the project to meet the community's specific needs and enhance its effectiveness.

3. Consultant's Presentation

The consultancy team from Segamu 14 Consults Ltd presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. The team explained that the primary goal of the project is to establish a multi-purpose, large-scale water transfer system. This system is expected to provide safe and reliable water for domestic use and irrigation. The project targets four sub-counties: Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District, and Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District. Within Miirya Sub-County, the villages of Bishenyi, Kitwetwe, and Kinumi have been identified as direct beneficiaries. The consultants emphasised that the feasibility study is being funded through a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) leading the implementation process.

In explaining the scope of the feasibility study, the team noted that the assessment includes technical, environmental, and socioeconomic analyses. This includes understanding local land use patterns, current water sources, economic activities such as farming and livestock rearing, environmental conditions, and population demographics. They also outlined the importance of understanding any anticipated challenges or barriers to implementation. The consultants highlighted that community engagement is vital to ensure the project is socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

An important component discussed was land acquisition. The team acknowledged that implementing such infrastructure projects may result in temporary or permanent land use

changes. However, they assured participants that the project design would prioritise the use of existing road reserves and publicly owned land to minimise displacement. Where land take is unavoidable, the government will follow national guidelines for compensation, ensuring all affected persons are treated fairly.

The consultants also elaborated on the potential benefits of the project, including improved access to clean water, enhanced agricultural productivity, job creation, and economic development. They emphasised the project's long-term sustainability by incorporating gender equality, community ownership, and consideration for local institutions such as schools and health facilities.

4. Community Concerns and Feedback

Concern: Attendees expressed the need for the water infrastructure to reach all areas within the sub-county, including remote villages.

Response: The project will be implemented in phases due to budget constraints, with the initial focus on high-need areas. Future expansions will aim to cover additional regions.

Concern: Farmers inquired about compensation for any crops, homes, or properties that might be impacted during construction.

Response: Efforts will be made to minimise property destruction by following existing road reserves. Where impacts are unavoidable, compensation will be provided according to national guidelines.

Concern: Participants sought clarity on who would be responsible for maintaining and repairing the water infrastructure.

Response: Funds collected from water bills will be used for the general operation and maintenance of the system. A clear operational framework will be established and shared with the community.

Concern: Farmers requested a reduction in the proposed water tariff from UGX 100,000 to UGX 50,000 per 2.5 acres per season, especially during the initial stages of the project.

Response: This input will be presented in the feasibility report for further scrutiny, discussion, and benchmarking with similar irrigation schemes to determine reasonable tariffs.

Concern: The community expressed urgency regarding the project's commencement due to the adverse effects of prolonged dry spells on their farming activities.

Response: The project is still in the feasibility stage. After the completion of technical studies and approval processes, implementation will follow. The community will be kept informed at every stage through local leadership.

5. Summary of Feedback

The community's feedback highlighted the following key areas:

Equitable Water Access: Ensuring that all areas, including remote villages, have access to the water infrastructure.

Fair Compensation: Providing transparent and fair compensation for any properties affected during construction.

Sustainable Management: Establishing a clear operational framework for the maintenance and management of the water system.

Affordable Tariffs: Setting reasonable water tariffs that consider the economic realities of smallholder farmers.

Timely Implementation: Ensuring that the project commences promptly to address the urgent water scarcity issues.

MINUTES OF MEETING WITH NILE BASIN INITIATIVE (NBI), MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT, AND THE BANK Held on 31 March 2025

- 1. ATTENDANCE
- I. NBI
- II. MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT –
- III. AfDB MISSION

List of participants attached as an Annex-1

Venue: Virtual

II. AGENDA

- 1. Introduction of participants
- 2. Introduction of NBI
- 3. Introduction of MWaCRID Project
- 4. Discussion and Conclusion

Introduction of participants:

Participants of the meeting representing their respective institutions introduced themselves.

1. Introduction of NBI:

The representative of NBI, Dr. Micheal Kizza provided highlights of the role of the Nile Basing Initiative (NBI). NBI has 10 member states including Egypt, Sudan, and South Sudan. The Cooperative Framework Agreement CFA) is in the process of ratification. To date it has been ratified by six (6) countries. Countries who wish to withdraw water must notify other riparian countries as per the laid-out procedures. All Riparian countries are aware of the procedure, and some have used and complied in the past. NBI provides a platform for prior notification, information exchange, and further discussion between countries. The country interested in withdrawing water must notify the downstream countries along with the necessary documentation such as a project brief. Environmental and Social Safeguard studies are prerequisite for water resources development.

2. Introduction of Multi-Purpose Water for Climate Resilient Irrigation Development and Agro-Industrialisation Programme (MWaCRID-P) Project:

The Task Manager of MWaCRID Project, Mr. Mekonnen Loulseged provided a brief background of the project. Based on a request from the Government of Uganda the African Development Bank (AfDB) fielded a multi-disciplinary team to prepare the MWaCRID Project.

The proposed project comprises several interconnected components designed to abstract, treat, store, and distribute water from the River Nile. These main components are:

a) Diversion Canal: A Lined channel from the River Nile at Masindi Port to the offshore water Intake structure, designed to convey raw water. (b) Water Intake and Raw Water Pump Station: An intake structure at the end of the diversion canal to draw water from the Nile and a raw water pumping station. (c) Drinking Water Treatment Plant: A comprehensive plant to produce potable water meeting WHO standards.(d) Irrigation Water Treatment Plant: A treatment plant to ensure water quality suitable for agricultural irrigation, likely involving sedimentation and basic filtration. (e) Clean Water Reservoir and Pumping Station: A clear water reservoir for storing treated water and a high lift pumping station operating 24/7.(f) Transmission Mains: Transmission pipelines from the treatment plant to the storage reservoirs.(g) Storage Tanks: Four (4) large storage reservoirs for irrigation, each with a capacity of 24,000m³ (totalling 96,000m³), and two (2) separate storage tanks for domestic water supply (a primary 3,100m³ reservoir and an emergency 1,000m³ reservoir), all designed to allow for gravity-fed distribution.(h) Main Distribution Lines: An extensive network of pipelines for irrigation and domestic supply, covering commercial farms, livestock watering points, and villages within the study area.

3. Discussion and Conclusion

a comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) was conducted for the project. The primary source of water for the project being the River Nile potential impacts on the water quality and quantity was assessed. The project's maximum water demand is 375,000 m³/day (approximately 4 m³/s). The maximum water demand represents about 0.6% of the 80% dependable flow of the River Nile. This is a very small fraction of the total flow.

In conclusion, given the small percentage of abstraction and minimal impact on water levels, the impact on downstream Impacts and the overall river regime is considered not significant.

Annex-1

| NAME | ORGANISATION |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Mr. Evans Kituyi | AfDB |
| Ms. Atim Racheal | MWE |
| Mr. Mugabe Motram | MWE |
| Eng. Joseph Wasswa | MWE |
| Mr. Mekonnen Loulseged | AfDB |
| Ms Grace Shittu | AfDB |

| Dr. Micheal Kizza | NBI |
|----------------------|------|
| Mr. Richard Bavakule | AfDB |
| Ms. Alice Achieng | AfDB |
| Mr. Ampuriire Victor | MWE |

UIA Stakeholders Meeting

STAKEHOLDERS MEETING ON MULTIPURPOSE BULK WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH-WESTERN REGIONS OF UGANDA PROJECT

Date: 10th June 2025

Location: Boardroom – Headquarters, Uganda Investment Authority

Time: 14:00-16:30Hrs

Attendance

| No. | Name | Designation | Organisation | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--|
| | MWE | | | |
| 1. | Eng. Kato Kayizzi | Asst. Commissioner - | WfP / MWE | |
| | Ronald | Chairperson | | |
| 2. | Eng. Wasswa Jospeh | Manger | WfRC-C / MWE | |
| 3. | Dr. Job Ekolu | Senior Engineer - Secretary | WfP / MWE | |
| 4. | Mr. Kateeba Ronald | Engineer | WfRC-C / MWE | |
| 5. | Mr. Jemba Ibrahim | Engineer | WfP / MWE | |
| | UIA | | | |
| 6. | Ms. Nagasha Christine | Director | IPDD / UIA | |
| 7. | Mr. Eria Kaweireku | DID | IPDD / UIA | |
| 8. | Ms. Cecilia Nakadama | PMW | IPDD / UIA | |
| 9. | Mrs. Sophie Bagenyi | rs. Sophie Bagenyi IPDD | | |
| 10. | Mrs. Suzan Nakibuuka | Pp | IPDD / UIA | |

Acronyms

AfDB: African Development Bank

ESIA: Environmental Social Impact Assessment

GoU: Government of Uganda

MAAIF: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal, Industry and Fisheries MoFPED: Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

MWE: Ministry of Water and Environment

NEMA: National Environment Management Authority

PAP: Project Affected Persons
RAP: Resettlement Action Plan
UIA: Uganda Investment Authority
WfP: Water for Production Department

WfRC-C: Water for Production Regional Centre Central

Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Communication from MWE
- 4. Communication from UIA
- 5. Discussions
- 6. Way Forward

| Minute | Subject and Comment | Action | |
|----------|---|-------------|--|
| Minute 1 | Opening Prayer | | |
| | Opening prayer led by Mrs. Suzan Nakibuuka. | | |
| Minute 2 | Introductions | | |
| | Introductions by all members present. | | |
| Minute 3 | Communication from MWE | | |
| | i. Eng. Kato Ronald warmly welcomed and expressed gratitude to all attendees | | |
| | for their participation in the meeting. | | |
| | ii. He provided a comprehensive overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water | | |
| | Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, emphasizing its transformative | | |
| | potential for the Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts. | | |
| | iii. Eng. Kato Ronald mentioned that this project was first conceptualized by UIA | | |
| | to promote commercial agriculture within agro-industrial parks, along with | All to Note | |
| | transforming the lives of local households and smallholder farmers in the | All to Note | |
| | region. | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| Minute | Subject and Comment | Action |
|--------|--|-------------|
| | iv. Eng. Kato Ronald highlighted the project's alignment with Uganda's Vision | |
| | 2040 and the National Development Plan III, particularly under the | |
| | agroindustrialization program. This program aims to enhance value addition | |
| | in key growth opportunities and address challenges in agricultural production | |
| | and agro-processing, such as low productivity. | |
| | v. Eng. Kato Ronald underscored the project's role in mitigating the adverse | All to Note |
| | effects of climate change on Uganda's agricultural sector, which has suffered | |
| | significant losses in crop production and GDP due to recent droughts. | |
| | vi. Gou through the MWE leads this initiative with substantial support from the | |
| | AfDB. Other key stakeholders include the MAAIF and the local governments | |
| | of Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts. | |
| | vii. Through funding from AfDB, a consultant was hired to and has completed the | |
| | feasibility study and is to be submitted to the bank for approval. Feasibility | |
| | studies, including detailed socio-economic, hydrological, and geotechnical | |
| | surveys, have confirmed the project's viability. | |
| | iii. He added that the hydrological analysis shows that abstracting water from the | |
| | river Nile will have a negligible impact on downstream flows. The proposed | |
| | infrastructure includes a water intake at Masindi Port, treatment plants for | |
| | both drinking and irrigation water, pumping stations, transmission mains, and | |
| | storage tanks. | All to Note |
| | ix. Eng. Kato Ronald mentioned that the total project is estimated to cost 798 | |
| | billion Ugandan Shillings (UGX), with the first phase costing 646 billion | |
| | UGX. The economic analysis indicates a positive net present value, a 10.2% | |
| | internal rate of return, and significant economic benefits, including increased | |
| | agricultural productivity, enhanced water security, and local economic | |
| | growth. | |
| | x. Given that the project meets AfDB's Integrated Safeguards System due to its | |
| | potential environmental and social impacts, including land acquisition and | |
| | resettlement. As a result, both an ESIA and a RAP are mandatory, and the | |
| | Bank included the completion of these studies as a key requirement for the | |
| | loan. | All to Note |
| | | |
| | 1 | |

| Minute | Subject and Comment | Action |
|----------|---|-------------|
| | xi. Eng. Kato informed the meeting that a consultant has been engaged to carry out this assignment, and further emphasized that the RAP aims access to land for the project's components, it should also engage the PAPs as well as carrying out the survey, valuation, and identification of PAPs. xii. He reminded the meeting that one of the action points with AfDB for the loan is that GoU commitments that land where the project infrastructure will pass is free from encumbrances. This critical aspect of the project requires confirmation from UIA that the land for the facilities will be available. xiii. Another critical requirement from the bank is that GoU provide number of beneficiary smallholder farmers to UIA for land allocation. This aligns with the bank and government's broader goal of increasing agricultural productivity and income for smallholder farmers. xiv. The meeting's primary aim is to confirm the availability land from UIA for the commercial farmers and resolve the land issue for smallholder farmers to secure the AfDB's project approval. | All to Note |
| Minute 4 | i. Ms. Nagasha Christine mentioned that as Uganda's chief investment promotion agency, the UIA markets investment opportunities, promotes packaged investment projects, ensures access to business environment information for local and foreign investors, and offers business support, advisory, and advocacy services. ii. She added that UIA is committed to harnessing exports for higher economic growth, addressing concerns such as moving away from exporting low-value raw commodities, diversifying the export basket, and leveraging foreign demand for processed agricultural goods to transition employment from subsistence farming to more commercialized and productive activities through this project. iii. She informed the meeting that UIA has been directed by the President to establish 25 industrial parks across Uganda, aimed at job creation, easing land | All to Note |

| Minute | Subject and Comment | Action | | |
|----------|--|---------------|--|--|
| | accessibility for investments, introducing new research and technologies, | | | |
| | skills development, and boosting exports to increase revenue. | | | |
| | iv. To implement this directive, UIA plans to establish five industrial parks | | | |
| | annually, totalling 25 by 2025. This involves nationwide land mobilization for | | | |
| | the Investment Land Bank to support both public and private industrial park development. | | | |
| | v. She also informed the meeting that the President has also instructed local | | | |
| | governments to provide free land for industrial parks, eliminating the need for | | | |
| | UIA to purchase land. | | | |
| | vi. Typically, UIA allocates about 20% of the land for small and medium | All to Note | | |
| | enterprises, but this was not done in this specific area. However, there is | | | |
| | currently around 300 hectares of land that can be allocated to smallholder | | | |
| | farmers for the project's sake. | | | |
| | vii. UIA committed to providing a letter confirming ownership of the land under | | | |
| | its jurisdiction for commercial farmers. | | | |
| Minute 5 | ite 5 Discussions | | | |
| | i. Eng. Kato Ronald informed the meeting that the AfDB emphasized the | | | |
| | project's alignment with its strategy, which envisions a prosperous, inclusive, | A 11 4 D.T. 4 | | |
| | resilient, and integrated Africa. The project supports the bank's twin strategic | All to Note | | |
| | objectives of accelerating inclusive green growth and driving prosperous and | | | |
| | resilient economies. | | | |
| | ii. He noted that this project aligns with the bank's "High 5" operational | | | |
| | priorities, particularly "Feed Africa," which aims to strengthen food security | | | |
| | through agricultural transformation. By increasing farm yields and | | | |
| | diversifying food systems, the project reduces dependence on food imports | All to Note | | |
| | and enhances Africa's agricultural sector's capacity to participate in global | All to Note | | |
| | markets and value chains. The bank considers the inclusion of smallholder | | | |
| | farmers critical to the project. | | | |
| | iii. Eng. Kato Ronald mentioned that the AfDB has earmarked UA 101.49 million | | | |
| | from its ADF window, representing about 60% of the total phase one | | | |
| | resources estimated at USD 200 million. | | | |
| | | | | |

| | | | | | Action |
|--|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1v. G | ou th | nrough MoFPED is seel | king the remaining | funding from the Islamic | All to Note |
| D | evelo | opment Bank via a loan. | As this is a loan to | GoU, MoFPED insists that | |
| the project benefits include smallholder farmers, not just commercial farmers. | | | | | |
| v. T | he de | etails of the beneficiaries | s of the project are | shown in the table below. | |
| U | IA ha | as around 6 commercial: | farmers in the agro- | industrialization park. | |
| | | Table 1: | Project Beneficiarie | es | |
| | No. | Farm | Farm Area (Ha) | Irrigated Area (Ha) | |
| | 1 | Soul Agric | 1,640 | 1,640 | |
| 2 | 2 | Afro-Kai | 1,220 | 1,220 | |
| , | 3 | Kazire | 392 | 392 | |
| 4 | 4 | Zamburi Farm | 130 | 130 | |
| | 5 | Kisirizi Excellence Ltd | 750 | 430 | |
| (| 6 | CMG | 81 | 81 | |
| , | 7 | Muhazi Heritage01 | 1,562 | 1,562 | |
| 3 | 8 | Norma Agric | 130 | 130 | |
| 9 | 9 | Lochab | 4,000 | 4,000 | |
| | 10 | Asili | 1,448 | 1,448 | |
| | 11 | Medium Scale Farms | 320 | 320 | |
| | 12 | Kimengo Area | 1,000 | 1,000 | |
| | 13 | Small Holder Farms | 2,000 | 2,000 | |
| | | Total | 14,673 | 14,353 | |
| | | . 1 7774 11 | 2 000 1 | | |
| | | - | | s of land to be equitably | |
| | | ۶ | | armers, each receiving an | |
| | · | | | ting districts, in line with | |
| | | | er the Compreher | nsive Refugee Response | |
| | | work. | | | |
| | | _ | | will include surrounding | All to Note |
| | | ercial farmers, and refug | _ | rs already engaged with | |
| viii. E | ng. K | Lato Ronald informed the | e meeting that that l | landholding patterns in the | |
| pı | roject | t area indicate a domina | ance of micro-scale | and smallholder farming, | |

| Minute | Su | bject and Comment | Action |
|----------|-------|---|-------------|
| | | with farm sizes typically ranging from 3 to 10 acres. For instance, in Masindi | |
| | | Port Sub-County, among 154 farmers identified for the project, 57 were | |
| | | micro-scale, 93 smallholders, and only 4 medium-scale. Similar patterns were | |
| | | observed in other sub-counties. The region also hosts numerous farmer | |
| | | organizations, such as Parish Development Model (PDM) groups and coffee | |
| | | grower associations, providing a platform for outreach and support. | |
| | ix. | Eng. Joseph Wasswa reported that during a site visit, many prospective | |
| | | smallholder farmers were found to be outside the project areas, sometimes up | All to Note |
| | | to 40km away. He requested that land be made available and prioritized close | |
| | | to the project areas. | |
| | X. | He also noted that some commercial farmers were located outside UIA land | |
| | | and should be included in stakeholder engagement, encouraging them to | |
| | | provide land for smallholder farmers. | |
| | xi. | Dr. Job Ekolu highlighted that the project would enable farmers to grow crops | |
| | | in two seasons instead of one due to year-round irrigation water availability, | |
| | | significantly increasing crop yields. He urged farmers to consider subleasing | |
| | | a small percentage of their land to smallholders, as the project's benefits would | |
| | | outweigh the productivity from the land given up. | |
| | xii. | MWE requested UIA to provide a letter of comfort confirming that the land | All to Note |
| | | allocated to commercial farmers within the agro-industrial park is legally held | |
| | | under UIA's jurisdiction and free from encumbrances. | |
| | kiii. | Ms. Nagasha Christine mentioned that UIA currently does not have 2,000 | All to Note |
| | | hectares of unallocated land available within the specified project areas, as | |
| | | current land holdings are fully committed to ongoing and planned investment | |
| | | projects. | |
| | kiv. | Mr. Eria cautioned that the available UIA land is approximately 2,590 | |
| | | hectares, insufficient for both commercial farms and smallholders. He | |
| | | requested that other commercial farmers within the project area participate in | |
| | | providing land. | |
| | XV. | Furthermore, UIA recommended engaging the districts to provide land for | |
| | | smallholder farmers and suggested further consultation with key stakeholders | |
| | | in Masindi and Kiryandongo districts. | |
| <u> </u> | 1 | | |

| Minute | Subject and Comment | Action |
|----------|--|-------------|
| | kvi. Mr. Eria Kawerireku proposed a joint stakeholder meeting with commercial | All to Note |
| | farmers to explain the project's benefits and gain their buy-in, making them | |
| | more willing to provide land for smallholders. He noted that some commercial | |
| | farms already engage with outgrowers and emphasized the importance of | |
| | extending irrigation benefits to these communities. | |
| | vii. Dr. Job Ekolu urged involving the local governments of Masindi and | |
| | Kiryandongo in the stakeholder consultation process for selecting smallholder | |
| | farms to benefit from the project. | All to Note |
| | viii. The meeting proposed that UIA organize a meeting with commercial farmers | |
| | and local governments to discuss involving smallholder farms. Eng. Kato | |
| | Ronald recommended aiming for 2,000 hectares of land to be made available, | |
| | suggesting discussions with commercial farmers to relinquish some land for | |
| | the project, facilitated by UIA. | |
| | | |
| Minute 6 | Way Forward | |
| | i. UIA shall provide a letter confirming the ownership of the land under its | A 11 |
| | jurisdiction for commercial farmers, as committed during the meeting. This | All to Note |
| | letter will assure stakeholders, including the AfDB, that the land allocated to | |
| | commercial farmers is legally held and free from encumbrances. | |
| | ii. The meeting agreed that UIA to confirm the availability of 300 Ha of land to | A 11 . NT . |
| | be committed for use by smallholder farmers. | All to Note |
| | iii. Given that UIA currently does not have 2,000 hectares of unallocated land | |
| | available within the specified project areas, it is imperative to explore | |
| | alternative solutions for land allocation to smallholder farmers. This may | |
| | include engaging districts and commercial farmers outside UIA land to | All to Note |
| | provide additional land, as recommended during the discussions, to meet the | |
| | target of 2,000 hectares for at least 5,000 smallholder farmers. | |
| | iv. A joint stakeholder meeting shall be organized, involving commercial farmers | All to Note |
| | (including those outside UIA land), local governments of Masindi and | |
| | Kiryandongo districts, and other key stakeholders. The meeting will explain | |
| | the project's benefits such as increased crop yields through year-round | |
| | | |

| Minute | Subject and Comment | | Action |
|--------|---|--|-------------|
| | irrigation and secure buy-in from commercial farmers to provide land for | | |
| | smallholder farmers, thereby facilitating their inclusion in the project. | | All to Note |
| | v. The project shall aim to secure 2,000 he | ectares of land for smallholder farmers, | |
| | to be equitably distributed among at le | east 5,000 smallholders, each receiving | |
| | an average of 2.5 acres, particularly in | refugee-hosting districts. This may be | |
| | achieved through discussions with con | nmercial farmers to relinquish a portion | |
| | of their land, facilitated by UIA. | | |
| | MWE | UIA | |
| | Name: | Name: | |
| | Signature: | Signature: | |
| | | | |
| | Date: 10/06/2025 | | |

Correspondences Between MWE and CGV

CGN

TEL GENERAL
TELEPHONE

-256 41 4505945
-256 41 4270203
-256 41 4271106
-256 41 4271198
-256 41 4271198
-256 41 4271198
-256 41 4271198
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website www.mann In any correspondence on this subject please quote Ref. No. ADM/18/01



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT PLOT NO. 3-7 KABALEGA CRESCENT LUZIRA P.O. BOX 20026 KAMPALA -UGANDA

18th July, 2025

The Chief Government Valuer,
Ministry of Lands, Housing and urban Development,
P.O. 7096,

KAMPALA - UGANDA

Dear Sir,

SUBMISSION OF FINAL VALUATION METHODOLGY REPORT FOR THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIAGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOODS TARNSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO

Reference is made to your letter Ref: VAL/274/292/01, dated 15th July, 2025 forwarding comments on the Draft Valuation Methodology Report.

This is to inform you that we have adjusted and addressed the comments as per your recommendations.

This is to forward to you a revised version of the valuation methodology report for your review and approval.

Mission

• 4

n

Eng. Ronald Kato Kayizzi

FOR: PERMANENT SECRETARY

To promote and ensure the Rational and sustainable utilization, development and effective had ageneral of water an environment resources for social economic development of Uganday

Email: mlhud@mihud.go.ua
Telephones: General: 0414342931/3
Hon, Minister: Direct: 04143253371
Hon, Minister of State (Lands): 04143231020
Hon, Minister of State (Mousing): 04143347255
Hon, Minister of State (Whan Development):0414236384
Permanent Secretary: 04143230879
Under Secretary: 0414323339
Eacc: 04143230891





MINISTRY OF LANDS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT P.O. BOX 7096 KAMPALA, UGANDA

In any correspondence on this subject please quote No VAL/274/292/01

1st August, 2025

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment, P.O Box 20026, Kampala - Uganda.

RE: FINAL VALUATION METHODOLOGY REPORT FOR THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWaCRID) PROJECT- MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO DISTRICTS

(CGV's Approval on the final Methodology Report)

Yours REF: ADM/18/01 dated 18th July, 2025 in line with the subject matter refers. You therein tendered a final methodology report for the captioned project for Chief Government Valuer's review, guidance and subsequent approval. The report was prepared by your consultant Valuer Mr. Tulikuno Collins with Registration No. 481 of the Surveyors Registration Board of Uganda.

The CGV has approved the methodology Report and this is to forward the same for your further management.

Richard Junko

For: PERMANENT SECRETARY

FINAL VALUATION METHODOLOGY REPORT FOR THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWaCRID) PROJECT- MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO DISTRICTS

(CGV's Approval of the final Methodology Report)

Reference is made to a letter REF: ADM/18/01 dated 18th July, 2025 from the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Water and Environment in line with the subject matter. With the letter, a final methodology report for the captioned project was submitted for Chief Government Valuer's review, guidance and subsequent approval. The Methodology was prepared by the project consultant Valuer Mr. Collins Tulikuno with Registration No. 481 of the Surveyors Registration Board of Uganda.

Further reference is made to the joint reconnaissance inspection of the locus undertaken on 10th July, 2025 by our officers Mr. Niwamanya Daniel and Mr. Kusemererwa Martin (Government Valuers) while Mr. Crispus Ogwal (the Consultant Surveyor) and Mr. Tusiime Linux (the consultant valuer) represented Ministry of Water and Environment.

We have studied the methodology report against the Terms of Reference for the project, the comments and observations made during the reconnaissance inspection, the general standards and principles of valuation as well as the existing legal framework for land acquisition in Uganda.

We find the methodology report satisfactory and therefore approve the same for implementation on the project.

NB: The consultant is obliged to update CGV on the implementation progress of the methodology.

Dr. Okumu Benon

For: CHIEF GOVERNMENT VALUER





MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (ESIA) UNDER THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO, UGANDA

Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) Methodlogy Report







ARDENT SERVICES INT. LTD

Plot 4, Ardent House, Gayaza High Avenue, P.O. Box 111680, Gayaza-Wakiso-Uganda, Tin: 1013653797, Tel: +256773237772/706389541, Email: ardentservicesint@gmail.com, Website: www.ardentservicesint.com

Email: ardentservicesint@gmail.com, Website: www.ardentservicesint.com

Project Document Control

Table 1: Project Document Control

| Document | Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) Methodology Report | | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|
| Project Name: | Consultancy Services for The Resettlement Action Plan (ESIA) Under the Multi-Purpose Water for Climate Resilience and Irrigation Development for Livelihood Transformation (MWACRID) Project in Masindi and Kiryandongo, Uganda | | |
| Revision Number | 01 | | |

Project Revision History

Table 2: Project Revision History

| Project Title | Purpose \ | Water for Clima | rvices for The Resettlement Action Plan (ESIA) Under the Multi- for Climate Resilience and Irrigation Development for Livelihood (MWACRID) Project in Masindi and Kiryandongo, Uganda | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Document prepared by: | VALUATION AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY | | | | Revie wed by: | Approv ed by: |
| | Title | Signature | Date | Document Revision No. | | |
| Tulikuno Collins | Senior Land Valuer | | mol | Rev 01 | | |
| Crispus Ogwal | Senior Land Surveyor | CALSPUS OCH REGISTRATE CALSPUS OCH CALSPUS | Nhursday 17th July, 2025 | Rev 01 | | |
| Andrew Kivunike | Social Develop ment Expert | | | Rev 01 | | |







Gayaza-Wakiso-Uganda, Tin: 1013653797, Tel. +256773237772/706389541, Email: ardentservicesint@gmail.com, Website: www.ardentservicesint.com

Ardent Services International Ltd Details

Table 3: Ardent Services International Ltd Details

| Address | Plot 4, Ardent House, Gayaza High Avenue |
|-----------|--|
| Signature | S TO |
| Telephone | +256773237772/706389541 |
| Email | Ardentservicesint@gmail.com |









***w.argentservicesint.com

RAP Stakeholder Engagement Minutes

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING

Date of Meeting: 17th June 2025

Time of Meeting: 10:00 p.m.

Venue of Meeting: Mirya Sub-County LC IIIs Office

Agenda

1. Self-Introductions

- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the LC III Chairperson
- 4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The consultants team presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, emphasizing that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), as the implementing agency, is mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. In this regard, the consultants highlighted that a key component of the project involves the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) to guide the fair and lawful acquisition of land and compensation of affected persons. The Consultant noted that while the project aims to minimize displacement by prioritising road reserves and public land, any unavoidable land acquisition will be addressed in accordance with national legal frameworks and African Development Bank (AfDB) safeguards. The team further informed the Chairperson that the RAP will be informed by comprehensive technical, socioeconomic assessments, including analysis of land use, livelihoods, population dynamics, and community infrastructure, ensuring that stakeholder engagement and gender-sensitive planning are integral to mitigating resettlement impacts and promoting community acceptance.

The team thanked the LC III Chairperson for spearing time to meet and discuss this important project and indicated they looked forward to the Chairperson's contribution.

Minute 3: Remarks from the LC III Chairperson

He started by welcoming the Consultant to Mirya Sub-county. He indicated the Sub-County is busy because of the mass enrolment for National Identification registration. He proceeded and indicated that the community is eagerly waiting for the project to commence. He indicated that the communities are aware of the project so they will not be difficult to manage. He expressed gratitude to the Government of Uganda for extending clean water and water for irrigation to the people of Masindi. He requested the project to be extended to cover Kyamwitta because in the previous engagement it was proposed to be included as part of the project. He indicated that he envisages no hardships in the community during the survey processes indicating that the people are already aware of the project.

Minute 4: Closure

The meeting closed with scheduling of the village level meetings in which PAPs are going to be engaged.

The Chairperson thanked the consultant for coming and closed the meeting.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN

KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING

Date of Meeting: 17th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 12:00 p.m.

Venue of Meeting: Kimengo Sub-County LC IIIs Office

Agenda

1. Self-Introductions

- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the LC III Chairperson
- 4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The consultants team presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, emphasizing that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), as the implementing agency, is mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. In this regard, the consultants highlighted that a key component of the project involves the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) to guide the fair and lawful acquisition of land and compensation of affected persons. The Consultant noted that while the project aims to minimize displacement by prioritising road reserves and public land, any unavoidable land acquisition will be addressed in accordance with national legal frameworks and African Development Bank (AfDB) safeguards. The team further informed the Chairperson that the RAP will be informed by comprehensive technical, socioeconomic assessments, including analysis of land use, livelihoods, population dynamics, and community infrastructure, ensuring that stakeholder engagement and gender-sensitive planning are integral to mitigating resettlement impacts and promoting community acceptance.

The team thanked the LC III Chairperson for spearing time to meet and discuss this important project and indicated they looked forward to the Chairperson's contribution.

Minute 3: Remarks from the LC III Chairperson

He started by welcoming the Consultant to Kimengo Sub-county. He proceeded and indicated that the community wants water and are willing to offer free land as long as they are assured that they will benefit. He indicated they have been attending several project meetings during the design phase and indicated that the communities are aware of the project so they will not be difficult to manage. He expressed gratitude to the Government of Uganda for extending clean water and water for irrigation to the people of Masindi. He requested the project to be extended to cover the whole sub-county because Kimengo is a water stressed area.

Minute 4: Closure

The meeting closed with scheduling of the village level meetings in which PAPs are going to be engaged. The Chairperson thanked the consultant for coming and closed the meeting.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING

Date of Meeting: 17th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 2:00 p.m.

Venue of Meeting: C.A.Os Office Kiryandongo District

Agenda

1. Self-Introductions

- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the C.A.O

4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The consultants team presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, emphasizing that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), as the implementing agency, is mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. In this regard, the consultants highlighted that a key component of the project involves the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) to guide the fair and lawful acquisition of land and compensation of affected persons. The Consultant noted that while the project aims to minimize displacement by prioritising road reserves and public land, any unavoidable land acquisition will be addressed in accordance with national legal frameworks and African Development Bank (AfDB) safeguards. The team further informed the Chairperson that the RAP will be informed by comprehensive technical, socioeconomic assessments, including analysis of land use, livelihoods, population dynamics, and community infrastructure, ensuring that stakeholder engagement and gender-sensitive planning are integral to mitigating resettlement impacts and promoting community acceptance.

The team thanked the C.A.O for spearing time to meet and discuss this important project.

Minute 3: Remarks from the C.A.O

He started by welcoming the Consultant to Kiryandongo District. He proceeded and indicated that he is relatively new in the district and if stakeholders have been consulted. He indicated that he has no objection to the planned study and encourage the engagement of relevant

technical and political leaders in the district during the execution of any project related activities. He concluded by appreciating the process. He proceeded by granting the team permission to proceed with all the necessary engagements in the district and pledged to offer support whenever reached out to.

Minute 4: Closure

The meeting closed with the Consultant indicating that the RAP team will be in the district for at least two weeks undertaking stakeholder engagements from Sub-County to Village level, Cadastral Surveys and Valuation surveys.

The C.A.O closed the meeting and wished the team a nice stay.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING

Date of Meeting: 17th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 2:30 p.m.

Venue of Meeting: Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Kiryandongo District

Agenda

1. Self-Introductions

- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the RDCs
- 4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The consultants team presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, emphasizing that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), as the implementing agency, is mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. In this regard, the consultants highlighted that a key component of the project involves the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) to guide the fair and lawful acquisition of land and compensation of affected persons. The Consultant noted that while the project aims to minimize displacement by prioritising road reserves and public land, any unavoidable land acquisition will be addressed in accordance with national legal frameworks and African Development Bank (AfDB) safeguards. The team further informed the Chairperson that the RAP will be informed by comprehensive technical, socioeconomic assessments, including analysis of land use, livelihoods, population dynamics, and community infrastructure, ensuring that stakeholder engagement and gender-sensitive planning are integral to mitigating resettlement impacts and promoting community acceptance.

The team thanked the RDC for spearing time to meet and discuss this important project.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Deputy RDC

The Deputy RDC expressed appreciation for the ongoing efforts under the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. He affirmed that he is fully aware of the project and emphasized that monitoring government programs falls within the RDC's mandate. He commended the MWE and the consulting team for actively involving stakeholders, noting that the people of Kiryandongo are generally friendly and welcoming. The RDC acknowledged that several stakeholder meetings have already taken place, reflecting a commendable level of engagement.

He further offered the use of his office's radio airtime to facilitate public awareness and ensure effective outreach within the project area at any stage of the project.

Minute 4: Closure

In closing, the RDC thanked the Ministry for its inclusive approach, wished the team a pleasant stay in the district, and assured them of his offices full support toward the successful implementation of the project.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING

Date of Meeting: 17th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 4:30 p.m.

Vee of Meeting: Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Office Masindi District

Agenda

1. Self-Introductions

- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the ARDC
- 4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The consultants team presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, emphasizing that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), as the implementing agency, is mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. In this regard, the consultants highlighted that a key component of the project involves the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) to guide the fair and lawful acquisition of land and compensation of affected persons. The Consultant noted that while the project aims to minimize displacement by prioritising road reserves and public land, any unavoidable land acquisition will be addressed in accordance with national legal frameworks and African Development Bank (AfDB) safeguards. The team further informed the Chairperson that the RAP will be informed by comprehensive technical, socioeconomic assessments, including analysis of land use, livelihoods, population dynamics, and community infrastructure, ensuring that stakeholder engagement and gender-sensitive planning are integral to mitigating resettlement impacts and promoting community acceptance.

The team thanked the RDC for spearing time to meet and discuss this important project.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Assistant RDC

She affirmed that the office of the RDC is fully aware of the project and that they have attended several meetings. She encouraged the team to carry out it work diligently without being compromised.

| Minute 4: Closure |
|--|
| In closing, the ARDC pledged that she will communicate to the RDC informing him of the presence of the consultant in the district. |
| |

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR MYEBA VILLAGE IN KIMENGO SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 18th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 10:00 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: Myeba Trading Centre

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer

- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

Kabagambe Joseph LC I Chairperson, welcomed all residents to the meeting, and Consultants, People want water that is why they are here because they have suffered a lot due to collecting water in dams and sharing water with animals. Some boreholes have broken down, associated with long lines, We do not have water for livestock, irrigation and drinking. They seen several consultants and are optimistic that the water scarcity problem will be solved.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Parish Councilor Myeba

Welcomed all residents and the consultant. Emphasised that the residents have wait for the project for a long time

Minute 4: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase.

Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

The Valuer indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 5: Reactions (Question and Answer)

You said water will be pumped to Kaduku Hill and then distributed through the UIA farm land, this means that some of the resident will not get water.

Response: A distribution will be extended to the trading centre and will then be back to the first trading following the road reserve.

If the distribution lines are following the road reserve will people on the other side of the road get water.

Response: People on opposite sides of the road will be able to get water.

If wanted water at my place, will I be charged and how much will be the cost.

Response: The cost of extending water is not yet known, however in the due course the costs for connection will be communicated.

The water your are bringing, will it be paid for?

Response: Yes, the water is going to for paying, but the advantage is that the clean water will be brought closer to the people and the project will save residents a lot of time and health related cost.

Are there jobs for the locals?

Response: Yes, there will a number of job opportunities in which the local residents can participate from trenching to masonry jobs.

Minute 4: Closing Remarks from LC III Kimengo S/C

This project is huge and the district cannot afford to implement such a mega project. He encouraged residents to pay for water when the time comes because it is better as compared to the current situation.

He encouraged the residents to allow the project to proceed in case implementation starts before people receive their compensation.

He encouraged people to be patient with the project although it seems to have taken long to start.

He indicated that they are hopeful that the next team to come will come along with the project contractors.

He thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR KINUMI VILLAGE IN MIRYA SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 18th June 2025

Time of Meeting: 2:00 p.m.

Venue of Meeting: Kinumi Trading Centre

Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

People want water that is why they are here because they have suffered a lot due to collecting water in dams and sharing water with animals. Some boreholes have broken down, associated with long lines, We do not have water for livestock, irrigation and drinking. They seen several consultants and are optimistic that the water scarcity problem will be solved.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase. Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

The Valuer indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 4: Reactions (Question and Answer)

Question 1: For the water we are going to receive is it for paying?

Response: Yes, the water shall be for paying

Question 2: If someone is in 1 kilometre will the project extend water to such people

Response: Yes, depending on the resources of the person who wants the water

Question 3: For the PSP established, who will be responsible for managing the facility.

Response: Water User Committees shall be constituted to manage the public PSP

Question 5: Do public institutions have a chance to have water extended to them.

Response: Yes, all institutions are prioritised to receive water

Question 6: When can we expect the project to start.

Response: The project will commence very upon providing all the necessary documentations to the bank to release funds

Question 7: Are there jobs for the locals?

Response: Yes, there will a number of job opportunities in which the local residents can participate from trenching to masonry jobs.

Question 9: If the project passes on my land and there is nothing affected, will I be compensated?

Response: No, the project is only paying for easement. We encourage that those may not receive any compensation residents should allow the project to proceed.

Question 10: As you can see, we a low income earners and request that when the time comes for us to get connected let the charges be affordable.

Minute 4: Closing Remarks from LC III Kimengo S/C

Apprecaitted government for the project because it was long overdue.

She encouraged those who attended the meeting to share the information with those who did not attend the meeting.

She encouraged the LC I and the team to sensitise the community not to stop the project during implementation

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR KITWETWE VILLAGE IN MIRYA SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 19th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 2:30 p.m.

Venue of Meeting: Kitwetwe Trading Centre Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Opening prayer led by the LC I Chairperson

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

Thanked the lord for having enabled the Consultant to reach Kitwetwe, Indicate are egger to here from the consultant and asked residents to be attentive and opened the meeting.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase. Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

Informed the meeting that there are three other teams which are behind including the Land surveyor team, valuation team and the socio-economic team.

The Valuer also indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He informed the PAPs that after the census they will be left with a copy of a valuation data capture form. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 4: Reactions (Question and Answer)

If pipes targeted passes through someone house what will happen?

Response: The transmission line has been design to follow the road reserve and all buildings have been avoided.

Will peoples crops be compensated?

Response: The project will compensate trees and crops along the right of way of the transimission and distribution lines.

If the road works start in the near future won't it affect the pipes?

Response: When road works commence, the contractor will relocate the pipe systems.

Shall we be required to pay for water?

Response: Yes the water will for paying however when the right time comes the information will be shared.

Minute 5: Closing Remarks from LC III Mirya S/C

The Chairperson concluded by emphasising that the people should be compensated fairly because in other areas they have heard people complaining of delayed compensation and adjourned the meeting.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR KIDIDIMA-KARWALA IN KIMENGO SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 19th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 10:00 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: Kimengo Sub-County

Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

LC I Chairperson, welcomed all residents to the meeting, and Consultants. Appreciated the people for embracing the government programs

He informed the meeting that the Consultant has been around for some time and has engaged leaders at different level.

He informed the meeting that the project has water for irrigation to enable people cultivate through all the year as the President always encourage.

He encouraged people to allow government projects to go through their land for the development and services to be extended to the community.

He requested members to pay attention in the meeting and asked residents to ask questions as many as possible.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase. Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

The Valuer indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 4: Reactions (Question and Answer)

Question 1: If someone wanted water for business, will they be given?

Response: Yes, the water shall be given.

Question 2: If someone is in 1 kilometre will the project extend water to such people and how much will it cost

Response: Yes, depending on the resources of the person who wants the water additionally when the time for connections information will be shared.

Question 3: Other places have been mentioned but Kalangwe has not been mentioned yet it is water stress.

Response: The project will be expanded with time to cover water stressed areas.

Minute 4: Closing Remarks from LC III Kimengo S/C

Appreciated government for the project because it was long overdue.

Informed the meeting the for the past 18 months the Consultants have been in the Sub-County planning the project.

He encouraged the LC I and the team to sensitise the community not to stop the project during implementation

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR MASINDI PORT SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 19th June 2025 **Time of Meeting:** 10:00 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: Masindi Port Sub-County

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer

- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

LC I Chairperson, welcomed all residents to the meeting, and Consultants. Appreciated the people for embracing the government programs

He requested members to pay attention in the meeting and asked residents to ask questions as many as possible.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase. Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

The Valuer indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 4: Reactions (Question and Answer)

Question 1: What is the name of the company that will be constructing the project?

Response: Yes, the company shall be introducing when the project commences.

Question 2: If someone wanted private water, will they be given chance to apply for the water.

Response: Yes, depending on the resources of the person who wants the water additionally when the time for connections information will be shared.

Question 3: Is the project targeting the whole sub-county or only a few places in the subcounty.

Response: The project will start with a few places and will be expanded with time to cover water stressed areas.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR NYAKARONGO KIMENGO SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 20th June 2025

Time of Meeting: 2:00 P.m.

Venue of Meeting: Kalwala-Nyakarongo Village

Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Led by community member

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

LC I Chairperson, welcomed all residents to the meeting, and Consultants. Appreciated the people for embracing the government programs

He requested members to pay attention in the meeting and asked residents to ask questions as many as possible.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase. Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Encouraged those in the meeting to inform all those who have not attend the meeting to be present during census.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

The Valuer indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 4: Reactions (Question and Answer)

Question 1: If someone has a plot in the centre, will they be given an opportunity to get water for business?

Response: Yes, residents will be given water for business.

Question 2: You said that water will reach the trading centre but the people here live deep in the village will the water be extended inside the village?

Response: Yes, depending on the resources of the person who wants the water additionally when the time for connections information will be shared.

Minute 5: Closure

The Chairperson appreciated the people of Nyakarongo for attending the meeting and asking the questions. He emphasized that the project is going to benefit the community will positive impact the lives of the people now that government has remember the people of Kimengo Subcounty.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR KADUKU VILLAGE IN MASINDI PORT SUB-COUNTY

Date of Meeting: 20th June 2025

Time of Meeting: 2:00 P.m.

Venue of Meeting: Kaduku Village

Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the LC I Chairperson
- 4. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 5. Reactions
- 6. Closing Remarks from the LC III Chairperson/Representative
- 7. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

Led by community member

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the LC I Chairperson

LC I Chairperson, welcomed all residents to the meeting, and Consultants. Appreciated the people for embracing the government programs.

He mentioned that people of Kaduku have attend several project meetings and when they heard of this meeting, they have come to hear for themselves.

He requested members to pay attention in the meeting and asked residents to ask questions as many as possible.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Area Councilor

He informed the meeting that government programs should be embraced but it is rare for people of Kaduku for attending meeting but he is surprised that for water project they have come in big numbers indicating they realise the water challenge at hand. He conclude by thanking government for the project.

Thanked God for the project because almost everything has died. They requested the project to be implemented first. In some areas like Hoima people have embraced irrigation and this project will boost food security in the area.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

Welcomed all residents to the meeting,

Informed the meeting that the project has gone through several phases including feasibility studies and design, ESIA and now at RAP level to secure the right of for the project infrastructure.

This is a donor funded project which required that RAP is undertaken, this acquisition will be mainly for permanent structures and the pipe right of will be acquired as easement.

After this assessment the RAP report will be approved by CGV and disclosure and payments done. Called upon all likely PAPs should be available during the enumeration phase. Mentioned that the project will likely utilise the road reserves but in some parts it will cross on peoples land.

Encouraged PAPs to come along with a note book to also record what the valuation teem will have recorded for transparency purposes.

Encouraged those in the meeting to inform all those who have not attend the meeting to be present during census.

Discouraged residents from impersonating others because this is against the law and anyone found guilty will be prosecuted.

The Valuer indicated to the residents that the project will use either Kiryandongo or Masindi district compensation rates. He requested that the community identify areas where PSPs will be established and also the Cattle troughs.

Minute 4: Reactions (Question and Answer)

Question 1: Is there compensation for properties that are going to be affected?

Response: Yes, people will be compensated.

Question 2: What procedure was followed to select the farmer who are going to benefit from the irrigation components?

Response: The project beneficiaries will be selected in a transparent manner?

Question 3: Will the project provide jobs for the residents of Kaduku?

Response: Yes the project will employ local people?

Question 4: What is the project going to compensate which the project is going to pass?

Response: The project is going to compensate mainly crops, trees, and movable assets such as kiosks and report will be submitted to the CGV for approval.

Question 5: We have had water in this town before but as you can see, they have stopped working because they were done poorly and request that this time work is done properly? Additionally will the water be for paying or it is free gift from government?

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR NATIONAL FOREST AUTHORITY

Date of Meeting: 22nd July 2025

Time of Meeting: 10:30 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: National Forest Authority Head Office Board Room

Agenda

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Self-Introductions
- 3. Remarks from the Chairperson
- 4. Remarks and presentation from the Consultant (Ardent Services International)
- 5. Discussion
- 6. Closure

Minute 1: Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer from one of the staff members who was chosen by the chairman of National Forest Authority.

Minute 1: Self-introductions

Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Chairperson

She first of all welcomed all members present in the meeting and continued by applauding the consultant for the punctuality given that the meeting was communicated on a short notice.

She added that they were not involved in the initial stages in that they are even wondering how far the consultant as gone with the ESIA and wondered whether it was approved yet.

Further, she requested for the coordinates of Kaduku and Kitukuza forest where the reservoir, treatment plant and the transmission lines are going to pass. She also notified the Consultant that the EIA should have taken precedence.

She added by requesting for a joint inspection most especially along the hotspots for verifications that is to say Kaduku forest and Kitukuza.

She also inquired whether the NFA field offices in in Kiryandongo and Masindi were engaged respectively.

She concluded by calling upon the Consultant to give remarks and proceed with the presentation to the meeting.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The team expressed appreciation to the NFA for the warm reception and formally introduced the Multi-Purpose Water for Climate Resilience and Irrigation Development for Livelihood Transformation (MWACRID) Project. The project is targeted for implementation in the sub-

counties of Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, as well as Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.

The Consultants presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project. They emphasized that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), as the implementing agency, holds the mandate to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. In line with this, the consultants highlighted the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) as a key project component, which will guide the fair, lawful, and transparent acquisition of land and compensation of affected persons.

The Consultant explained that RAP process is informed by comprehensive technical and socioeconomic assessments, including land use analysis, livelihood profiling, population dynamics, and mapping of community infrastructure with the aim is to minimize displacement by prioritizing the use of existing road reserves and public land. However, where land acquisition is unavoidable, it will be undertaken in strict compliance with Ugandan legal frameworks and the African Development Bank (AfDB) environmental and social safeguards. The team underscored that stakeholder engagement, including gender-sensitive planning, will be integral to mitigating resettlement impacts and fostering community acceptance.

The Consultant proceeded to demonstrate the alignment of major project components using Google Earth imagery, elaborating on the project's objectives, scope, and key infrastructure elements drawing special attention to environmental considerations, particularly the presence of ecologically sensitive areas along the proposed route in this context, Kaduku Central Forest Reserve (CFR) and Kitukuza Forest Reserve identified as critical ecological zones likely to be significantly impacted by project activities, including the construction of a reservoir and water treatment plant.

These areas are acknowledged as important forest ecosystems requiring the application of rigorous environmental safeguards. The consultant team emphasized the need for technical guidance and collaboration with the National Forestry Authority (NFA) regarding land use in these reserves.

Additionally, the consultants sought clarification from NFA on the status of land within Kaduku and Kitukuza Forest Reserves, where the tank reservoir and treatment plant are proposed to be located, respectively. A request was made for technical guidance regarding the boundaries of a 50-acre area within Kaduku, amid concerns raised by some stakeholders who claimed that the land may belong to the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom.

The presentation further detailed the proposed route of transmission lines extending from Masindi Port to Kaduku Hill, the designated site for the reservoir. Kaduku was identified as a technically optimal location due to its high elevation and central position within the broader project area, which would enhance water distribution efficiency across the service zones.

Minute 3: Reactions

During reactions, several key concerns and clarifications were raised and addressed as follows:

3.1 Sizes of Transmission and Distribution Corridors:

NFA inquired about the legal right-of-way dimensions for the transmission and distribution lines. It was clarified that the main transmission line requires a 6-meter corridor, while distribution lines require a 3-meter corridor.

3.2 Nature of Line Installation (Underground or Overhead):

There was a query regarding whether the lines would be overhead or subterranean. The team responded that the transmission lines are planned to be installed underground.

3.3 Environmental Considerations:

NFA emphasized the need to minimize environmental impacts, particularly in forested areas. They recommended using a single transmission corridor instead of cutting through multiple sections of the forest to reduce fragmentation and habitat disruption.

3.4 Kaduku CFR Land Ownership Clarification

It was clarified that the Kaduku CFR area falls under the jurisdiction of the NFA, contrary to initial information indicating it belonged to the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom. Although engagement with the Kingdom remains acceptable, official documentation confirms NFA's ownership of Kaduku Forest.

3.5 Requirement for Comprehensive Assessments:

NFA advised that multiple assessments be conducted prior to determining the land value. These include forest assessments to evaluate the ecological and economic significance of the area and to ensure minimal impact. The assessments should also inform the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), its associated mitigation measures, and the valuation of opportunity costs related to land use.

3.6 Biodiversity and Offset Planning:

Biodiversity offset measures must be considered, particularly in relation to the Kaduku CFR. The design should be reviewed and revised where necessary to minimize ecological fragmentation.

3.7 Technical Coordination Requirements:

It was requested that project coordinates be shared in .kml format to support spatial planning and environmental analysis.

3.8 Valuation of Affected Natural Resources:

Special attention should be paid to valuating affected pine trees and assessing the presence of flora and fauna within the project footprint, to determine potential environmental impacts.

3.9 Livelihood Considerations:

The team was reminded to consider licensing arrangements related to tree farming in the area. Additionally, livelihood support measures should be aligned with the legal documentation from NFA, confirming government ownership of Kaduku CFR.

3.10 Assessment Timelines:

The meeting concluded with a request for a clear timeline indicating when the recommended assessments environmental, social, ecological, and economic will be undertaken to inform the way forward.

Minute 4: Closure

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer from one of the volunteer from NFA.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING MWE WETLANDS RESSOURCES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Date of Meeting: 24th July 2025

Time of Meeting: 10:00 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: Assistant Commissioner's Office

Agenda

- 1. Self-Introductions
- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the Assistant Commissioner Wetlands Management
- 4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The Consultant presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, underscoring the Ministry of Water and Environment's (MWE) role as the implementing agency mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. A key feature of the project is its reliance on water drawn from the Nile River, with some components designed to traverse the Nile riverine wetland system. In line with MWE's mandate, the preparation of an ESIA and RAP was highlighted as a critical component to guide a fair, lawful, and transparent process of land acquisition and compensation for project-affected persons. The project is planned for implementation in the sub-counties of Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.

The consultants explained that the RAP is being developed based on detailed technical and socioeconomic assessments, including land use analysis, livelihood profiling, population studies, and mapping of community infrastructure. The approach prioritizes minimizing displacement by utilizing existing road reserves and public land where possible. In cases where land acquisition is unavoidable, the process will strictly adhere to national legal requirements and the African Development Bank's (AfDB) environmental and social safeguards. The team further emphasized that meaningful stakeholder engagement, with a strong focus on gender-sensitive planning, will be essential to mitigating resettlement impacts and ensuring community support for the project.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Assistant Commissioner

The Assistant Commissioner emphasized that all farming activities should be located outside the designated wetland buffer zones. It is critical that the integrity of wetlands is maintained throughout the project lifecycle.

The Commissioner advised that the project must be mindful of the types of chemicals that will be used by farmers. Proper agro-chemical management practices should be integrated into project planning to minimize potential environmental contamination.

The Commissioner stated that there is no objection to the project proceeding. However, this is conditional upon clarifying specific aspects related to environmental protection and water resource use.

It was noted that it is important to establish what crops or agricultural products farmers will be growing under the project to assess compatibility with wetland conservation objectives.

The Commissioner requested information on the estimated volume of water to be abstracted per day for irrigation and other uses. It was emphasized that the project proponents must apply for and obtain a water abstraction permit from the relevant authority.

All physical infrastructure and project components must be sited outside wetland buffer zones to avoid encroachment and degradation of wetland ecosystems.

Minute 4: Closure

In his closing remarks, the Assistant Commissioner requested that the project team clearly avoids wetland buffer zones in all designs, prepare and submit details on crops to be grown and chemicals to be used by farmers, provide estimated daily water abstraction volumes and initiate the permit application process.

The Assistant Commissioner expressed the need for a field visit to assess the potential impacts of the project, especially in areas where farming will be implemented. This will allow for a better understanding of the on-ground context and inform decision-making.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR BUNYORO KITARA KINGDOM

Date of Meeting: 28th July 2025

Time of Meeting: 10:00 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom Secretary's Office

Agenda

- 1. Self-Introductions
- 2. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 3. Remarks from the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom Secretary
- 4. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International Ltd).

The Consultant presented an overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project, underscoring the Ministry of Water and Environment's (MWE) role as the implementing agency mandated to ensure environmentally and socially responsible development. As part of this mandate, the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) was highlighted as a critical component to guide the fair, lawful, and transparent process of land acquisition and compensation for affected persons. The project is planned for implementation in the sub-counties of Masindi Port and Kigumba in Kiryandongo District, and Miirya and Kimengo in Masindi District.

The consultants explained that the RAP is being developed based on detailed technical and socioeconomic assessments, including land use analysis, livelihood profiling, population studies, and mapping of community infrastructure. The approach prioritizes minimizing displacement by utilizing existing road reserves and public land where possible. In cases where land acquisition is unavoidable, the process will strictly adhere to national legal requirements and the African Development Bank's (AfDB) environmental and social safeguards. The team further emphasized that meaningful stakeholder engagement, with a strong focus on gendersensitive planning, will be essential to mitigating resettlement impacts and ensuring community support for the project.

Additionally, the consultants sought clarification from the Kingdom on the status of land within Kaduku and Kitukuza Forest Reserves, where the tank reservoir and treatment plant are proposed to be located, respectively. A request was made for technical guidance regarding the boundaries of a 50-acre area within Kaduku, amid concerns raised by NFA who manages the CFR.

Minute 3: Remarks from the Secretary

The Kingdom Secretary clarified that Kaduku Hill, where the Central Forest Reserve (CFR) is located, belongs to the Kingdom. He emphasized that the Kingdom has long-term plans to construct the Kingdom Palace on this hill.

It was noted that the Kingdom currently lacks the capacity to manage some of its properties, including Kaduku Hill. As such, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the National Forestry Authority (NFA) to manage the area on behalf of the Kingdom.

The Kingdom is open to providing alternative land for the development of the project in the event that Kaduku Hill is not available. However, the Kingdom formally requested that boundary opening and valuation assessments be carried out to ascertain the value of the land, and that the Kingdom's interest in Kaduku Hill be duly compensated if the project takes place there.

The Kingdom Secretary highlighted that the Kingdom owns over 49 acres of land where the proposed treatment plant is to be located. However, there are squatters currently occupying parts of this land, which may need to be addressed during project implementation.

The Kingdom requested that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) officially write to the Kingdom indicating their intentions to develop Kaduku Hill. This formal communication is necessary for transparency and proper coordination moving forward.

Minute 4: Closure

In closing, the Secretary requested for site visit to Kaduku CFR, indicated that MWE has to write officially to the Kingdom regarding Kaduku Hill intentions. Initiate boundary opening and valuation assessments for Kaduku Hill. Discuss potential compensation mechanisms for the Kingdom's interest in the land and assessing the situation regarding squatters on the treatment plant site.

MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN THE SUB-COUNTIES OF MASINDI-PORT AND KIGUMBA IN KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT; MIRYA AND KIMENGO IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

MINUTES OF RAP PREPARATION CONSULTATION MEETING FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS IN MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

Date of Meeting: 29th July 2025

Time of Meeting: 10:00 a.m.

Venue of Meeting: Assistant Commissioner's Office Ministry of Works and Transport

Agenda

8. Self-Introductions

- 9. Remarks from the Assistant Commissioner Environment and Social Safeguards
- 10. Remarks from the MWE Team.
- 11. Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).
- 12. Reactions
- 13. Closure

Minute 1: Self-introductions

1.1 Self-Introductions were made as listed in the attendance list.

Minute 2: Remarks from the Assistant Commissioner/Chairperson

The Assistant Commissioner welcomed the Consultant and the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) team to the Ministry. He extended apologies for the limited space, explaining that the Ministry is still undergoing reorganization following the merger of UNRA and MoWT.

He informed the meeting that his office is responsible for overseeing all Environmental and Social (E&S) issues related to national roads. Upon receipt of the project introduction letter, it was promptly assigned to his department for attention.

The Assistant Commissioner expressed appreciation to MWE for proactively engaging stakeholders, emphasizing that this is the appropriate and preferred approach for ensuring sustainable project implementation.

He noted that he had a brief overview of the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project and expressed confidence that more detailed information would be shared by MWE and the Consultants during the meeting.

The Assistant Commissioner stated that MoWT has no objection to the implementation of the project, provided that all anticipated impacts are effectively managed and the necessary approvals, particularly from the Road Engineering Department, are secured especially in relation to road crossings.

He cautioned the project team against duplicating compensation along the Rwenkunye—Masindi Port road corridor, where road construction is already underway and compensation had previously been undertaken.

He concluded his remarks by inviting the Ministry of Water and Environment to present their official statements and continue with the meeting agenda.

Minute 3: Remarks from the MWE Team

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) representative welcomed all participants to the meeting and expressed appreciation to the Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT) for their attendance, and to Ardent for organizing the session. The MWE team emphasized that the Masindi Port Bulk Water Transfer and Irrigation Infrastructure Project is a transformative initiative covering the districts of Masindi and Kiryandongo.

The project aligns with the objectives of Uganda's National Development Plan IV (NDP IV), particularly in improving livelihoods and enhancing climate change resilience. Key project outputs include the irrigation of approximately 4,000 hectares of land, provision of water to large-scale farmers including those under the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), and the supply of clean water across both districts. Given the project's scope, particularly the extensive pipe distribution network that may cross national roads, MWE stressed the importance of close consultation and coordination with MoWT.

Minute 4: Remarks from the Consultant (Ardent Services International).

The Consultant welcomed all participants to the meeting and clarified that the purpose of the consultative engagement was to seek guidance on the procedures and requirements for crossing national roads, particularly the Gulu-Kampala Highway. This is intended to ensure the smooth implementation of the project and inform the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). The consultant further requested input on how potential negative impacts could be mitigated.

Using Google Earth imagery, the consultant presented the locations of key project components, with particular focus on the water abstraction point, which is situated approximately 300 meters from the existing ferry port. Additionally, the consultant highlighted the proposed construction of a bridge connecting Apac and presented the specific sections where the project is expected to cross national roads at five different points.

Minute 5: Reactions

MoWT appreciated the Consultant for the informative presentation and commended the design team for their strategic approach in minimizing the number of road crossings, which reduces potential disruptions. MoWT emphasized the importance of ensuring that the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) implementation includes thorough community sensitisation to enhance community buy-in and cooperation. It was noted that the section of the project where the road crosses the Gulu-Kampala Highway is prone to flooding, and this issue should be addressed in the design and implementation.

Additionally, concerns were raised regarding the increased risk of HIV transmission during the construction phase, especially in light of reduced donor funding for HIV-related interventions.

Minute 4: Closure

In his closing remarks, the Assistant Commissioner MoWT concluded by committing to relay the outcomes of the discussion to the Commissioner for National Roads, who will provide further guidance and schedule a follow-up meeting to advise on procedures for crossing national roads.

Appendix III: Attendance Lists







CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) UNDER THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO, UGANDA

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CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) UNDER THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO, UGANDA

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CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) UNDER THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO, UGANDA

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| Activity: | Engagement. | Date: 18/02 | L. 2 26 |
| Venue: Myela, T. | Division/Town; | Kyneney r | 12 |
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| Name | Telephone | Position Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to take pictures | Sign |
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| KIBA JAME | | member | | | 1 | ~~ |
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| KUDEDA OCOXIV | 07855727 | 2) marier | | q | | COME |
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| JAMES OBOLU | 076344165 | member | | F | | Para 1 |
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| MAPANO MARZINIA | 15 | 7.7 | | m | | 74. |
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| 3. NAKAMYA M | TA. | // | 25CO,1092466 | + | | N-M |







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| 1. WASAUM FRANCES | 078 7888349 | KIWETWE | - 5p. 3cA | M | | Kareyr |
| 2. Masench Juliet | 5768469hoo | Kitwetwe | | F. | | PARK |
| 3. Wathun Robard | 0778599670 | Whyethe | | m | a | 21th Shap |
| 4. ORINGI FRANCIS | 077016 8275 | | | m | | out |
| 5. Sahirge yesero | 07153 736310 | Belgerebuse | | ur | | Mare |
| 6. DCEN FRANCIS | 0785286489 | Kifuel lune | Th. | M | | Films. |
| 7. OPOKA EMMA | . ~ | KLTWE TWO | | m | | april |
| 8. ABREVAHILA JOILEPH | 6781206B41 | ATHETURE | | 01 | | |
| 9. ATHEMISI SIMON | 07735478 | | | n | | afi |
| 10. ISINGOMAJACKSON | 07853999 | KITWETUE | | m. | | -012 |
| ATIMATUGO DOREGIU | _ | KITWETHE | - | F | | ay |
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| 13. PAMUNIGU ALIMA | | KITHIETHIE | And the second | 7 | | Cee |







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| 1. FAMBLE EVELYM | 8 8 35 8 5 14 | | KITHIETHIE | 14 | take pictures | Pea |
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| SAM NYAMUSINGMOR | 077 5004242 6 | 1995011 2 CI | OciTraction: | M | | Now |
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CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) UNDER THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID) PROJECT IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO, UGANDA

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| Name | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to take pictures | Sign |
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| 3. ORYEMA CHARLES | 0770831181 | | Ke die tru to | m | | do |
| 4. Dr. Jalkson | 0755672078 | Kadurin | Vadukuii | m | | diane |
| 5. S. W. T. YUSUF | 078085484 | 1 | 12adyshy 17 | m | | 116 |
| Dukula Cherles | 0775069510 | 11 | 11 | m | - | 505 |
| 6. OHENWING CHARES | | | Kand T | m | | Chases |
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| 9. 1 Shekoogise God | 0769075534 | _ | V J. V. | | | ORE CO |
| 10. Kemirems ERIZabes | 07884998 | ł | Karly Ke TI | T. | | N. C. |
| 11. TUD DISTORTE | 0779897984 | KADWACE II | KADUKU | m | | the way |
| 14150 B17121C | 078891642 | 2_ | KADUKU. | F | | Plus |
| 12. WAYDING JAME | 078/201057 | | Kadniku II | E | | |
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| CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND PROCActivity: Venue: Ladular | JECT IN MASINI | DI AND KIRYANDO | NGO, UGANDA | ate: 20 | PURPOSE VITION (MW. | ACRID) |
| Name | REG | Division/To | will the little | ch ? | 1. C | |
| 1. | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to | 61- |
| 2 Busporls George | 0775 304132 | Kaduku I | Value | | take pictures | Sign |
| BESHRI YUSEN | | KGOLKU FI | Manke (1 | m | Shi | |
| BUSADA-BENSON | 0743706398 | TUFOMA | The True | M | EM ZODEFILE | |
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| 1. DMOGHE ET TEN | 0758530838 | LCI KABU | KU II | M | Time partites | 0 |
| UNITED O KIUN DOUNN | 0704786432 | Sechcil | Maria | M | | THATUS !! |
| 3. KARAN (MG BRED) | 0782062025 | JOHN LICI. | | -0/ | | 2 |
| 4. DYFRIGHT BAZIL | 0777350409 | COUNCILL | D G | 100 | | Jano |
| BYRHANGETE GEOFREY | 0773004212 | | KADKUK | m | | Hon |
| Munica Robert | 0752929386 | | MADKUKT | m | | mugis |
| MUGICA DILLER | 0762665505 | | KA DUKU T | F | | Materia |
| 8. BALINARIAA ALEX | 0776404138 | | Kaduky 7 | m | | |
| MUBISA SLOCIUS | 0783797818 | no moneios | Kulute T | m | | Just |
| 10. KUSIIMA SYLIVIA | 076582669 | | KUDUK I | E | | K.5 |
| 11. KAHWA JOYCE | 6779021624 | WOMENIC | KADUKUI | 1= | | Janes . |
| BADIONOAE CITACE | C779825428 | | KADUKU I | 7 | | aug? |
| 13. WINFIELD YASSIN | 0797226131 | | WASIEKUTT | M | | the state of |







| 70000 April 1000 1000 1000 | | A THE SAME AND KIRTANDONGO, | |
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| Activity: | My mund | tropingment. | 5. 5 |
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| (60.00) | | Division/Town: | Kaderku T.C |

| Name | | SISTRATION FORM | | | | |
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| | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to take pictures | Sign |
| Selcondi sylvist | 0787873PL | LeT | Waitenso | 1 | | D. |
| TOLAHURWA ENOCK | 0770784186 | | LKADUT " | ha | | THEWE |
| Turnwing Isaat | 07-79026783 | | KATU90 | M | | patries |
| K1-6-0 (a.M | 8789929261 | | KADUKU | M. | | Spin |
| Muzamil Icsa | 0775239716 | L. C. I | Kalino | M | | Mizko |
| HVGOR 11600 | 078446248 | - Fdy mer | Kingola | in | | 0 0 |
| OKET, NELSON | | | KIKALTO | m | | Company |
| OCURE RICHAD | | | KITUKUZA | no | | BA |
| Lacu Charle | 0782150272 | and the same | RNENKUNG | M | | 61'ma |
| MPAMGIRE RASID | | CP Dishal | 2.10.10 | m | | |
| DEEN DHIB | 078474 | 7 7 700 | Kitukuza | | | aver |
| BESISIRA HARUNHA | 078856798 | · DEC | KIKITO | iu | | The same of the sa |
| 3. TUMMING FRED | 07050435 | | Kindaua | M | - | Rai |







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| 1 por osibire | | _ | KARYKU | m | man pictures | 42 |
| TUBLINE WILLSON | 0285617408 | _ | KAPUKUI | m | | Gous |
| 115 CHAHITUE MALOVE | 0789893518 | _ | KADUKUT | m | | 460 |
| LOMBA ISAAC | 0789234495 | | KADUKUT | m | | (Dunt) |
| CAUTICO HA | | - | KADOKOB | - | | -6- |
| MUNGOMA SAMES | 0753962615 | | 12 ADURU TI | M | | - Min |
| KASILI DAVID | 0778214656 | | KAD9 Kett | n | | a |
| KILMRISI OLIRA | 0780575087 | _ | KADURUTI | 4 | + | OLIRA |
| BISIKI DAVID | 0779043546 | 9m ALC | MASINDIPORTI-SEC. | W | | (3) Inc |
| KARASWA JOSEPH | 0779727499 | | KADYKYIT | M | | BOU |
| | | | KADUKUD | F | | Segvie |
| KOMAKECH VINCENT B. NABIFO ROSE | 0751159714 | | KADUKUTU | M | | the state of |
| ITABIFO KOSE | 018 24 10738 | | KADUKU II | P | | · GALL |







CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) UNDER THE MULTI-PURPOSE WATER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT FOR LIVELIHOOD TRANSFORMATION (MWACRID)

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| Activity: Government Community | KIRYANDONGO, UGANDA |
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| and the comme | 8 -et Date: 1906/2025 |
| Venue: Godidiment | Division Town: My and a SIC |

| Name | RE | GISTRATION FORM | VI | 8 | | |
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| 1. | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to | Sign |
| DALLICA ALEDNOOD | 0788542282 | MEMBER | KIKATTA | uid. | take pictures | |
| MUNUMUM MORINA | 07731359LD | | KAUKusa | E | | 1 |
| Microt Byslika | 0714653650 | member | 1.1 | F | | of the state of th |
| Myangoma Toyer | 1 | 11 | - 11 | + | | P |
| Akenkunda Sharan | 07798446 | 3member | kunnika | Ŧ | | |
| Kirolika | 0785F162504 | member | Kerryska | Ŧ | | Sharor |
| MACINDE ENLIN | OF8 9 10 442 3 | monhey | Kimyoke | M | | K.m. |
| will the Lommand | 0782812335 | | GIMYOKA | P1. | | ent |
| OPAR Romadus | A-1- | member | KITUKUZA | m | | El Securi |
| NAMAGANDA ASSO | The state of the s | Op Jouth | KISBIHI | m | | O Time! |
| NABANIA HASIFA | 0783734635 | | KIMYaka. | E | | Assa |
| HAMUTESA TOPISITE | 070146411 | mountar. | Kinsyaka | F | | NS |
| | 10.31170 | W. Gugalage | Himagola | F | | NI |







| lame | REG | GISTRATION FORM | | 8 | | 255 |
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| · Ov | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to | Sign |
| Okumu Musik | 079063951 | MA PARM CLA | Kingory | m | take pictures | Utro- |
| ALINDA JOSHVA domakech Bonny | 0700708510 | YOUTH CIP | MAKUANDI | M | | Awas |
| 110 NAD GABATET | 04-626127-40 | fout secretary | Mitaking | M | | City I |
| Δ | 0782403414 | CHERSON L-CI | WATERNES | m | | 1 |
| | 0776424113 | | KYERIA | m | | Down - |
| Wash de Maria | 0789676177 | CIP monage | KHUQUZA P | F | S | Salam |
| Radelo Zubeda | 100 | | Kmiyogg | £ | | Mami |
| KASIFA Aming | 0775606967 | | Keriya | F | | Zen |
| MuPaya Ind V + A | 1738 159515 | | Kibirana | F. | | ATO |
| Opro Jourt | 0785622126 | | Kni en Kning | m | \$4.50.000 D | Mipa |
| KM BIBS PROSS | 0733622136 | CIPLET | KIRUM | m | | Of No |
| OwumA Morri | 0174773267 | | Broth shary | F | | Kom) |
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| SALAMA SILAGA | M23370 | ancialar | 100 | - | | - |

| 1. | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to take pictures | Sign |
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| 2 SALAMA SILAM | and 3330m | mainlane | Winney aller | 9 | | -53 |
| 3 ADOILORACH SUSAN | 0768645662 | | Lunyolka | F | | SUSSIT |
| 4. BAHIKHIKE HERBERT | 0782123138 | The state of the s | MYEBY | M | | Lo |
| 5, 1, | 0764612704 | | WAKISANTI | m | | Alleahiz, |
| 6. JANUA STONEY | MT8632379 | | Kinyoka | M | 10= | On ! |
| 7. KAGA MOSES | 0760073537 | | Kinnyosce | m | | Javiya |
| EDO JACK SON | 0779401290 | - | KIRULI | M | | - |
| 9. ANGOM GLORIA | 0785246174 | MEMBER | RWEMPONDO | m | | Ewer Acho |
| AKEIDHANGA DOGAMARY | P777618501 | member | Kiberane | F | _ | And. |
| GRACE WIACUMA | | m | | 6 | | CIN |
| 12. Omiya Fred | @783248957 | CIP | Kimyoxo | M | | yatility's |
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| Activity: Commy niby | _ spriftigation | D 20 100 10-5- |
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| Venue: BASCOLY | | Date: 25 / 06 /2025 |
| (3.0 | RECISTRATION FORM | |

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| MJAHBUBI JOICE | 0778633 | SK BISEMY! | 1 | | take pictures | |
| 2 AINATWA SARAH | 07-84 84172 | 31 1319 G BN 19 | | | | - Carl |
| ATUHAIRNE FLAZIA | 078863330 | | | | | 1942 |
| 4 Napadanzi FRNO | 0775630 | 301 1416 | | | | Attellaure |
| 5. Budaza Toseph | 076901308 | | 1 | | | RA |
| Marger prior | 07733725726 | 1/ | | | | 1 |
| 7. ONENRWOTH FINMANUE | 1 078143712 | BISENYI | | | | KA ZA |
| ATUANIAN COMPENS | 0765356127 | | | 1 | | 7 60 1115 |
| 9. Akulio Log | 0767114543 | 11.0 | | | | |
| MARIN LIBUS ENTERIN | 0737605208 | My Gody: | | | | akulo |
| 111.2 -0 1. | | Biomy | | | | 53 |
| BACINDA TWAN | 0764826746 | FICENTI | | Male | | an |
| 13. DKUMY M | | Boongi | | IV.GOD. | | |







| Activity: _ | Community Sartisation | |
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| | BISCO Division/Town | Date: 23 / 06 /2025 |
| 0.000 | Division/Town: | 272 |
| | RECISTRATION FORMS | |

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| | | | | | 11110 |
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| H8374pp | -do- | | Male | | Grus; |
| 0783295595 | 11 | | 111100 | | X |
| 0785579921 | BISGNY | | | | THE |
| 07872737 | | 00. 1 | | | |
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| 0760643779 | 53 SENY | | | 1 | Carina |
| 0761767595 | PARENI) | | | | 18XX |
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| 0787603242 | Biservi | | | | Gay with |
| | Telephone 8783286458 67215575 0744 946721 04614 12744 H83374500 0783295595 0785579921 07472787 0761767595 | 8783286458 8155444 672155952 BISENY 0794 946727 BISENY 076587274 DISENY 0783245595 1/ 0785579921 BISENY 078722364 BISENY 078722364 BISENY | Telephone Position Organisation 8783286458 | Telephone Position Organisation Gender 8783286438 8/32444 672155732 8/5/644 0744 946727 8/5/644 0761872749 Problem Poly 07618727378 // 0783275575 // 0785579921 BISEMY: 078727378 8/36644 0761767595 8/16/644) 6761767595 8/16/644) 6761767595 8/16/644) 6761767595 8/16/644) | Telephone Position Organisation Gender Consent to take pictures 8783286438 815EM 41 672165772 BISEM 41 0744 946727 BISEM 41 07461872749 BISEM 41 0783275575 1/ 0785579921 BISEM 41 0787273787 BISEM 41 0787273787 BISEM 41 0766643777 BISEM 41 0761767578 846611) BISEM 41 |



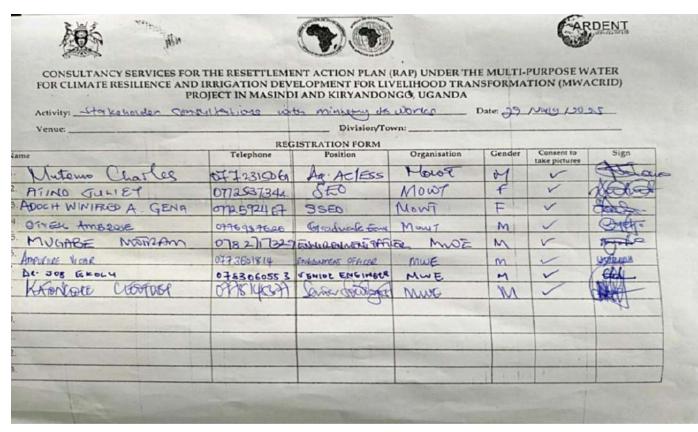




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| | Telephone | Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to | Sign |
| James Masola | 0774025519 | Brenny | Kimanilongo Suga | m | take pictures | - |
| OPOT FRED JOHN | 0720105768 | Bisery; | Marghions | m | | 4381818 |
| MASI GIALA JAMES | 0 776228296 | Br servy | masindi | hr. | | Thurse |
| KABUTJAMU BENSON | OT13843685 | Breeni | I VINASI NEI | M | | A Che |
| Ovona Kilaver | 077876900 | Bisany | | M | | A.B |
| OKEH-WENEY MICHER | 0790593015 | Bisary | | | | A.S. |
| BAGONZA DAVID | 0772476947 | BISENTI | MASINDI | 5.0 | | Over |
| | | | THEOLOGIC | M | | Mary |
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| CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE | FOR THE RESETTLEM AND IRRIGATION DE PROJECT IN MASINI | | | E MULTI | PURPOSE W | ATER ACRID) |
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| Activity: 57x + c H | IL DEPL Encin | GEM BHT | | Date: 24 | 107/2 | _ |
| Venue: MUE WELLAT | | Division/ | Town: Hakan | 44 | | |
| Vame | Telephone | ISTRATION FORM Position | Organisation | Gender | Consent to | Sign |
| Ongol Joseph | סחדדדדם 934 | Asst. Com | MWE, WMD | 173 | take pictures | Dan |
| | | No. Carlo | 1 3 | | | - Carrier |
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FIRST PHASE ATTENDANCE







STAKE HOLDER CONSULTATION LIST

Project Native Constructors for Fiasibility Studies for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation in Frastructure in Masindi District, uganda κ irryan δ on α o α α

| Date | 11/07/2024 | , | | | | | |
|------|--------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| | Name AMRING A DGO (A) | М | F | Designation | Contact | Signature |] |
| - | MPSUGA PERCY | V | | Agricultural Engineer | 0774626576 | 和 | 7 |
| 02 | V | ~ | | Enginee / nwe/way | 075523060 | 17: | 7 |
| | Museumure Somuse | M | L | 5460 | 072840 | 18 94 | |
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STAKE HOLDER CONSULTATION LIST

Project Name: CGMSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR MASINDI PORT BULK WATER SUPPLY AND IERIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA

PRS.TRIPATHI @ NOM 17/07/24 M F Designation DR. SANJAY TRIPATHI 0702172359 SAIN RAJ RISHNOI







Project Name: Consultancy Services for Feasibility Studies for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation infrastructure in Masindi district, Uganda

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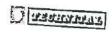


STAKE HOLDER CONSULTATION LIST

Project Name: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR MASINDI PORT BULK WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN MASINDI DISTRICT, UGANDA 1994

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STAKE HOLDER CONSULTATION LIST Project Name: Consultancy Services for Feasibility Studies for Masindi Port Bulk Water Supply and Irrigation Infrastructure in Masindi and Kiryandongo district, Uganda

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Project Name: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR MASINDI PORT BULK WATER

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Project Name:CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR MASINDI PORT BULK WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT, UGANDA

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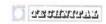


STAKE HOLDER CONSULTATION LIST

Project Name:CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR MASINDI PORT BULK WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN MASINDI AND KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT, UGANDA

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