



The Republic of Uganda

The Ministry of Water & Environment

**WATER DEVELOPMENT TRENDS IN UGANDA,
POLICY AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

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WATER DEVELOPMENT TRENDS IN UGANDA, POLICY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1 Introduction

Water is a key strategic resource, vital for sustaining life, promoting development and maintaining the environment. Access to clean and safe water and improved sanitation facilities and practices leads to improved health and are essential investments in human capital and therefore have a direct and immediate impact on the quality of life and contributing to long-term social and economic development, thus eventual elimination of poverty in rural areas.

Provision of safe water supply and sanitation facilities, their proper management and utilization, are necessary conditions for health and economic development. Poverty is caused by lack of clean water and poor sanitation because of the resultant disease burden and restricted production. The lack of access to clean water places a heavy workload on women and children who collect it from distant sources and who often have to wait for hours in queues. This practice results in children missing school and women having limited time for agricultural and other productive tasks. Owing to the long distances they travel to collect water, the average water use per capita is half the minimum recommended amount for drinking, cooking and adequate hygiene. Water handling and storage is often unhygienic, resulting in water from a safe source becoming contaminated by the time it is consumed, which limits the achievement of the intended health benefits.

Uganda freshwater is a strategic natural resource vital for life sustenance, socio-economic development and maintenance of the environment. The resource is finite and indeed vulnerable and there are, already, worrying cases of pollution and degradation of our water resources afflicted by both human and natural factors. Rapid population growth; increasing agricultural, urbanization and industrial activities; poor sanitation facilities and habits; and poverty are causing serious depletion and degradation problems of the available water resources. This coupled with inadequate reliable data and information on the country's water resources poses a big challenge to water resources managers and decision-makers

Although Uganda is considered well endowed with water resources, it is uneven temporal and spatial distributed. About 15 % of the land is covered with water. Direct rainfall is the most important source of water resources. The rainfall pattern has determined the local water resources, the land-use potential and influenced the population distribution. The average annual rainfall over most parts of the country is over 1000mm. However the Southwestern and central districts, northeast and the plains of Lake Edward and Lake Albert, receiving less than 1000mm, may be termed as semi-arid with unreliable rainfall. The rivers in these areas are seasonal, groundwater potential is limited and yields are low with small recharge rates. Surface storage reservoirs (tanks and dams) often receive insufficient inflow or have too little storage capacity due to siltation.

There is, therefore, a clear need for a framework for the water resource management and development through which priorities can be established and the protection and optimal use of the nation's water resources planned and assured. Secondly the government is concerned that the majority of Ugandans do not have access to clean, safe water in easy reach. Moreover, many water supply schemes constructed at great costs with public funds are not properly managed and maintained which greatly undermines government's efforts to provide vital water services to the people. The old supply –driven approaches to water supply schemes does not promote sustainability of facilities and services and new demand driven/responsive approaches promoting full participation of stakeholders including cost contributions are a must for effective use of available financial resources, and increase of access to safe water to the unserved Ugandans.

2 WATER SECTOR DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

The Government of Uganda has taken major steps to rationalize water resources management, development and the delivery of water and sanitation services. Water supply and sanitation policy in Uganda has developed over the past 15 years. During the 1980s much of the national documentation refers to a series of development plans, strategies and action plans which were planned and executed to varying degrees of success outside of an explicit sector policy framework. In the 1990s a number of a number of guidelines were prepared and studies undertaken by the Government which paved the way for the review of water legislation and sector policy development process. The following have influenced the sector development trends

2.1 Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP)

Poverty eradication is a fundamental objective of Uganda's development strategy for the next two decades Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) prepared in 1997, revised in 2000 and 2004 is the basic planning framework for the formulation and implementation of all sector policies, strategies and programs identifies water, sanitation and environment as one of the priority areas for poverty eradication. The broad strategies for implementing activities and programs in the Water and Environment sector in the revised PEAP (2004) falls under three pillars namely:

Pillar 2 Increasing production, competitiveness of Uganda's products and household incomes. It covers water for production and water resources management, among others.

Pillar 3: Strengthening security, conflict resolution and disaster management (includes water for security in North- eastern Uganda and provision of water and sanitation services in IDPs),

Pillar 5: Human Development covers water supply and sanitation, among others

Implementation of the PEAP is performed under the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), which integrates policy-making with expenditure based on strategic priorities and budget constraints.

2.2 Sector Policy and Legal Framework

Since mid 1990's, GOU has put in place comprehensive policies, legal and institutional frameworks for management of the water and sanitation sector. These include;- the

Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995), Local Governments Act Cap 243, Water Act Cap 152, and accompanying regulations [Water Resources Regulations (1998)), Waste Discharge Regulations (1998), Water Supply Regulations (1999), Sewerage Regulations (1999)], National Environment Management Authority Act Cap. 153, National Water & Sewerage Corporation Statute Cap 317, Uganda Water Action Plan (1995), National Water Policy (1999), National Environment Management Policy (1994), National Health Policy and Health Sector Strategic Plan (1999), National Gender Policy (1997)..Community Mobilisation and Empowerment Strategy (2006)

2.3 Water Action Plan

Since the 1990s, Uganda has registered increased interest in the management and use of water. Uganda is at the forefront of implementation of international water conventions and declarations and it is in this view, that Uganda assisted by Danida prepared a Water Action Plan (WAP) between 1993-1994 for water resources development and management. It is a framework for the protection and development of Uganda's water resources in conformity with the Water Act. It is a flexible and dynamic framework for development and management of the water resources of the country rather than the traditional prescriptive master plan. The Water Action Plan having identified the issues facilitated the development of the sector policy, water Act and relevant regulations.

2.4 Decentralization

Since 1993, Uganda has been undergoing a decentralization of responsibilities from central government level to district local government level, with the intention of forming decentralization to lower local governments as well. This shift of responsibility has had a profound impact on the players in the WSS sector. The center is to become policy setting to monitoring focused, rather than implementation focused. Districts became the main implementation agents.

2.5 Sector Reform

The Government of Uganda has reformed the water and sanitation sector in order to ensure that services are provided and managed with improved performance and cost effectiveness, and Government's burden is decreased while maintaining commitment to equitable and sustainable provision of services in Uganda. The reform studies resulted in development of Sector Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs) with appropriate policies, strategies as follows:

- i. **The Rural Water and Sanitation Strategy and Investment Plan (2000-2015)** (RWS-SIP 15) that requires US\$ 608million to increase the safe water supply coverage to 77% or US\$ 950million to increase the coverage to 95% by 2015.
- ii. **The Urban Water and Sanitation Reform Strategy and Investment Plan (2000-2015)** that requires US\$ 481million to provide 100% urban population with safe water supply and sanitation by 2015.
- iii. **The Water for Production Strategy and Investment Plan (2005-2015)** that requires US\$ 393 m by 2015 of which US\$ 146m is to be financed from public funds and US\$ 247m from the private sector and farming community.
- iv. **The Water Resources Management Strategy and Investment Plan (2005-2015)**, that requires US 61m. to promote integrated water resources management and development at both national and local levels.

2.6 Sector Wide Approach to Planning (SWAP)

SWAP framework for the WSS sector was adopted at the second GOU/Donor review for the Water Sector in September 2002. The move towards sector wide approach calls for GoU/donors to promote: uniform disbursement rules; uniform and stronger accountability rules; common indicators, joint appraisals and reviews

2.7 Millennium Development Goal

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002, upheld the millennium goal on water to **halve by the year 2015 the percentage of people without access to clean safe water and to follow a similar goal for sanitation**. The main task is to devise strategies of confronting water challenges of policy, water financing management capacity and adoption of appropriate technology in order to achieve the millennium target.

The Ministry has prepared strategy for attainment of MDG for the WSS. The Uganda MDG target for WSS is estimated at 62% by 2015.

3 WATER SECTOR POLICY.

The policy objective of the government with regards to water and sanitation sector should be seen within the broad context of national policies related to macro-economic policy, governance policy including local government. In summary, the main elements of these policies include Poverty eradication, Decentralisation, Increasing privatisation of existing public functions

The national water policy embraces the international resolutions, declarations and guidelines like The International Drinking Water supply and Sanitation Decade, 1980s, UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro (June 1992). The regional water issues under the Nile Basin Initiates and The Lake Victoria management programmes have also been taken into considerations

The National Water Policy was adopted in 1999 and sets the stage for water resources management and guides development efforts aimed at improving water supply and sanitation in Uganda. it promotes a new integrated approach to water management to guide the allocation of water and the associated investments. This new approach is based on the continuing recognition of the social value of water, while at the same time giving much more attention to the economic value of water. Key aspects include:-

3.1 Guiding Principles

The following principles, a derivative of the basic principles which characterise Government's commitment to reform in public service delivery in general are:

1. Application of a Participatory Demand Driven Approach to planning and provision of improved water and sanitation facilities.

2. Promotion of user ownership and management of services - backed by measures to strengthen local authorities and private institutions in implementing and sustaining water and sanitation programmes.
3. Management and planning of facilities at the lowest appropriate level.
4. Central Government to facilitate Local Authorities, Private Sector and Communities planning, implementation and operation and maintenance of rural water and sanitation facilities.
5. Districts and lower level local governments to include the water and sanitation plans and budgets into their rolling development plans and allocate commensurate resources.
6. Promotion of the full participation of women at all levels in sector institutions and in decision making.
7. Protection of the environment and safeguarding of health through the integrated management of water resources and liquid and solid waste. This will imply co-ordination but separate funding of water, sanitation and health education to ensure prioritisation of public health issues and maintaining co-ordinated management.
8. Allocation of public funds for water supply development activities to give priority to those segments of the population who are presently inadequately served or not served at all, and who are willing to participate in planning, implementation and maintenance of the facilities.
9. Sustainability to be a prime objective of all water and sanitation interventions: to guide regulations and policies, technology and design options and standards as well as guide implementation arrangements, capacity building strategies and thus ultimately the speed of achievement of sector targets.

3.2 Policies Strategies

The Water Policy outlines the strategy under five main headings:

- a) Technology and Service Provision
- b) Financing, Subsidies and tariffs
- c) Management and Sustainability Aspects
- d) Private Sector Participation
- e) Co-ordination and Collaboration

a) Technology and Service Provision

The majority of hand pumps in use around the Country are the U2 and U3 type which have been developed from Indian prototypes taking into account the local conditions. The

stocking and availability of spare parts is therefore facilitated through this technology “standardisation”.

b) Financing, Subsidies and Tariffs

Funding of rural water supplies, sanitation facilities and health education should receive an increased share of public funding to reflect its national priority.

Monitoring of public sector funding should ensure that equitable and effective use is made of resources in accordance with defined priorities. Thus the public investments and subsidies in the sector should be clearly monitored as a share of the national and local government budgets. The share of funding for software activities – for health and sanitation education and community mobilisation should be clearly monitored. The per capita investments and subsidies for both urban and rural water supplies and sanitation should be monitored and compared to ensure that priorities are adhered to nationally and locally.

Guidelines for Community contributions towards construction should be based on technology choices and be of a national character rather than project specific.

The amount of funds to be contributed depends on the technology type as follows:

Type of Technology	Community Cash contribution per Source (USh)
Springs.	
Small.	45,000
Medium.	45,000
Ex- Large	100,000
Deep borehole	200,000
Shallow well (motor drilled/ hand augured/ hand dug	100,000
Borehole rehabilitation	90,000
Gravity Flow Scheme	45,000 per tap.
Valley Tanks and Dams	Not specified - Determined According to Situation.

These contributions should be viewed as the absolute minimum. The communities should raise the contributions before construction starts as an element of a demand driven approach.

Local Authorities may decide to assist communities that cannot afford the cash contributions. This should be only in extreme situations otherwise community-based operation and maintenance in the future will be jeopardised. However, if a community genuinely cannot afford the outlined contributions either in cash or in kind, or, unless the

project is truly not the community's priority, it must be recognised that the operation and maintenance of the scheme is also beyond their financial capability. In such a case it becomes a "social mission" on the part of Government or Local government to intervene to bring such disadvantaged community up to the minimum national sector standard.

Cash contributions should be reviewed as the financial standing of rural communities improves and as a reflection of general cost increases. However, changes in rates should be uniform and not occur too often. The contributions and associated guidelines should be widely communicated.

Operation and maintenance costs for rural water supplies should be fully borne by communities although Central and local governments may have to subsidise certain costly repairs. However, full cost recovery of capital costs should not be expected from communities. Clear national guidelines should be instituted to this effect in order to avoid confusion and community expectations regarding full government responsibilities for operation and maintenance. This is further elaborated in the section below.

c) Management and Sustainability Aspects

The Water Policy discusses management and sustainability aspects under three headings:

1. Capacity building,
2. Operation and maintenance and
3. Sustainability and ownership,

Capacity Building

The Policy outline of capacity building of all relevant stakeholders is to be fully supported:

- Capacity building at central level to take into account the changing roles of Government under Decentralisation,
- Capacity building at District and Sub-county level to enhance their role in planning, monitoring and technical service delivery,
- Users to be empowered to effectively participate in planning and construction activities as well as being fully responsible for operation and maintenance,
- Special emphasis be given to training of women to ensure female user participation in planning and management.
- Facilitation of increased and improved private sector involvement in rural water and sanitation activities.

Operation and Maintenance

The principles of the Community Based Maintenance System are generally clear. Thus for rural water supplies:

1. Users are in principle responsible for operation and maintenance of facilities,
2. The private sector will in principle provide all technical services for operation and maintenance – including the provision and distribution of spare parts,
3. The role of Government and local Authorities is mainly to monitor, regulate and facilitate the performance of the private sector and user communities in operation and maintenance.

The current conditional grant can be used for “operation and maintenance” is an interim measure. Communities may also, in the long run, be able to fund actual rehabilitation. Funds for such purposes would however need to be collected from a larger pool of boreholes – e.g. by having the Sub-counties establish a common pool of funds for such major repairs beyond the financial capacity of individual user groups.

Sustainability and Ownership Aspects

Sustainability should according to the policy be a prime objective of all water supply and sanitation interventions. The Policy statement (p.19) “All protected water sources including gravity flow schemes in rural areas belong to the users”.

Appropriate and realistic monitoring of implementation as well as sustainability of facilities are established at the following levels: User Sub-county, District and Central Government levels.

d) Private Sector Participation

Government commitment to the privatisation process in all spheres of National development gives a conducive private investment atmosphere. In the water sector private participation is in the form of consultants and contractors investing in the design, construction and management of facilities. The contractors include those engaged in construction; supplies of hardware pump sets, other equipment and consumables; and billing.

Government has devolved the bore hole drilling function to the private sector, having put its equipment to the disposal of the contractors. This is to be fully supported as it demonstrates the Government’s resolve to the promotion of the private sector. Drilling companies contracted to carry out drilling activities in Uganda are those that are **fully registered** and **certified** as drilling companies by Directorate of Water Development (DWD).

Government has devolved the stocking and selling of spare parts for hand pumps from the Centre and the Districts to the private sector. Similarly some of the community level mechanics have been trained by the national projects and water related NGOs to repair and service the bore hole hand pump sets. This is meant to ensure sustainability in water supply. However, the low consumption levels of spare parts coupled with the robustness

of the pumps (leading to long service life) tends to discourage interested private sector investors.

The National Water Policy recognises the potential for application of private (O.B.A) investment arrangements involving Build -and -Operate -Transfer (BOT) and similar approaches. These approaches, while more suited to an urban setting, may have equal application to the rural growth centres. Considerable enabling sub legislation and policy will require development. This can most readily be achieved through a test case.

e) Co-ordination and Collaboration

The National Water Policy for Uganda identify need to enhance co-ordination and collaboration between the water and sanitation sub-sectors, so that they both adequately address environmental health and sanitation issues. This is done through:

The Water Policy Committee (WPC),

The WPC has been established by law, The Water act to advise the Minister for Water on policy setting and issues, of the water and sanitation sector.

Water Sector Working group (WSWG)

The Water Sector Working Group, is chaired by PS/MWE and comprise senior officials from DWD, NWSC and other line ministries (MFPED, MOH, MOLG ,MoES, MAAIF ,MPS) and Development Partners, UWASNET (NGO representatives). , to create a policy consensus, formulate sector strategies and prepare Medium Term Budget framework (MTEF), draw up investment programs and oversee the implementation of water supply and sanitation services.

Donor Forum

The country has received considerable donor support for funding the following development partners DANIDA, SIDA, UNICEF, EU, AFD/France, AUSTRIA, DFID, JICA, GTZ/KFW have played a key role in promoting water and sanitation services. In the past 5 years or so, we are experiencing more donor joint participation in Water Sector Working Group and processes and getting more confidence in the new approach. WSS Donor group meets monthly to reach consensus of sector development issues.

NGO Forum

Uganda Water and Sanitation NGOs Network (UWASNET) was formed in 2001 as an umbrella association for improved coordination, sharing of experiences and liaison with GOU and Donors. There are over 190 NGOs and CBOs currently undertaking water and sanitation activities in Uganda and are registered members of UWASNET.

Sector Reviews

Since 2001, Joint GoU/Donor Reviews are held twice in a year , With Joint Technical Review (JTR) in march and Joint Sector Review in September , where broad consensus are reached on strategic policy issues and undertakings to improve the sector performance and service delivery are received. Support is received from the donor community towards the Government's new approach.

District Water and Sanitation Committee(DWSC)

District Governments are being encouraged to set up District Water and Sanitation technical Committees (DWSC) to oversee and provide effective coordination of water sector activities in the respective Local Governments

4: Roles and responsibilities

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) has overall responsibility for setting national policies and standards, and priorities for water development and management. It also monitors and evaluates sector development programmes to keep track of their performance, efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery. Under the Ministry there are two agencies for water sector

- **The Directorate of Water Development (DWD)**, is the lead agency responsible for managing water resources, coordinating and regulating all water and sanitation activities and providing support services to local Governments and other service providers. DWD regulates water use and waste discharge, supports districts in implementing decentralised WSS programmes and implements scheme (new construction and rehabilitation) in small towns and rural growth centres. DWD approves local Government work plans and reports.
- **The National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC)** an autonomous parastatal entity established in 1972¹ is responsible for the delivery of water supply and sewerage services in 21 large urban centers These centers are Kampala, Jinja/Njeru, Entebbe, Tororo, Mbale, Masaka, Mbarara, Gulu, Lira, Fort-Portal, Kasese, Kabale, Bushenyi/Ishaka, Soroti Arua., Lugazi, Iganga, Malaba,Masindi, Hoima and Mubende

The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MFPED), mobilises funds, allocates them to sectors and coordinates development partner inputs. MFPED reviews sector plans as a basis for releasing allocated funds, and reports on compliance with sector objectives.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) is responsible for hygiene and sanitation promotion for households. It is responsible for the development strategies and for the provision of support to the decentralised structures.

¹ NWSC was established by Decree No.34 of 1972. This decree was repealed by Statute No.8 of 1995, referred to as the "NWSC Statute", which now governs all operations of NWSC

The Ministry of Education and Sports (MES) is responsible for hygiene promotion and sanitation in primary schools. It works to ensure that schools have the required sanitation facilities and provide hygiene education to the pupils. It also promotes harvesting of rainwater for hand washing after latrine use.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) is responsible for gender responsiveness and community development/mobilisation. It assists the sector in gender responsive policy development, and supports Districts to build staff capacity to implement sector programmes.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) spearheads agricultural development. This includes the use and management water for production (irrigation, animal production and aquaculture) at farm level.

Local Governments (Districts, towns, Sub-Counties) are empowered by the Local Governments Act (1997) for the provision of water services. They receive grant funding and may mobilise local resources for implementing rural WSS programmes and to support small town WSS. Local Governments, in consultation with DWD/MWE also appoint and manage private operators for urban schemes outside the jurisdiction of NWSC. Local Governments now carry out planning, budgeting and resource allocation, community mobilization and ensure their effective participation and involvement, follow up implementation by private sector and support the operation and maintenance of water services, monitoring, prompt accountability and reporting..

Communities are responsible for demanding for, planning, contributing a cash contribution to, operating and maintaining rural WSS facilities. A water user committee (WUC) should be established at each water point.

Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) are active in the provision of water and sanitation services (construction of facilities, community mobilisation, training of communities and local Governments, hygiene promotion as well as advocacy and lobbying. NGOs/CBOs have played an important role in the water and sanitation sector in Uganda over many years. They have supplemented the public sector efforts and ensured that concerns about the underprivileged are incorporated in the development process. Uganda Water and Sanitation (NGO) Network (UWASNET) was set up in 2000 to coordinate and act as a forum for sharing of experiences for NGOs active in the water and sanitation sector.. The MWE/DWD has entered into an MOU with UWASNET to support the operational arrangements of UWASNET secretariat, implementation of the capacity development framework for the sector NGOs/CBOs, and use of NGOs/CBOs for institutional and social development activities at district and lower levels. In all over 170 NGOs are been registered with UWASNET

5 SECTOR FINANCING

The Government's ranking of Development Partners support modalities, in descending order of preference are (i) General budget support, (ii) Budget support earmarked to the Poverty Action Fund (iii) Sector budget support (also called partnership funding) and (iv) Project aid.

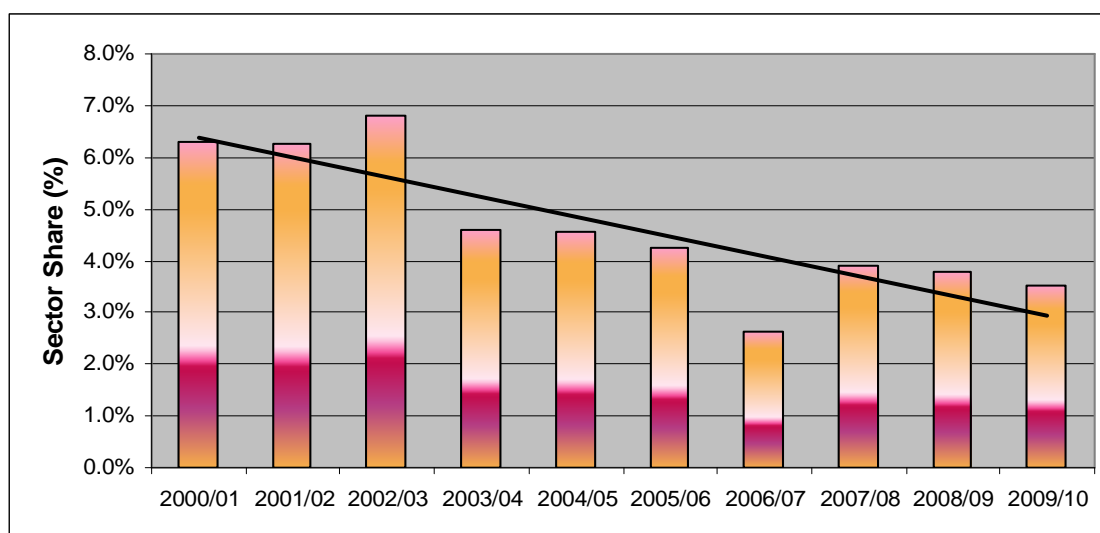
The financing of the water and sanitation sector include: The Rural WSS funds are provided as budget support by the World Bank, Danida, Sida and DfID and channeled directly to districts as District Water & Sanitation Development Grant. Five donors (Danida, Sida, DfID , Austria and Germany (GTZ)) have pooled funds together under the Joint Partnership Fund to implement six central programmes/components . Urban WSS investments are project based, but implement GOU sector strategy/guidelines other than project specific The Water Sector Working Group endorses and approves such projects and monitor its progress.

GoU, through the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), sets ceilings for funding to sectors of the economy. Total flow of resources to the sector increased from Shs.82.33bn in FY 2000/01 to 126.05bn in 2002-/03 and decreased to shs 99 bn in FY 2006/07 . As can be deduced from the graph, while GOU resources is projected to increase, the total resources envelope will reduce. Table 1 below summarizes resource flows to the sector since 2000/01 .

Table 1: Water Sector Budgets and MTEF projections, shs bn

FY	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Recurrent							
DWD/Wage	0.39	0.40	0.55	0.80	0.79	1.29	1.57
DWD/Non-Wage	0.54	0.57	0.46	0.51	0.57	0.78	0.79
Urban Water O&M Grant	1.31	1.31	1.33	1.45	1.58	1.43	1.50
Sub-Total (Recurrent)	2.24	2.28	2.34	2.75	2.94	3.50	3.86
Development Budget							
GOU-Central	28.68	28.68	22.97	29.32	17.24	29.08	21.29
GOU-DWSCG	20.90	24.05	24.49	29.60	29.60	29.66	40.66
Donor	110.00	106.31	163.33	87.27	109.91	97.69	33.30
Sub-Total (Devt)	159.58	159.04	210.79	146.19	156.75	156.43	95.25
Sector Totals	161.82	161.31	213.09	148.94	158.12	158.50	99.11
National Budget	2,567.9	2,567.9	3,136.1	3,146.1	3,454.4	3,713.3	3,774.4
% Share Nat. Public Exp.	6.30%	6.28%	6.79%	4.73%	4.58%	4.27%	2.63%

Chart 1: Water sector budget allocation as percent of national public expenditure



In addition NGOs provide off-Budget funding to the sector. Over 700 million were spent by NGOs on water and sanitation activities in FY 2005/06

6 Implementation Arrangement

The mechanisms for effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of water and sanitation services to the end users, on the basis of the strategies and funding mechanisms using SWAP are being used and include:-

Rural WSS- Government has adapted a decentralized management of the Rural Water and Sanitation provision and services to the local governments w.e f FY 2000/01. RWSS planning and implementation is undertaken by all districts. The underpinning approaches are (i) community driven demand and extension management, (ii) planning and management at the district level (iii) facilitation of this by the central government, and (iv) private sector involvement. Government provides funds directly to districts as District Water and Sanitation development grant. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is signed between MWLE and district to agree on annual workplan and roles. Central government task is now to facilitate the service.

Urban WSS- The basic principle adopted for this sub-sector is commercialisation and use of the private sector to improve on efficiency and reduction in operation cost to a level of breakeven and surplus funds from self-generated revenue from tariff. Pricing policies should balance the financial, economic and equity objectives. NWSC and Water Authorities will concentrate on strengthening operation management, asset inventory planning, monitoring the projects and commercial operations. Performance contract is signed between GOU (MFPED/MWLE) and NWSC. In turn NWSC signed incentive based Internally Delegated Management Contracts (IDAMCs) with the towns' area management. Development of water schemes in Small Towns are undertaken by DWD with active participation of Town councils, who are appointed Water Supply and Sewerage Authorities. The Water Supply and Sewerage Authorities then hire Private water Operators to operate the systems under a management contract.

Sanitation: *Memorandum of Understanding was signed in December 2001 clarifying sanitation roles between MWLE, MOH, and MOES. The lead central level institutions for defining strategies and plans in specific areas of sanitation and hygiene promotion would be:*

- MWLE for planning investments in sewerage services and public facilities in towns and rural growth centres;
- MoH for household hygiene and sanitation; and
- MoES for latrine construction and hygiene education in schools.

Each of the three sectors should prepare work plans and allocate appropriate budget provision from their ceilings

Water for Production.: The Water for Agricultural production is a shared responsibility. The water sector is the lead agency for water supply development and agriculture sector is lead agency for water use and management at farm level as pelt out in the MOU signed between MWLE and MAAIF in April 2006

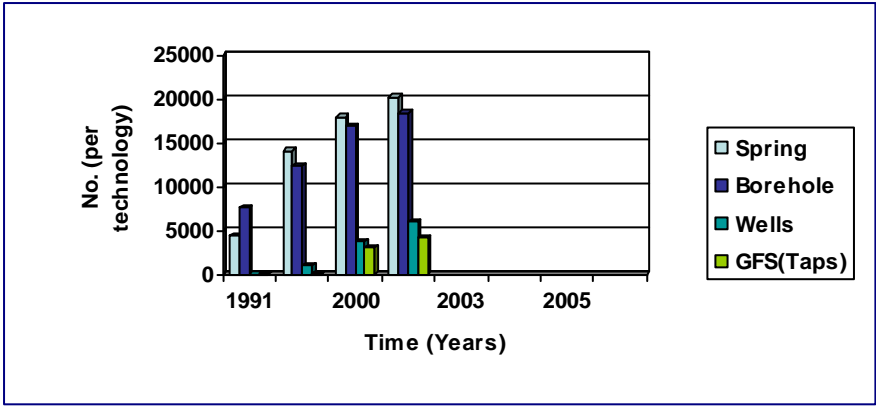
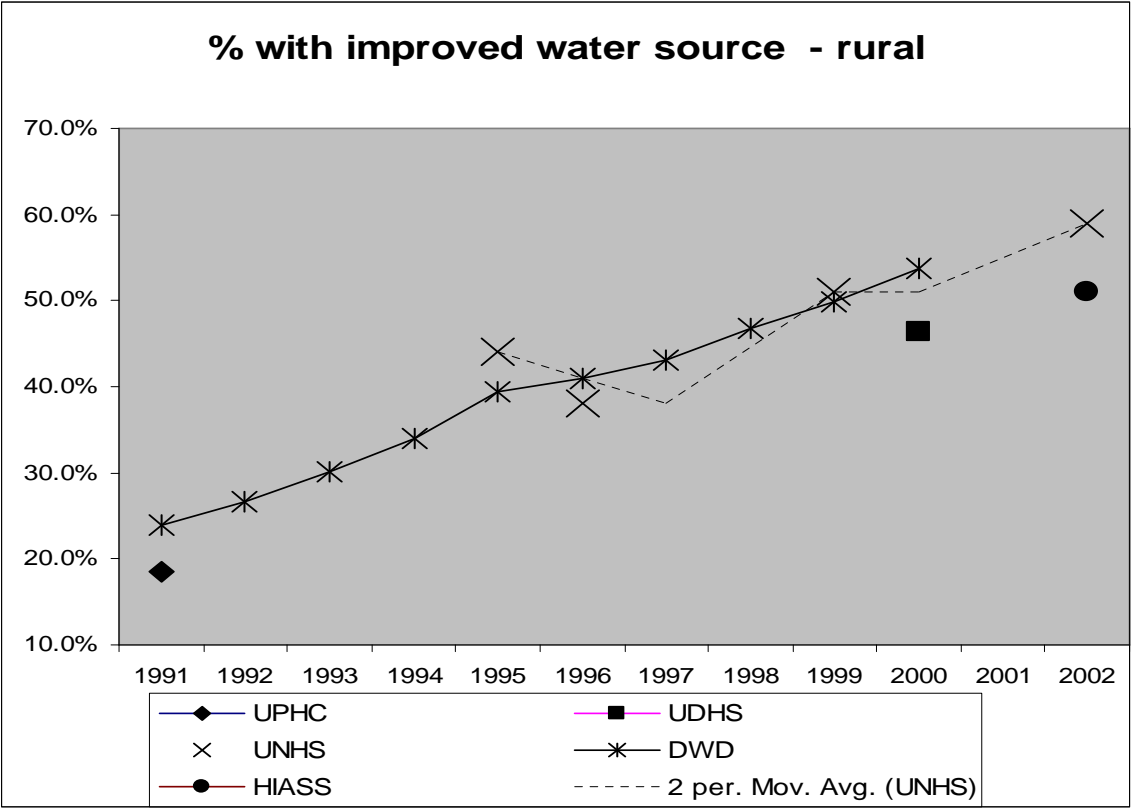
7 ACHIEVEMENTS

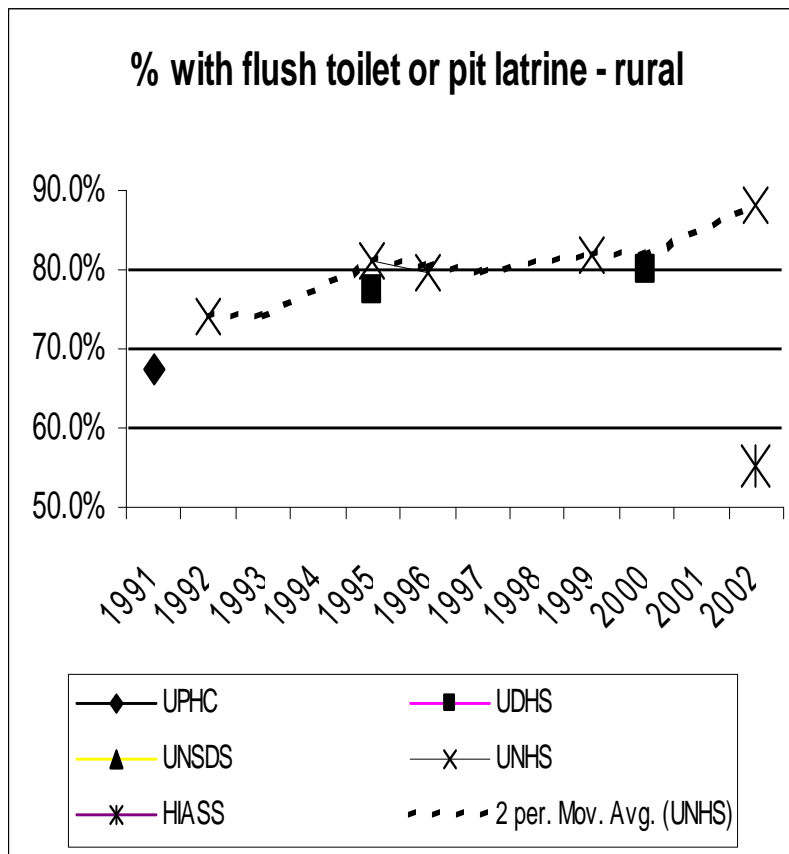
The overall objectives of the Government for water resources management, water supply and sanitation and water for production respectively are as follows:

- “To manage and develop the water resources of Uganda in an integrated and sustainable manner, so as to secure and provide water of adequate quantity and quality for all social and economic needs of the present and future generations with the full participation of all stakeholders”*
- To provide “sustainable provision of safe water within easy reach and hygienic sanitation facilities, based on management responsibility and ownership by the users, to 77% of the population in rural areas and 100% of the urban population by the year 2015 with an 80%-90% effective use and functionality of facilities”*
- “To develop water supply for agricultural production in order to modernise agriculture and mitigate effects of climatic variations on rain fed agriculture”*

The water sector capacity and performance has continued to improve and significant outputs have been realised in relation with resources flow to the sector and utilised under the different sub-sectors as follows.

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS):. The safe water coverage increased from 18 % by June 1986 to 61% by 2006. However, there are wide variations of coverage between districts, from as low as 25% to over 80% for some districts and sanitation services access vary in the same manner. Over 20% of rural water systems are non-functional. Water handling and storage is often unhygienic, resulting in water from a safe source becoming contaminated by the time it is consumed.

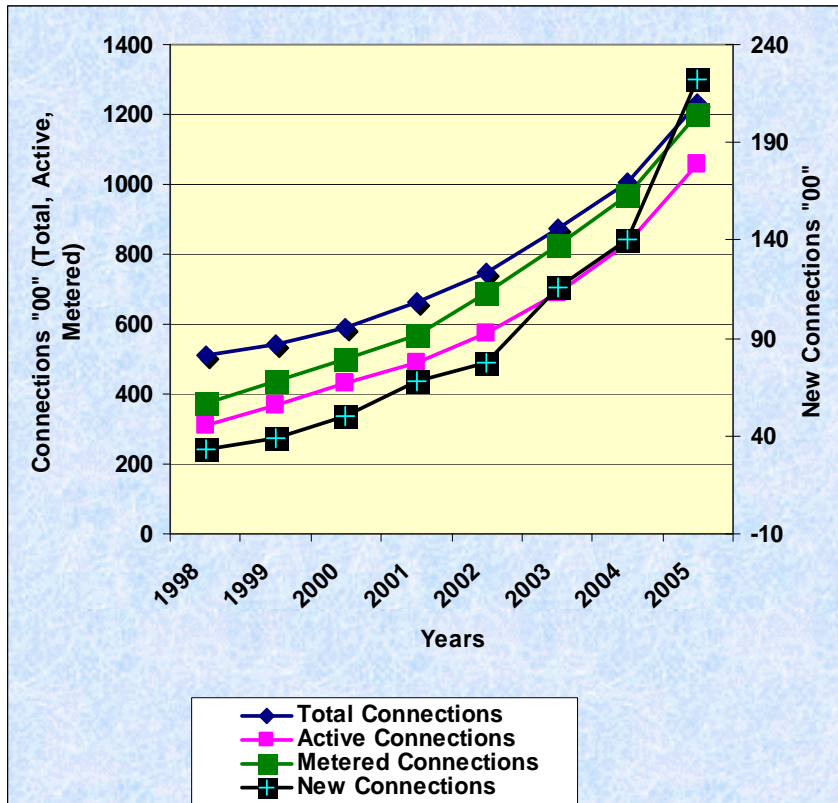




Small Towns WSS: Constructed 56 new water supply schemes, rehabilitate 9 water supply schemes and 15 town water supply schemes are under construction. The water coverage increase by 50%. The per capita investment cost has varied between US\$70 – 120; with an average of US\$75. A total of 10 private operators manage 57 towns out of the 62 operational small town water supply systems

Large Towns WSS: Service coverage increased from 20% in 1986/99 to 68% by 2006 in the NWSC operated urban water systems. Over the past 5 years the performance of NWSC has improved considerably, connections from 50,826 to 110,000, new connections per annum from 3,317 to 20,000. UFW decreased from 51% to 33.5%, staff per 1,000 connections reduced from 36 to 6, metering efficiency increased from 74% to 97%, collection efficiency increased from 60% to 96%.

Graph NWSC performance over the years;



Water for Production: Since 1999/2000, surface reservoirs of total capacity 3.1 million cubic metres has been built in the districts of Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit , Mbarara,Kumi , Rakai, Kyenjojo, Luwero , Nakasongola and Masindi districts to meet the dry season water requirements to 16% of the current national livestock population.

Water Resources Management: Significant progress has been achieved during the last nine years regarding implementation of WAP these include:-Introduction of permit Systems, water resources monitoring, Water quality laboratory facilities installation and water analysis, National information on water resources provision.

The following has been achieved: (a) Sustained monitoring of Water Resources with the following networks - 57 Surface water, 16 groundwater and 122 water quality stations countrywide; (b) Established a National Water Quality Laboratory; (c) Water Resources Management and Development Improved; (d) Established the permit systems and about 170 permits were issued to major water users and waste water dischargers; (e) International and Regional collaboration were strengthened through NBI, LVMP and EAC; (f) Mitigation of Lake Kyoga Floods; (g) Training of Staff. All these interventions/achievements do not translate into increased service delivery outputs but are very crucial for rational planning and sustainable management of the nation’s water resources to meet today’s and future water demand/needs.

Almost the whole county lies within the Nile basin, therefore there has been remarkable achievement in international and regional collaboration with riparian states under the Nile Basin Initiative aimed at sustainable use of the Nile water resources; Lake Victoria

Environmental Management Programme and other donors supported initiatives, which now offers a great opportunity for sustainable management of water resource.

Sector Programme Support (SPS)

To promote Effective planning, Coordination and Management of water and sanitation sector, Sector Programme Support (SPS) has spearheaded Institutional reform and Capacity Building of DWSD, NWSC and Local Governments, train sector personnel at all levels, Strengthen the regulatory functions at all levels. Hold WPC, JSR, JTR, WSWG, established sector MIS at DWD, MWE and Districts, Implement Sector Communication Strategy, Sector Monitoring and Evaluation, including Value for money and tracking studies., Support NGOs and Promote Private sector participation. Eight technical support (TSU) have been established to support a group of districts.

8 Key Issues and Challenges

There are a number of challenges that need to be addressed, these are:

- (i) Water and Sanitation sector is a shared responsibility and thus there is need to strengthen the interaction between MWE, other line ministries and development partners in order to promote a sector-wide approach to developments in the sector;
- (ii) There is an inadequate resource. 5 year WSS Sector Development plan (2007-2011) need US\$ 1,088 billion (US\$ 585.4 million) or US\$ 117 million per annum to achieve the targets for RWSS, UWSS, WfP, WRM, SPS, administrative costs.. However, MTEF allocation to this sector amounts to approximately US\$ 60 million per annum thus leaving a funding gap of US\$ 57 million per annum
- (iii) There is inadequate capacity at local governments and Community levels. This Need for capacity building and institutional reform at the local government to undertake their roles. The need to build the capacity of the user communities to operate and maintain the established facilities sustainably
- (iv) There is inadequate capacity at National level, in particular DWD, the Lead sector Agency and this further coupled with some staff still glued to project aid approaches.
- (v) Inadequate private sector capacity, especially in Dams and valley tank construction
- (vi) Poor O&M culture

9 CONCLUSION

Government is on track in achieving the water and sanitation goals. The sector is now geared towards the implementation of the new approaches and will endeavour to improve on the weak areas to ensure the sector services are provided in cost effective, efficient and high quality of services and thus the sustainability aspects. Institutional attention should shift from implementation to better planning and quality assurance of service delivery.