RESEARCH GAPS, CAPACITY GAPS AND DATA GAPS IN ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AT THE NATIONAL LEVELINUGANDA

EXPLORE UGADDA THE PEARL OF AFRICA





Persistent ENR Management Challenges inherited from NDP I, II, III to NDP IV

- The deteriorating state of ENR (quantity, quality, productivity and diversity)
- Compliance enforcement challenges; excessive reliance on command and control (laws, regulations and policies) and limited use of economic incentives
 - High costs (real and monetary) of compliance enforcement
- The persistence of income poverty to the ENR dependent populations;
- Low value addition to ENR
- Excessive reliance on the market prices to make major decisions yet many ecosystem services do not have market values
- How to make markets work for ENR
- Balancing benefits and real costs of natural resource conservation?







Meeting the Persistent ENR Management challenges

- Why have these challenges persisted?
- What are we not doing right?
 - Are there any policy gaps, implementation gaps/failures?
 - What then is the appropriate policy mix?
- What can we do better in NDP IV and how?
 Meeting data gaps as we go to NDP IV







THEMATIC RESEARCH AREAS

Environment and Natural Resource Governance

- Reviewing Policy, legal and institutional frameworks for effective ENR governance and management; their effectiveness and efficiency in delivering ENR services
- Reviewing the effectiveness and efficiency of the programme approach to ENR governance
- The likely impacts of the rationalisation of ENR institutions (NFA, UNMA) on performance
- Coordination, regulation and monitoring of ENR management at LG and national levels
- Exploring the feasibility of Economic instruments for ENR management (e.g. resource levies, royalties, taxes, charges, fines, property rights, fees, resource subsidies)
- The Public good and Transboundary nature of ENRs and governance challenges





Exploring new Potential sources of Financing as we go to NDP IV

The persistent challenge of financing ENR mgt in face of a constrained govt budget, high dependence on devt partners and the limited role of the private sector in ENR financing.

Going beyond traditional financing sources: the potential of Innovative financing mechanisms;

- Exploring the potential of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), biodiversity offsets and benefit sharing mechanisms (a feasibility assessment of these funding mechanisms)
- Feasibility of green bonds, carbon markets, carbon taxes
- Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in ENR financing
- Exploring the potential of the Diaspora for green financing
- Review of international experiences and lessons learnt in ENR financing
- Alignment of development partners' financing for greater efficiency and effectiveness







Climate change

- How can Uganda position itself to benefit from Article 6 of the Paris Agreement (both A6.2 and 6.4)? e.g. institutional, legislative and policy frameworks
- Assessing Uganda's readiness for green finance
- Stock take of green finance flows in Uganda
- Exploring nature based solutions for climate change
- Navigating the politics and economics of climate change negotiations





A clean, healthy and productive ENR

- Innovative waste management; waste to wealth initiatives
- The Circular economy; e.g. the potential for energy saving
- Sustainable consumption and production
- Resource use efficiency
- Ensuring sustainable resource productivity to meet the demands of a growing economy, growing population
- Establishing Maximum Sustainable Yields (MSYs) of different resources
- Mapping regional poverty levels to the quality and productivity of the land resource







ENR Measurements

- Natural resource accounting to improve the national income measurement;
- Valuation of selected ecosystems and their services;
- Integration of natural capital and ecosystem service accounting into the system of national accounts: Going beyond GDP
- Estimating the contribution of natural capital in Uganda's total wealth
- Balancing infrastructure development (HEP dams, roads, railways etc) and the integrity of ENR





Creating Incomes and employment: sustainable use and value addition to ENR

- Investment in value addition to ENR products and services e.g. forest based pharmaceutical products;
- Strategic partnerships in ENR management e.g. the private sector (PPP), cultural and religious institutions
- Local community-based eco-tourism activities, ENR based industries
- Exploring the multiplier effects of investment in ENR on incomes, employment and economic growth e.g. US\$ 1 investment in tourism generates US\$ 3.20
- Estimating the economic costs of ENR degradation







Inclusive Green Economy (IGE)

- A Just Transition to a green low carbon climate resilient growth; the how question and implications for Uganda (risks, costs and opportunities of adjustment)
 - What are the implications of this transition to the different sectors?
- The role of economic instruments in driving transition to an IGE
- Inventory of IGE initiatives in Uganda (Kampala)
- Building inclusive green cities







Other research and capacity gaps

- The Water, Energy, Environment Nexus
- The Water, Energy, Food Nexus
- Harnessing the Blue Economy for Uganda's socio-economic transformation
- Capacity gaps in developing feasibility studies and bankable projects, investment appraisals etc
- Capacity gaps in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)







Way Forward

- Policy and market driven research-what does the market want?
- The need for the creation of multi-disciplinary research teams
- Building research partnerships; the academia and the practitioners
- Financing implications
- Ensuring sustained political commitment to sustainable use of ENRs
- Data collection







Discussion questions

- Why have the persistent challenges in Environment and Natural Resource (ENR) management in Uganda persisted, and what can be done differently to address them effectively?
- 2. How can innovative financing mechanisms and partnerships, such as Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), and engaging the Diaspora for green financing, be leveraged to enhance ENR management in Uganda?
- 3. How can the integration of the Water, Energy, Environment Nexus and the Water, Energy, Food Nexus be effectively utilized to enhance sustainable development and resource management in Uganda?