



Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) challenges in lower Administrative units of Kabarole District that Require Urgent Attention

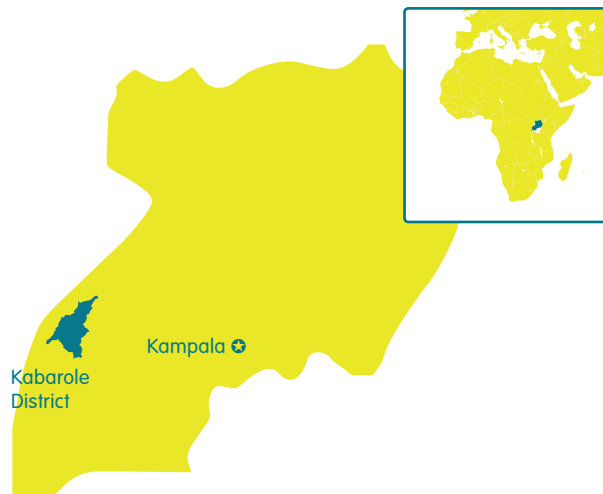
At a glance

- **59.1%**
Non Functionality of water sources in the district (None of the sub counties within the district meets the national functionality average of 76%)
- **31.3%**
Water sources have water user committees, only (44% of which collect water user fees)
- **45.2%**
Water sources within the district being over 15 years old, inappropriate sanitation technologies
- **17%**
Water sources meet the standards of total coliforms (CFU/1000mls)

Kabarole district is faced with challenges of inadequate access to safe water with the total number of unserved villages standing at Forty Six (46).

Results from the water point mapping exercise that was conducted by Health through Water and Sanitation (HEWASA) and IRC under the Watershed programme and validated in the Sub County Dialogue meetings identified several challenges:

Inadequate funding, failure to implement existing policies, ordinances and bye-laws on sanitation and the environment, deforestation, poor agricultural practices, failure to implement the President's directive on clearance of Eucalyptus trees in wetlands, low water quality, water sources drying up in dry seasons, degradation of the environment, drinking of untreated water, illegal connections along piped water systems, non-functional water user committees, and encroachment on wetlands.



How the challenges were identified

This process that brought to light the above mentioned challenges in lower administrative units within the district included;

- Data Collection and analysis was done using AKVO FLOW and a draft WASH/IWRM status report generated.
- For validation, Sub County dialogue meetings were organised in which key actors in the water sector were brought together to discuss the draft WASH status report and validate the findings.
- Issues which could be solved at Sub County level were assigned to specific office bearers
- Key participants in Sub County Dialogue meetings included the Political wing (LC111, and councillors) and Technical (Sub County chief, Health Assistant, CDO and parish chiefs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Women Groups, Opinion leaders, and Religious leaders.

At the sub county meetings;

- Dissemination of findings from the previously conducted water point mapping exercise on the Sub County WASH/IWRM status was done,
- Pressing WASH/IWRM issues within the sub county were shared and solutions discussed.
- Development of a Sub County action plan clearly illustrating how the existing WASH challenges within each Sub County would be curtailed.

What can be done to address this situation?

To address the above identified challenges the district leadership together with key WASH actors/partners need to do the following:

- Profile unserved villages should be done and information fed into the District Investment plan to guide future water infrastructure development projects to villages in the most dire need.
- As Government moves away from point water sources to piped water systems, consideration for the maintenance of existing point water sources should be taken.
- A strategic shift from the Community Based Management (CBM) approach for management of water sources to Entrepreneurial approach using models that include "Pay as you Fetch" and metering of systems
- The presidential directive on clearing Eucalyptus tress should be implemented hence forth with fear or favour
- Extension workers at district and sub county level be facilitated to implement their mandate
- Community Sensitization on Agronomic practices, WASH/IWRM and their responsibilities therein be done
- Local Government should implement/enforce all WASH/IWRM related policies, ordinances and bye-laws without fear and favour
- There should be intersectoral collaboration, coordination and networking amongst all key actors in the district that include Environment, WASH, Agriculture as well as law enforcement department.

This factsheet was created as contribution to the Watershed Empowering Citizens Programme partners in Uganda. For more information please contact: Lydia Mirembe mirembe@ircwash.org or Martin Watsisi watsisi@ircwash.org.

Health through Water and Sanitation (HEWASA) Programme is a member of UWASNET and is based in Fort Portal. Its mission is to provide quality and cutting- edge Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) services geared towards creating a healthy and prosperous population that is environmentally responsible, with secure and sustainable livelihoods.

HEWASA seeks to achieve this mission through effective coordination, networking, capacity building, IWRM service delivery and knowledge brokering, resource mobilization, research, robust M&E and policy influencing.



Address: HEWASA Programme
Kinyamasika Road, Katumba Zone,
Fort Portal Municipality
P.O.Box 756 Fort Portal
Tel: +256 (0) 392 178491 / +256 777 594083
Email: hewasacaritas@gmail.com

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Visiting address

Plot 2220
Aqua Complex, 1st floor
Port Bell Road
Kitintale
Kampala, Uganda

Postal address

P.O. Box 40398
Kampala, Uganda

T +256 758 200 782

uganda@ircwash.org