

Forest Management

The Ministry of Water and Environment, through the Department of Forestry Management, is responsible for providing technical guidance, coordination and oversight for the sustainable management and conservation of Uganda's forest resources. The Department is the technical arm of the Ministry on forestry matters and works with District Forestry Services, local governments, communities, private sector actors and other partners to promote responsible forest management.

Forest management focuses on conservation of natural forests, restoration of degraded areas, sustainable forest utilisation, plantation development, biodiversity conservation, protection of water catchments and other critical ecosystems, and promotion of community participation. Forest Management Plans provide a framework for guiding the management, protection, development and utilisation of individual forest reserves.

Uganda has 506 Central Forest Reserves, which are managed under the Department of Forestry Management. The Department also provides forestry technical support, regulates forestry-related activities and contributes to forest monitoring, assessment, boundary management and enforcement.

Through sustainable forest management, the Ministry seeks to maintain biodiversity, protect water sources and soils, support climate-change mitigation, provide forest products and ecosystem services, create livelihood opportunities and promote a sufficiently forested, ecologically stable and economically prosperous Uganda.