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**UGANDA
W&E
WEEK**

THE WATERFRONT

Newsletter

The 5th Uganda Water and Environment Week (UWEWK) started with pre-event activities that were conducted at regional level by Ministry of Water and Environment decentralized structures and partners.

The prevent activities included the 450km walk for water, regional youth debates, clean up exercise in Luzira and Kitintale, Water and Environment Week Marathon in Fort Portal and Kampala, and Prayers for UWEWK by churches under the Uganda Joint Christian Council. All these are highlighted in this newsletter

The week officially starts on Sunday, March 20th – 25th, 2022 with the opening ceremony at Ministry of Water and Environment's main auditorium. The Guest of Honor is the Vice President of Uganda, Her Excellency Jessica Alupo. A number of key guests will make remarks during the opening ceremony including: Mr. Hans von Schroder, Deputy Ambassador of Germany, Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo, United Nations Resident Coordinator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Antony Joseph Zziwa, Chairperson of Uganda Joint Christian Council and Hon. Sam Cheptoris, Minister of Water and Environment.

This year's UWEWK is being held under the theme, "Water and environment for peace and socio-economic transformation of Uganda" and will run from March 20th – 25th, 2022.

Since its inception in 2018, the UWEWK seeks to contribute towards the attainment of sustainable socio-economic transformation and achieving Ugandan National Development Plan and vision 2040. It provides an interface between sector actors and other stakeholders.

UWEWK pre-events



Dr. Callist Tindimugaya, the Commissioner, Water Resources Planning & Regulation Department, Ministry of Water & Environment



Students planting trees

What this year's UWEWK will explore

There are 5 sub-themes under this year's UWEWK theme. In this column, we highlight what they will explore and what to expect under each sub-theme

- Promoting peace and stability through water and environment resources

This sub-theme seeks to raise awareness of the complex inter-linkages between threats to both the natural world and human security. It will explore the relationship between water, environment and peace, especially in fragile contexts. The subtheme will further explore linkages between water, environment, climate change and foreign policy. It will also focus on benefits of cooperation over shared water resources, the role of improved water and environment management in fragile contexts and how water diplomacy can be a powerful tool for conflict prevention and peace building. The role of security agencies, cultural and religious institutions, media among other in fostering water and environment in promoting peace and risk reduction and conflict resolution.

- Building resilience to various risks and shocks.

The sub-theme will highlight the importance of water and environment as essential to ecosystem-based adaptation, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to building resilience. Policy options to deal with shocks and build resilience of the people, ecosystem and the economy will be discussed. Public-private partnership opportunities will be explored in building resilience of water and environment systems. The sub-theme will also explore overall current approaches for mitigation and adaptation to climate change through interventions for water and environment management and opportunities provided through COP 26 Commitments.

- Financing Water, environment and climate change

This sub-theme will focus on financing opportunities for water, environment and climate change in Uganda and the role of water

and environment business incubation for job, employment and wealth creation in Uganda. Financing water and environment responses and interventions will require developing bankable water and environment investments, while creating jobs such as green jobs, wealth especially for the youth and women, while ensuring sustainability of the resources.

Focusing of financing will explore opportunities for innovative solutions to more efficient and productive development and management of water, environment and natural resources to enhance creation of employment opportunities. Governance models for sustainable financing will explore the role of water and environment in implementation of Parish Development Model, through supporting economic growth through community-level initiatives such as; crop production and productivity, hydropower generation and industrialization, tourism development, health, food security, and infrastructure development.

- Partnership and intersectional collaboration in water and environment management and development.

This sub-theme will explore the role of partnership and intersectional collaboration in management and development of water and environment for sustainable development. It will explore how collaborative partnerships can improve financial resource base for water and environment sector and culturally aligned as priority area in Ugandan budgeting system. The sub-theme will also present case studies on building equitable and sustainable partnerships, success stories of collaborative intersectional partnerships among others.

It will also discuss and evaluate various forms of partnerships such as investment partnerships; planning, monitoring and implementation partnerships; policy and regulatory partnerships; evidence generation partnerships; coordination partnerships and assess how they can be strengthened to create and sustain synergies and collective action.



Runners getting briefing



Representatives from MWE & District Local Government in a radio talkshow



The Minister of Tourism, Tooro Kingdom Hon Joan Kantu Else flagged off the 21km route runners



Students join the activities



The 450km walk for Water, Environment and Climate Change

The 450km walk for Water, Environment and Climate Change from Kampala to Lira city by the Uganda Walkers Association was conducted in two weeks from March 3rd to 18th, 2022. The walk was flagged off on March 3rd, 2022 at Ministry of Water and Environment offices by Hon. Aisha Sekindi, the State Minister of Water who highlighted the need to ensure integrated management and development of water and environment resources.

The walkers covered the 450kms in two

weeks and had a number of stop-overs at designated points along the route, joining communities, institutions in creating awareness, demonstrating best practices and action on ground for clean and healthy water and environment.

The walkers were received in Lira City on Friday, March 18th, 2022 thereby crowning off the Northern regional pre-commemoration of UWEWK 2022. Celebrations were held at Lira city mayor's gardens and they were graced by the Mr. Agelo Lawrence, the Resident

City Commissioner - Lira City, Mr. Sam Atul the Mayor – Lira City, Mr. Tom Okurut, the Executive Director, National Forest Authority (NFA), the Chairperson of the board of NFA, Eng. Chris Ebalu, the Commissioner for Wetlands Management Department, Mr. Kiwanuka Gwamu, the Town Clerk Lira city, and Dr. Florence Adongo, the Director, Directorate of Water Resources Management. Other activities included a march through Lira city, a clean-up of the market, tree planting at the mayors' gardens and recital of poems.



Walkers on the 450km journey



Walkers set off at Ministry of Water and Environment offices in Luzira
Page 3

Markets in Luzira cleaned up

On Friday, March 18th, 2022, the Ministry of Water and Environment and its Agencies together with its partners namely Development Partners (GiZ), Kampala City Council Authority, Buganda Kingdom, Nile Breweries, NGOs namely Life Water, Uganda Joint Christian Council, three schools namely Luzira primary school, Luzira secondary school and joined hands to conduct a clean-up exercise in the four markets of Luzira, Kirombe, Kitintale and Port Bell. The Ministry liaised with the Local Council leaders in the respective areas, leaders of the markets, traders and community members to clean up the markets and the surrounding areas and promote good standards of sanitation and hygiene. This is one of the pre-event activities conducted by sector stakeholders as a build up to commemoration of UWEWK 2022.

At Kirombe zone market, representatives from Buganda Kingdom, Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Constantine Mbonabingi, the Chairperson of Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) joined the area market leadership, traders and well-wishers to clean the market. Dr. Callist Tindimugaya, the Commissioner, Water Resources Planning and Regulations at Ministry of Water and Environment appreciated the community, Buganda Kingdom, UJCC and other development partners for the participation in the clean-up exercise.

Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Constantine Mbonabingi emphasized the importance of keeping the envi-



Cleaning exercise in one of the markets in Luzira

ronment clean and called for preserving and protecting wetlands and forests from encroachment. In Port Bell, Luzira, the clean up exercise was attended by local leaders including area councilors, the Bishop of the Orthodox church, the Chairperson LC I Luzira Port Bell. Hon. Balimwezo Ronald Nsubuga, MP Nakawa Division, His worship Paul Mugambe, the Mayor, Nakawa division, Muwanika Muhammed, the Chairperson LC 1 Kitintale, Alireki Wilson, the KCCA Solid Waste Officer, Ms Racheal Babirye CWIS project and the KCCA Community Activation Teams all participated in the clean-up in Kitintale. Partners called for routine joint clean up exercises and engagement of communities and local leadership in ensuring that the environment is clean.



Cleaning exercise



Cleaning exercise



Tree Planting

UWEWK Regional Activities

A number of pre-event activities related to the UWEWK were conducted nationally by the Ministry of Water and Environment decentralized structures.

The Northern region cleaned up Dokolo market and thereafter handed over the cleaning materials to Dokolo Town Council for the sustainability of a clean environment. The team welcomed the Walkers in Dokolo district. The team also conducted debates in 4 secondary schools namely Lira Town College Secondary School, Lira Secondary School, St. Catherine SS and Dr. Obote College SS. Three primary schools namely VH primary school, Lira Police primary schools and Adyel primary schools participated in poetry recitals on the motion, 'Human activities have done more harm than good.' The efforts were appreciated by Hon. Sam Atul, the Lira City mayor who urged the schools to compete regionally and nationally.

The Karamoja regional team conducted community mobilization and house hold visits aimed at creating awareness on open defecation and its impacts on health. The team also conducted a clean up exercise at Rupa sub-county in Moroto district. The teams also participated in the final site inspection of Morulem water supply system in Abim district and witnessed the operation and maintenance handover ceremony to the Umbrella of Water and Sanitation Karamoja.

The Albertine team marched in Kasese district to create awareness on the river Nyamwamba restoration activities, planted bamboo and fruit trees along River Nyamwamba to stabilize the river bank and conducted community aware-

ness campaigns on water source protection for River Aswa in Nyakisi sub-county, Kyakatuli village, Kyenjojo District. The LCV of Kyenjojo

The Karamoja regional team conducted community mobilization and house hold visits aimed at creating awareness on open defecation and its impacts on health.

District. Hon. Gilbert Rubaihayo also distributed tree seedlings to community members in Kyakatuli village for planting as part of promoting environmental protection. A clean up exercise took place at Kaswa Trading Centre in Kyenjojo District.

The Albertine region was joined by regional partners including CSOs and district officials to clean up markets in Fort Portal city, Kabarole district.

The Eastern regional team received the walkers from the Walkers Association in Namutumba district after walking 150km from Kampala. They were received by the Resident District Commissioner, representatives from Busoga

Kingdom, the district technical team and the team leader of Kyoga Water Management Zone. The team also planted trees at Kisiki college, marched through Namutumba town, conducted an environmental talk, visited Mazuba water scheme, Awoja wetland and on-going demarcation of Mpologoma wetland funded under GEF project of Ministry of Water and Environment. Additionally, radio talk shows were conducted including launch of the Tirinyi office, clean up exercise in Mbale and Soroti districts.

The Eastern team also conducted youth debates in universities and schools at Islamic University In Uganda under the theme, 'Water conservation; a necessity of the present to secure the future.' Students were also oriented on the functions of Ministry of Water and Environment by the team leader, Kyoga Water Management Zone.

The South Western region conducted tree planting exercises and cesspool emptying of Mwanjali market. Cleaning of the Kabale central market, march around Kabale municipality. LCV Chairperson of Kabale and government officials and public, Kabale university, brainstorm high schools. The team also conducted a symposium at Kabale University.

The Central region conducted a clean-up activity at Kings College Budo and tree planting exercises aimed at promoting environmental conservation. They also conducted promotional cesspool emptying in Nsangi.

A symposium was also conducted, recitals of poem, music skits, public dialogues and exhibitions. The Central regional team also led restoration efforts of Namaya wetland.



Garbage collection in the market



School children join UWEWK 2022 activities



Tree planting drive



South western team



School children take part in the Tree planting drive



Nakawa West MP Hon. Ronald Balimwezo joins the cleaning exercise



Briefing before cleaning started



Creating awareness for cleaning at the start of UWEWK 2022



General cleaning



Clearing trenches

The run for nature

The Albertine region held its Water and Environment Week from 13th to 20th March 2022.

The activities included a sanitation cup football match on 13th March 2022, a sanitation awareness campaign in Kabarole district and a water source protection awareness session for river Aswa in Kyenjojo on 14th March, 2022.

Schools and University debates were conducted on human activities in relation to water and environment in Bunyangabu and Kabarole districts on 15th March, 2022.

An Awareness campaign on Nyamwamba Catchment Restoration

activities in Kasese was held that included a band march and bamboo and fruit tree planting along the river Nyamwamba buffer zone on 16th March, 2022.

A clean up exercise of markets in Fort Portal City on 17th March, 2022. Tree planting and environmental protection campaign in Kamwenge and commissioning of a sanitation facility and a water reserve tank at Buvara primary school Kabarole on 18th March 2022.

A Save River Mpanga Marathon in Fort Portal City under the theme “run for nature” on 20th March, 2022.



Participants after the activities in western Uganda



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