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Bridging the gap in Uganda's WASH service delivery through improved systems strengthening

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Presentation Outline

- Background
- Aim of the Assessment
- Approach
- National SWOT
- Action Plan/Efforts to date

Background

- The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector in Uganda is guided by the Vision 2040 and the National Development Plan III (2020/21-2024/25).
- Key priority is on achieving universal access to water and sanitation services by 2030.
- However, SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) is seemingly off track in Uganda
- National safe water coverage stands at 69.8 percent, with coverage in rural areas at 68 percent and 71.6 percent in urban areas.
- The sector continues to face inadequate funding and human resources (Staffing for Environmental Health Workers stands at 52% while that of District Water Officers at 60% countrywide).
- Discrepancies in standardizing performance indicators- Country specific versus JMP by UNICEF/WHO.
- Difficulty in tracking WASH financing as its scattered in different Ministries of Water & Environment, Health and Education as well as other country

Aim of the Assessment



- Under the WASH Agenda for Change (IRC, Water for People, UWASNET and Water Aid Uganda) in collaboration with Ministry of Water & Environment, conducted a National level WASH systems assessment, 2021 with the following specific objectives.
 1. To support a collaborative approach to system strengthening and a common understanding of the National WASH systems.
 2. To develop a collective action plan with clear roles and responsibilities for all actors
 3. To build consensus among A4C partners on how to promote the systems approach and practice

Approach



In addition, there was review of relevant documentation, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, field visits targeting deconcentrated units of Ministry of Water & Environment, Umbrella Organisations, District Community Development Officers, Planners, Environmental Officers, Water Officers, among others.

National SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Strong legal provisions for access to water, sanitation, and protection of natural resources.
- Established structures for water resources management.
- Operation of grant structures by Ministries of Water and Local Government to finance WASH programmes.
- Demand driven plans at MWE's regional structures
- Adoption of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approaches and roll-out of Catchment Management structures at regional and local level

National SWOT Analysis

Weaknesses

- Additional funding for WASH sector is not updated in sector investment plan.
- Low levels of resourcing for Umbrella Authorities and other deconcentrated structures.
- The Utility Performance Monitoring & Information System (UPMIS), whilst useful as a utility database only has data from Umbrella Authority operations and is not linked to the main national utility (National Water and Sewerage Corporation) database.
- Weak regulation of rural water supply undermines functionality, water safety and source protection.
- Financing for sanitation remains far lower than what is needed.
- Weak enforcement of standards.

National SWOT Analysis

Opportunities

- WASH CSOs' ability to raise funds to support programme implementation.
- Improved policy and practices through advocacy e.g., shift from sector to programme-based implementation as required by NDP III.
- Increased concern about climate change.
- The Water and Environment Sector Working Group and the National Sanitation Working Group provide a linkage between water, sanitation and the wider environmental issues through influencing policy and practice.
- Significant investments planned in urban and rural water supply, water for production and sanitation, totalling up to USD 943 Million for the period 2018-2023
- Solar powered water supply and faecal sludge management offer prospects for new employment opportunities and markets.

National SWOT Analysis

Opportunities....C'td

- The introduction and roll out of the Community Based Maintenance System Plus (CBMS+) and associated manuals, provide an opportunity to improve O&M for rural water supplies.
- Ongoing efforts to integrate WASH sector databases will improve access to valid and reliable sector performance data for informed key decisions.
- The Climate Change Act, 2021 offers the opportunity to develop effective responses to Climate Change
- MWE's Water Resources Institute (WRI) provides a platform for research and learning.
- UWASNET is an important mechanism for WASH CSOs to share experience and best practices.
- Multistakeholder engagement through joint technical reviews is an important mechanism for learning and dialogue amongst key stakeholders (government,

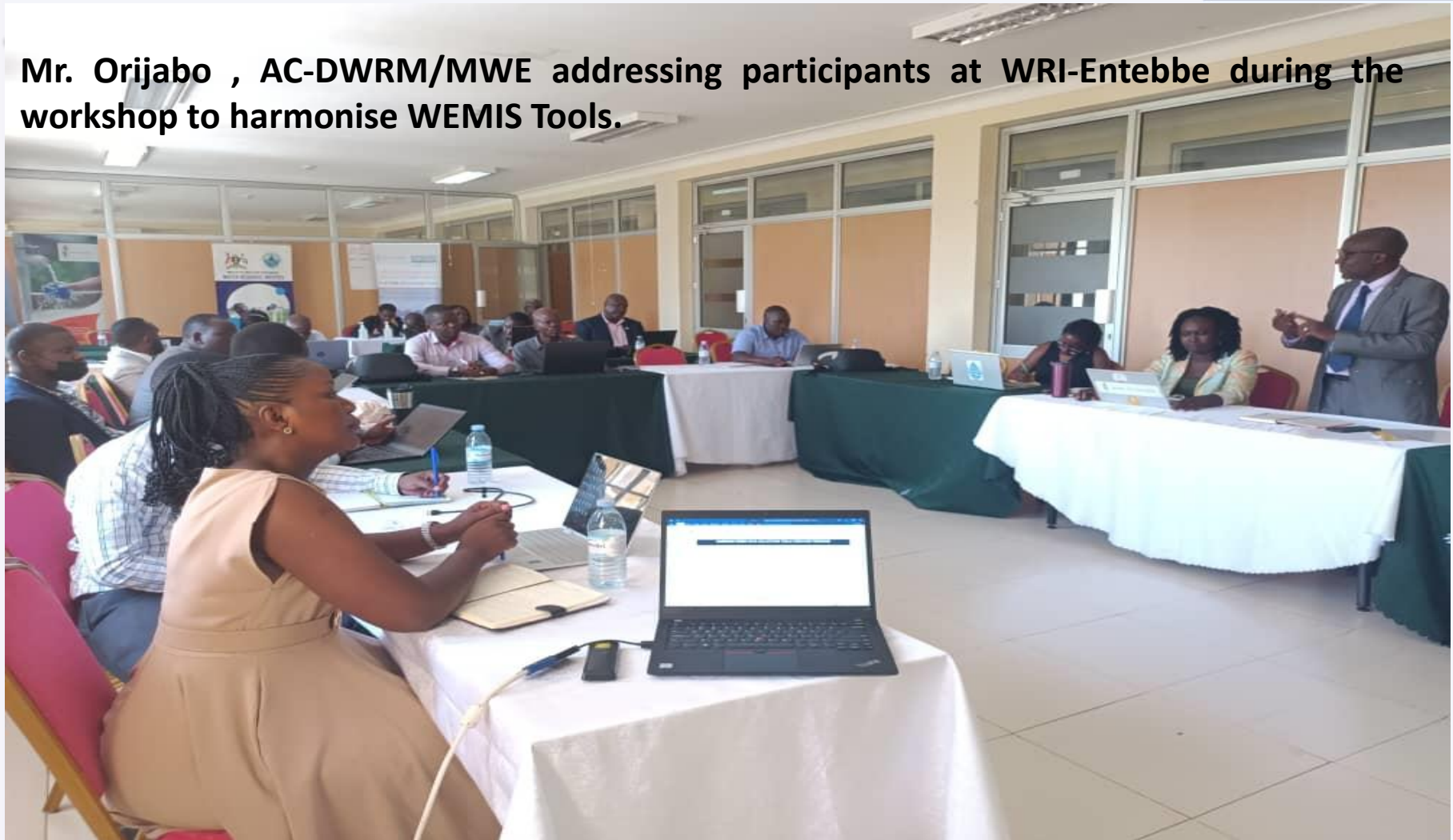
National SWOT Analysis

Threats

- Growing number of skills required in the sector, for which there are severe shortages (plumbers, solar PV technicians, sewerage technicians, electromechanical technicians etc.)
- There is a thin line between the regulatory and operational functions. These need to be carefully managed and monitored.
- Meagre government resource allocations to the WASH sector (2-3% of the total budget).
- Data integrity issues.
- Population growth and demands from the development of industries, including the oil and gas sector, pose significant potential threats in the medium to long term to sustainable and safe water supply and sanitation.

Action plans & Efforts to date

Mr. Orijabo , AC-DWRM/MWE addressing participants at WRI-Entebbe during the workshop to harmonise WEMIS Tools.



Partnership agreement between MWE, IRC & WfP



PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Between

**THE MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT,
IRC INTERNATIONAL WATER AND SANITATION CENTRE
AND WATER FOR PEOPLE**

To

**Collaborate in strengthening the Water Resources Institute (WRI)
to deliver cutting edge Water and Environment Capacity
Development Programmes**

November 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the letter "M" followed by a horizontal line.



National dialogue on financing WASH, Env't and Climate Change on Aug 30, 2023.



Scaling up Financing for Water, Sanitation, Environment, and Climate Change in Uganda

Prof. Alex Ariho
Chief Executive Officer
African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AIN)
Imperial Royale Hotel
30th August 2023



Ministry of Water and Environment
REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



ASGA Symposium in Accra, Ghana, Oct 19-21, 2022



All Systems Connect May 2-5 May, 2023, Hague, Netherlands



Jon Allen (CEO Water For Good), Patrick Moriarty, Samson Bekele (Co-CEO Water For People) launching

Report 2023

**All Systems Connect
International Symposium 2023**

Systems change starts with you.
Now is the moment.



Stockholm World Water Week, 2023



Part of the steering committee for EURECCCA Project.



The Enhancing Resilience of Communities to Climate Change through Catchment Based Integrated Management of Water and Related Resources in Uganda, financed by the Adaptation Fund through the Directorate of Water Resources Management of Ministry of Water and Environment.



WASH Accounts workshop in progress



Uganda Water & Environment Week , March 2023



Key Recommendations

- Provision of long term technical and logistical support to deconcentrated Ministry units (National Level).
- Concerted efforts among key stakeholders to ensure lessons learned influence policy and decision making.
- Support CBMS+ rollout and development of value chains and markets around use of appropriate/feasible technologies such as solar.



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**THANK
YOU!**