

# UWASNET

News and Updates



## NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON WASH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

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On Tuesday March 28, 2023, the Uganda water and sanitation network with support from the WASH alliance international under the WASH SDG programme with the leadership of SIMAVI conducted a National dialogue on WASH systems strengthening where member organizations and government under the Ministry of Water and Environment and Agago District local government were key stakeholders. The overall objective of the dialogue was to bring together WASH stakeholders especially those under the WASH SDG program and those under the Agenda for Change to share experiences, learnings, and best practices and deliberate on how best to promote WASH systems strengthening across WASH programming.



Ms. Rashida Kulanyi the SIMAVI Country Coordinator who also spoke on behalf of the WASH alliance international noted that the WASH SDG Program is aimed at strengthening WASH systems in Agago District. She added that in addition to the sustainability clause of the programme, sustainability checks using the FIETS approach were developed by the Dutch WASH Alliance and have been conducted using primary data collected on all five areas of sustainability through surveys and focus group discussions, along with a literature review, to determine a score.

## The Dialogue Key Action Points

Capacity building of DLG and CSOs on policy frameworks and policies to operationalize them.

NPA and ULGA should be engaged in including the development of District WASH master plans at DLG.

New CSOs should always engage other CSOs they found in implementing Districts.

Documentation and sharing of reports should be key for all stakeholders.

MARCH 28, 2023



The WAI partners shared that these sustainability checks dimensions are very critical in strengthening WASH systems by laying the ground for friendly competition and the desire to improve the performance of actors in a given programme.

IRC shared with stakeholders a number of interventions they are conducting under the nine WASH systems strengthening blocks in Kabarole District including the development of the District Master plan. Viva Con Agua Uganda a UWASNET member shared some of the key deliberations they are implementing to ensure WASH systems strengthening in Bundibugyo and Ntoroko District under the global WASH programme. Ministry of Water and Environment also shared key deliberations i.e., securing funds from the World Bank to strengthen some of the WASH structures.

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## The Dialogue Key Action Points

- CSOs should intentionally support the Districts they operate in to develop sanitation ordinances, and WASH master plans and also support during the budgeting and planning phases.
- MWE should liaise with the mister on decommissioning of sources since this is a hard procedure yet critical.
- All partners implementing in Districts should always engage the CAO and chairperson since these are key champions of systems strengthening.
- Stakeholders should conduct sustainability check workshops to score WASH parameters and principles.



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