



Ministry of Water and Environment
Joint Technical Review 2017

Feedback from the Field Visit

Visit to Nileply plantation and factory

Group composition

- Ms Clarissa Mulders / DP / Consultant - MWE
- Eng. Disan Ssozi / Commissioner WESLD
- Eng. Gilbert Kimanzi / Assistant Commissioner / Water For Production
- Mr. Taire Idhwegi / Commissioner / EPF
- Mr. Moses Ssonko / Desk officer for MWE / MFPED
- Mr. Charles Byaruhanga / PFO / FSSD

Nileply host Officers

The team met:

- Mr. Rajbir Sing Rai / Director
- Mr. Prabhat and Luke General Manager and Manager respectively



What was seen.....

Visit at Nileply plantations:

Nsube plantation at Mutai village (Total area 706 acres = 282.4 ha) both pine and eucalyptus of local and GC 796/2 clones planted.

GC clones were performing well in the area.

The plantations were all well weeded with herbicides



Some farmers within neighbourhood were grazing animals in mature trees and a farmer informed the team he was not chased away by mngt.



Many farmers force their way into taugya whenever Nileply clear-fells trees. Nileply has managed to cope up with that culture but allows farmers to harvest one season in advance before replanting with trees. Only beans were planted.



Kagoma plantation (Total area 300 acres = 120 ha) has been harvested and Eucalyptus GC 796/2 clones replanted

Ngereka plantation (Total area 616 acres = 246.4 ha) pine, eucalyptus and Melia are planted



Comparison of good quality pine seed from Australia (left) VS local seed (right)

Nileply factory - located in Jinja town

- Can mill logs to sawn wood
- Can peel logs into veneers which in turn are joined to form plywood
- Some of the plywood are used in making particle boards and block boards
- All tree parts including sawdust or offcuts are utilised in production of particle and block boards
- Tree branches are used in generating heat in boilers for drying and gluing veneers for plywood or particle or block boards.
- Nileply factory in Nakasongola produces MDF (medium density fibre boards) for use in manufacturing very smooth and waterproof boards.
- Products are sold within the country and regional markets









What was learnt

- Eucalyptus needs thorough weeding just like agric. crops if you are to realize fast growth & more economic returns.
- Investment in fire management is crucial since insurance policy against trees is not expected in the near future.
- Promote good quality seedlings. Australian seed versus local seed or Brazil seed. Need for seed stands and seed orchards to reduce on importation costs.

Good practices in fire management:

- Construction of fire lines, fire towers for use in surveillance during fire season acquisition of firefighting tools.
- Good neighbourliness and sensitization of communities.
- Reducing a lot of dry biomass matter littered in the forest

What was seen as the main challenges for the sector

- **Specific to Nileply** - Challenges were not very many like in early 1990s where logs were mostly bought from public land. To date they have over 500 ha. harvested sustainably and being reinforce by private tree growers
- **To the Sector** - Dwindling forest resources
- Pressure on forest land due to use of agriculture land for sugar cane
- Regulations and enforcement of standards
- Lack of market for thinning's upcountry and not cost effective to harvest and transport to towns
- Lack of affordable and appropriate harvesting machinery for skidding and loading especially in hilly terrain

Policy recommendations

- Seedling sources and suppliers to be verified and certified. Each region should have regional certified nurseries and publicized.
- Large-scale investors like Nileply to partner with NFA and research institutions on seed stands establishment.
- Government to provide subsidy to insure tree growing against risks of fire, pests like it has set policy to insure agricultural crops
- More incentives for massive tree planting by all households with some land.
- For sustainability, environmental conservation should have some economics gains to succeed – be innovative.
- Avoid entertaining proposals by selfish individuals degazette some protected areas.
- Incentives to private forest owners. The high rate of forest degradation is on private land (PNFs) where government has little control.

- End

- Thank you for your attention