



UWASNET

2022

Annual REPORT

SUBMITTED BY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Uganda Water and Sanitation
Network

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 @uwasnet  Uganda Water & Sanitation Network

 Uganda Water & Sanitation Network



About Us

UWASNET was founded in 2000 by the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Water and Environment in partnership with Sector Development Partners as the umbrella organization for all Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) operating in the Water and Sanitation sub-sector.

This was a result of a sector reform known as the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) which brought together the Government, Development Partners, and CSOs together to develop, fund, and implement a single development plan.

UWASNET works through the SWAp to contribute to the National Development Plan of poverty alleviation through universal access to sustainable, safe water and improved standards of sanitation and hygiene.



Our Vision

All people accessing improved & sustainable water resources, sanitation, and hygiene programmes

Our Mission

To strengthen the coordination and collaboration of CSOs and other stakeholders in the water resources, sanitation, and environment programmes in Uganda



Introduction

To promote the Mutual Accountability Mechanism, the Uganda Water, Sanitation and Environment Program adopted the Sector Wide Approach, now replaced with the Programmatic Approach to promote coordination, accountability, and performance monitoring within the Water, Sanitation, and Environment Program. The past year (2022) saw the start of the implementation of the newly developed UWASNET strategy that is running from 2022 to 2026. This report, therefore, documents activities and outcomes implemented and achieved from January to December 2022, UWASNET has continued collaboratively working with its funding partners, sector partners, and members to realize its mandate and to fulfil the mutual accountability of the Water, Sanitation, and Environment. This has been done through active engagement of its coordination structures namely the Regional Coordinators and through the thematic working groups as detailed below under programmes.

Programmes

The implemented activities are summarily aligned with the organization's three strategic objectives as highlighted below;

1. **Improved response of state and non-state actors to citizens' demand for sustainable and inclusive water resources, sanitation, and hygiene programmes.** This objective focuses on coordinating the voices and facilitating our

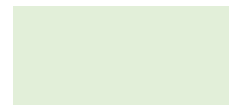
members to hold constructive dialogue with Government and other service providers to deliver sustainable and inclusive WASH systems for all.

2. *Strengthened coordination and collaboration of WASH Service delivery among state and non-state actors in water resources, sanitation, and hygiene.*

This objective intends to deepen UWASNET's coordination mandate, influences sector actors to work collaboratively, and contribute to our common goal of every Ugandan having safe and improved WASH as well as promoting the importance of WASH to other areas, such as climate, health, and education, and developing joint policies and frameworks for greater impact and reach.

3. **Strengthened the institutional capacity of UWASNET to effectively, efficiently, and sustainably deliver its mandate.** Under this objective, UWASNET plays a part in strengthening institutional capacities so that we are always using the most appropriate solution or system for any context or situation.





Strategic Objective 1:

Improved response of state and non-state actors to citizens' demand for sustainable and inclusive water resources, sanitation, and hygiene programmes

I. Coordinate WASH CSO voices through functional Thematic Working Groups to influence both policy and practice

Thematic Working Groups

The year 2022, witnessed the change of office of different Governance Structures of UWASNET, including those that oversee the Thematic Working Group. In September 2022, the old Thematic Working Group (TWG) Heads, handed over office to the new TWG Heads, with the following members, being elected to office as follows:

S/No.	TWG	NEW TWG Chair	OLD TWG Chair
1	WASH technologies	Water for People	Water for People
2	Urban WASH	Water for People	CIDI
3	Women, Children and Vulnerable	ARUWE	Katosi Women Development Trust
4	IWRM, Environment, and Climate Change	Join for Water	Protos- Join for Water
5	Hygiene and Sanitation	World Vision	Plan International Uganda
6	Good governance	Red Rhino/UWP	WHAIVE Solutions

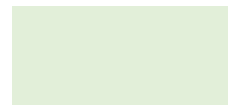
Key reflections from the old Thematic Working Group Heads included the following;

- The need to update the membership database and TWG membership for effective coordination of members between different groups

All TWGs should have annual work plans that are well synchronized with the Secretariat COVID-19 affected the ability to coordinate engagements, however, adoption of the new normal should always be stepped up during a such crisis.

All 6 Thematic Working Groups were able to hold Quarterly Meetings. The main objectives were:

- Election of the new leadership of the Working Groups
- Discussion of how best to strengthen the Working Groups
- Identification of key advocacy issues to be addressed in 2022/2023
- Promote learning and sharing amongst the members



TWG members proposed the following recommendations to make groups more vibrant;

Thematic Working Group Recommendations

- Hold monthly TWG heads meeting
- Hold general quarterly meetings for respective TWG (every last month of every quarter) UWASNET can host working Group meetings (physical/virtual)
- Align advocacy issues from working group meetings to be pushed to duty bearers and also disseminated (Dissemination of the ODF framework by MWE with the Hygiene and sanitation working group & incorporate it into the work plan for the next calendar year)
- Creation of a general WhatsApp notice board to limit information overload and for effective engagement on the TWG platforms
- Provide space for inter-learning sessions between Thematic Working
- Groups Identification and timely fronting of priority issues from TWGs to the national level.

Advocacy Issues Identified for FY2022

- Dissemination of the MHM Manual & framework (Women Children and Vulnerable Group)
- Advocacy for the role out of the O&M framework & advocacy for a pro-poor water tariff (GGTWG)
- Dissemination of the ODF framework (H&STWG)
- Dissemination of the climate change act & policies (IWRM/Climate change)
- Advocacy for lowering the interest rate on sanitation loans (WASH TECH)
- Review of the existing policy framework for all Urban authorities (Urban Water and sanitation TWG)
- Prioritization of WASH in schools (WCVG)
- Review of the Public health Act

II. Promoting Social Accountability to foster response by government and other service providers to citizens' voices

In response to a key call by different stakeholders for UWASNET to steer building the capacity of its members to generate evidence regards WASH programs outcomes, in 2021 UWASNET developed a WASH Scorecard that is currently being rolled out under three programmes:

1. Civil Society Action for Improved WASH Services in East and Southern Africa Somalia (2022-2025) – supported by Danish Peoples' Aid
2. Promoting Good Governance & Accountability in Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH), and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Delivery in Uganda (2022-2024)
3. Civil Society in Uganda Support Program supported by GIZ

The three projects aim at equipping WASH CSOs in 14 Districts^[1] with social accountability skills and empowering both CSOs and communities to effectively engage with service providers including the government at different levels to provide sustainable WASH systems. Mainstream social accountability within WASH programs through administering the WASH Score Card is anticipated to achieve the following:

- Establish a shared vision of WASH needs and priorities.
- Prioritize limited WASH resources more efficiently
- Advocate for increased donor funding
- Serve as a foundation for WASH planning
- Reduce duplication of effort
- Identify gaps with greater precision
- Encourage coordination
- Understand current WASH levels and conditions.

[1] Nakaseke, Luwero, Wakiso, Mukono, Nakawa Division, Obongi, Terego, Madi Okollo, Yumbe, Koboko, Mbale, Bukedea, Gulu and Nwoya

The year saw the following accomplishments;

- A total of fourteen inception meetings across the districts were held which attracted over 200 district officials. These were used as a platform to introduce the WASH scorecard and also gain support for the projects' implementation. As a result, district focal persons were obtained to liaise with UWASNET to fast-track the preliminary stages and all other subsequent engagements with the respective implementing districts.
- Over 200 government officials were trained in the implementation of the WASH Scorecard across the fourteen districts
- A total of 80 CSO representatives were trained to administer the score Card and rolled out its administration jointly with Sub County and Parish Chiefs in a total of 14 Districts, 30 Sub Counties/ town councils, 85 Parishes 187 villages across different regions of the country.
- Key findings from administering the scorecard show that water coverage was high covering all villages though there were variations across the district with some districts having higher water coverage while others did not Bukedea, Nakaseke, and Kampala for which each village had almost 2 water sources.
- This initial application of the scorecard by UWASNET gauged the level of WASH service concerning set standards and has demonstrated that these services vary across districts and the standards were only met in a few instances.
- The process of administering the scorecard has enabled service users to know their rights and the different standards of WASH for institutions (Health Care Facilities, Schools) and Community water points.
- Through the different engagements, UWASNET hopes that communities in these areas will be empowered to demand their right to water and sanitation, and also use the outcome of these results as evidence for District and National advocacy to influence WASH and Environment prioritisation in planning and budgeting.
- Feedback meetings across nine (09) districts were held which attracted both the service providers (local government officials) and the service users (community members) to get results from the WASH scorecard administration
- Workplans to forge the way forward towards improved WASH service provisions were done by all districts
- Improvements have been seen in some areas where the scorecard was administered for example some water sources in the West Nile region that were not protected before have now been protected.



Figure 1; District officials who participated in the inception meeting at Mukono District local government headquarters



Figure 2; Inception Meeting being held in the office of the Town Clerk - Nakawa Division



Figure 3; Local leaders in Mukono District undergoing sensitization on the WASH scorecard



Figure 4; The District Health Officer Ms. Agetho reacts after the WASH Scorecard presentation in Nakaseke District



Figure 5; Pictorial of administering the Scorecard in the West Nile region



Figure 6: A picture showing improved vs poor water sources in Luwero District

The score of the different services in the fourteen districts

Service provider	Services	Score
Health care facilities	Water	Yellow
	Sanitation	Yellow
	Hygiene	Yellow
	Waste Management	Yellow
	Governance	Yellow

Service provider	Services	Score
Schools	Water	Yellow
	Sanitation	Red
	Hygiene	Red
	Menstrual Hygiene Management	Yellow
	Waste Management	Red
	Governance	Yellow

Service provider	Services	Score
communities	Water	Yellow
	Waste Management	Red
	Governance	Red



Gulu and Nwoya representatives at the feedback meeting



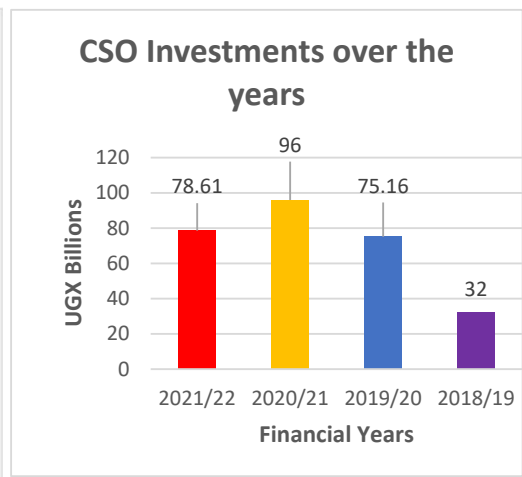
Mbale and Bukedea representatives at the feedback

III. Generating evidence for improved advocacy

UWASNET Member Reporting for FY 2021/22

To contribute to the Program Review that is stipulated by the National Development Plan 3, and also to fulfill the Mutual Accountability that is called for by all stakeholders, UWASNET compiled the 2021/2022 Annual WASH CSO Performance Report. The report was based on a revised KOBO online tool that was supported by the Austria Development Cooperation to ensure that it's well aligned to NDP 3

indicators. A total of 69 members indicating 49% of registered members (154) reported a total investment of Shs 78.6 billion indicating a 14.6% decline in investment. The report showed the contribution of CSOs in programs as follows; 98% of the investment in HCD, 1% investment increment in Programme in NRECCLWM, and 1% investment in Agro-Industrialization.



Program Area	Budget area	Budget (UGX Bn)
Human Capital Development	HCD PIAP extracted budget	5,901
	UWASNET Investment - water	55.8
	UWASNET Investment - sanitation	16.4
	UWASNET Investment - Capacity Building	4.9
	UWASNET Investment - R&D	0.3
	Total UWASNETHCD Investment -	77.4
	Percentage contribution	1.3%
Natural Resources and Environment Climate Change, Land and Water Management	NRECCLWMI PIAP extracted budget	1,899
	UWASNET Investment - NRECCLWMI	0.7
	Percentage contribution	0.04%
Agro industrialization	AI PIAP extracted budget	1,721
	UWASNET Investment -AI	0.5
	Percentage contribution	0.03%

Comparison of program PIAP investment requirement and Actual by CSOs for FY 2020/21

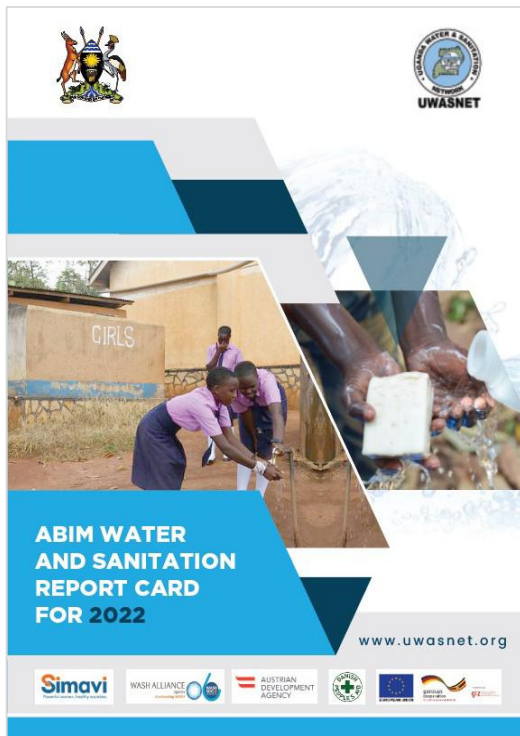
Development of the District WASH Status Report Cards:

During the past year, the network has been fully engaged in the development of the District WASH status report cards. This realized that very few leaders know the status of the WASH situation in their districts as oftentimes they never get to read the big documents produced by the government thus limiting their ability to plan and budget for WASH systems in their districts.

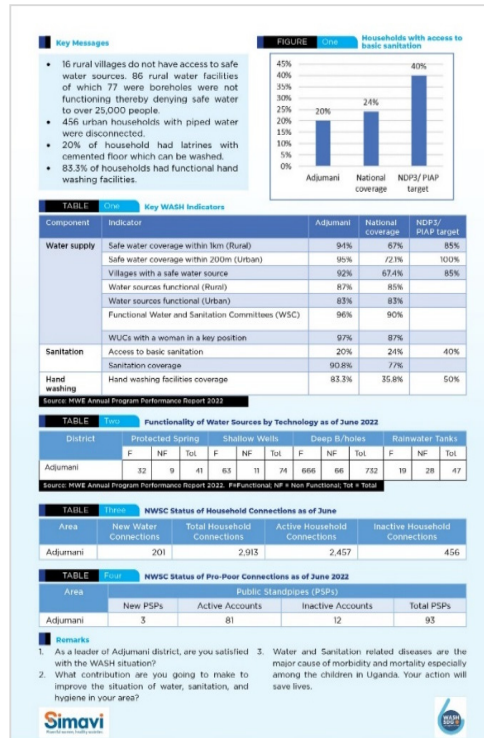
The WASH report is an abridged version of the Annual Program Performance Report Data of the Ministry of Water and Environment. It is geared towards helping

leaders at every level starting with Members of Parliament to Sub County level understand their WASH situation to carefully and passionately appreciate their situations to trigger discussions around WASH and be able to plan and budget better for their communities. This will strategically reduce the WASH knowledge gap among leaders and cause efficiency in the planning, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring of WASH services in Uganda.

Dissemination of these report cards is ongoing through Parliamentarians and District Local Governments.



Sample of the easy-to-read WASH status data of a district



A sample of the District WASH status report card

12th Annual CSO Forum

The secretariat held the 12th annual CSO forum from 27th to 29th September under the theme with an overall objective of bringing together WASH stakeholders to share experiences, and learnings, and deliberate on existing gaps within the sector that may curtail the realization of the NDP 3 targets and other national

“The nexus between WASH and Climate Change: Building WASH - Climate resilient communities in Uganda”

commitments. At this year’s forum, the following were the targeted specific objectives;

1. To trigger a discussion that will propel policymakers to come up with policy responses necessary to address the resilience of water and sanitation systems to climate change.
2. To share experiences and innovations of strengthening integrated water resources management for effective WASH systems and sustainable WASH for all.

The forum attracted a lot of participation from UWASNET members, Parliamentarians, and Government and Development Partners with over 100 participants attending physically and 60 participants attending on zoom. Different sessions that facilitated dialogue between members and government were held over the 3 days with key presentations from Sanitation and Water for All, UNICEF, Water Aid, Water Mission, and National Planning Authority. 5 sessions were spearheaded by the Thematic Working Groups Heads under the following thematic areas:

URBAN WASH Thematic Working Group presentation:

The technical working group led by Community Integrated Development Initiatives called for innovating appropriate technologies that ensure the provision of safe WASH solutions and cooperating aspects of climate change adaptation.

WASH Technologies presentation on Advancing Technology as a tool for Building WASH-Climate Resilient Communities in Uganda

The TWG under the leadership of Water for People had three different presentations showcasing case studies; Groundwater monitoring using CTD

Integrated Water Resources Management Thematic Working Group presentation on Ecosystems, Climate Change, and WASH.

The session under the leadership of Join for Water (PROTOS) called for continued collaboration, working with communities and ensuring that there's a balance between nature and the people/ communities. They advocated for CSOs' need to demystify climate change for the local communities as a way of them appreciating the problem and taking full responsibility in combating the same.

divers: Experience from the Mid-western Uganda region, Fixed Transfer Stations a viable business for urban FSM and "Walugendo Model Tank" An Adaptation Measure to Climate Change in Uganda. The key message of the session was for realisation that in the face of Climate Change, there's a need to maximize groundwater monitoring, wastewater conservation, and environmental conservation.



Hajji Walugendo from URMDA making a presentation on the Walugendo Model Tank

Women & Other Vulnerable Children Thematic Working Group

Under the leadership of SIMAVI WASH SDG Programme, the technical working group shared the progress made regards developing the Menstrual Hygiene Management

Guidelines and called for the incorporation of sexual reproductive health and rights into WASH and climate change implementation activities.



Jonnie Mutebe, Program Manager WASEU giving his presentation

Good Governance Thematic Working Group

Under the leadership of Red Rhino (Uganda Water Project) and WHAVE Solutions, the Good Governance TWG held a panel discussion with the theme “achieving SDG 6.1 and NDP III -aligning policy and practice”. The focal area of discussion was the Operation and Maintenance Framework for Water Infrastructure.

- There was a call for DLGs to harmonize/publish fee levels for all ASPs, and performance indicators, and restrict to a maximum of two ASPs per district separated by sub-counties
- Called upon DLGs/CSOs/sponsors to agree to replace the capital contribution
- with the obligation by the community to pay the ASP the service fee before undertaking works and before commissioning

Pictorials of the event proceedings can be accessed through our social media page; https://twitter.com/search?q=uwasnet&src=typed_query&f=live



"We shouldn't wait for experts from other countries to address the climate change issue in Uganda. It starts with us. Let us wake up and endeavor to implement the laws, plan strategically and follow up"

Hon: SILAS Aogon

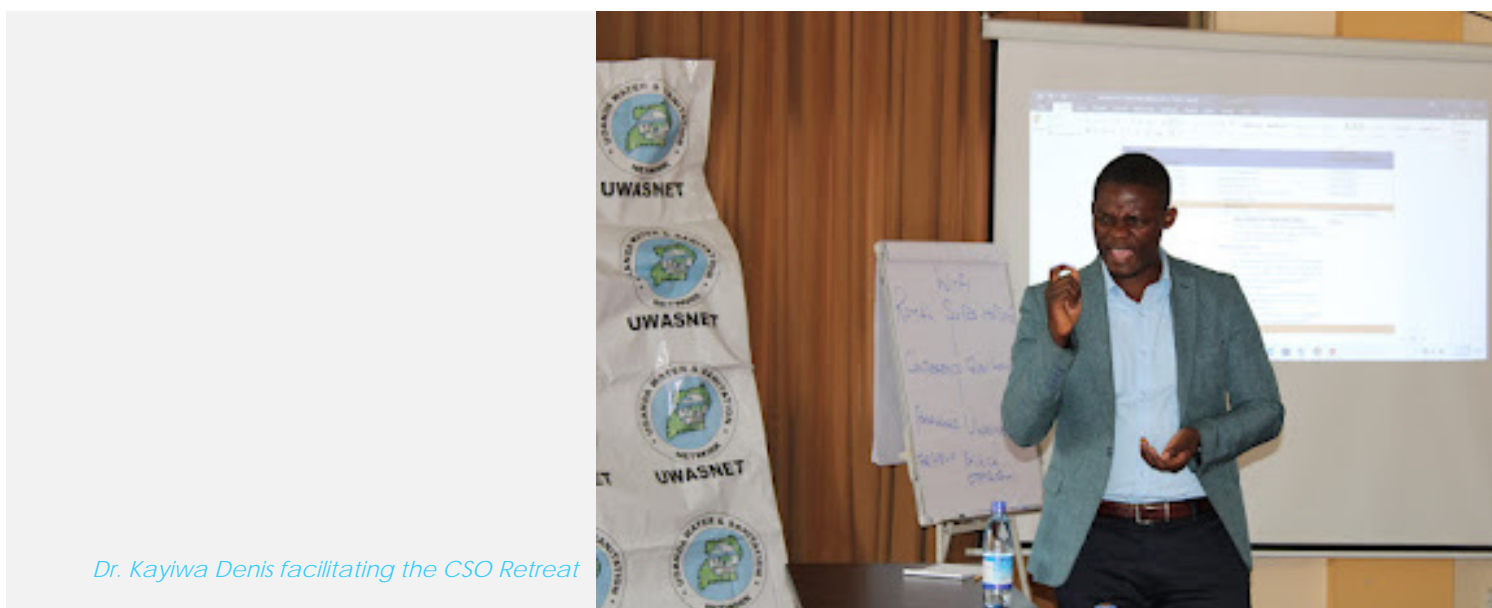
Member of Parliament; Kumi Municipality

Key Outcomes;

- The forum attracted the attention of various MPs that committed to enforcing WASH plans with components of climate change
- There was networking and promotion of best practices amongst CSOs who showcased the work they do in different regions
- Dissemination of key information about the WASH – Climate nexus amongst the CSOs.
- There was a call for all CSOs to timely submit their contribution to the sector through the UWASNET reporting channels and also note a shift from annual to quarterly reporting
- There was a call for CSOs to adapt to program-based budgeting in the sector

WASH CSO RETREAT

With support from SIMAVI, UWASNET members attended a three-day retreat where they discussed the NRECCLWM report for the financial year 2021/22. The discussion was to draw gaps and also areas that the government has excelled at providing services to its people. The major outcome of the retreat was to develop a CSO position paper which also included several recommendations that were presented by the different thematic working groups during the annual WASH CSO Forum. The paper was later presented at the Annual Performance Program Review meeting but also hinging it on the Annual Performance Progress Report of the NRECCLWM



Dr. Kayiwa Denis facilitating the CSO Retreat



CSO members putting ideas together during the retreat

Participation in the Annual Program Progress Review Meeting:

As a result of the retreat, a position paper was developed and presented to the different stakeholders including the Minister of State for Water Hon. Aisha Ssekindi, the Permanent Secretary of the ministry, several Ministry commissioners and directors, other Ministries representatives including land, finance, education and health, development partners, and CSO leaders. Commitments following the different recommendations were taken at the Annual Performance Program Review meeting at the Ministry of Water and Environment Headquarters. For instance, the

Permanent Secretary on top of thanking UWASNET for presenting a well-researched paper noted that *“There is no point in putting a structure without sanitation and call it a health facility.... Then what have you put?”*. On her part, Ms. Jane Sembuche the Country Director of WaterAid Uganda who also represents WASH CSOs on the Program Working Group Committee noted that: *“UWASNET Presentation gave us a mirror image. Is what we have really what is on the ground?”*. UWASNET ‘s statement was presented by her Board Member Ms. Rashida Kulanyi who is also the Country Coordinator of SIMAVI.

Key Recommendations

- Participants urged the government to support UWASNET to better coordinate the CSOs in Uganda.
- The need for CSOs to pull resources together and support the government to have one set of credible data.
- Participants acknowledged the need to analyze the urban WASH data well to avoid taking all rural water sources into urban utilities because of the increasing numbers of growth centers.



Figure 7: The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Water and Environment Chatting with the Head of Office at Austria

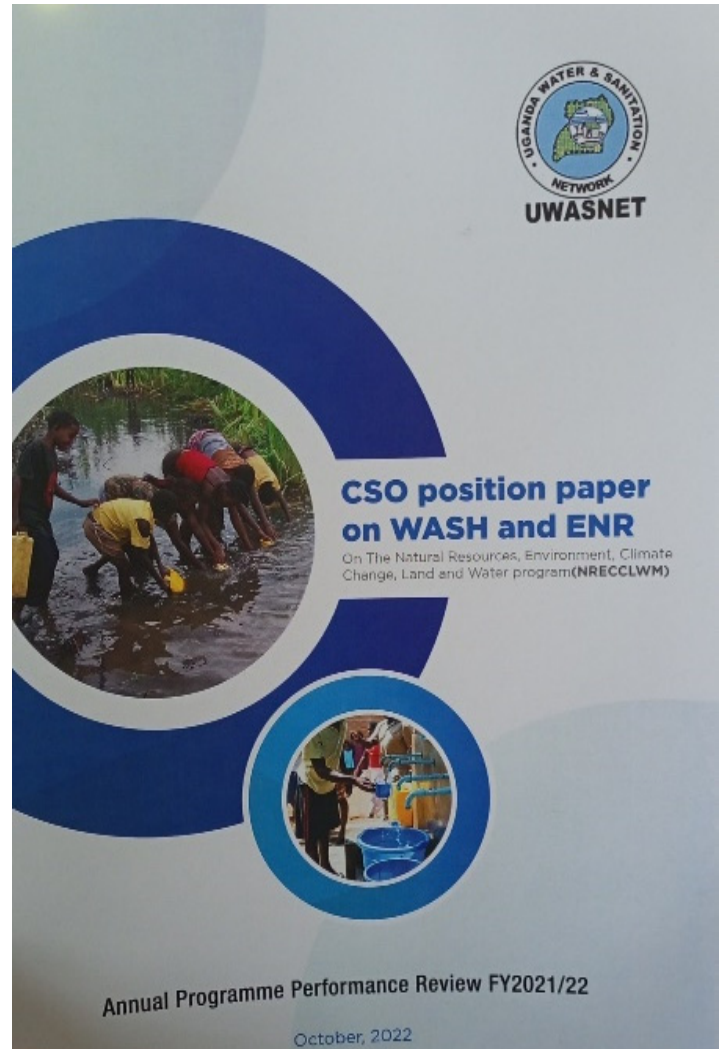
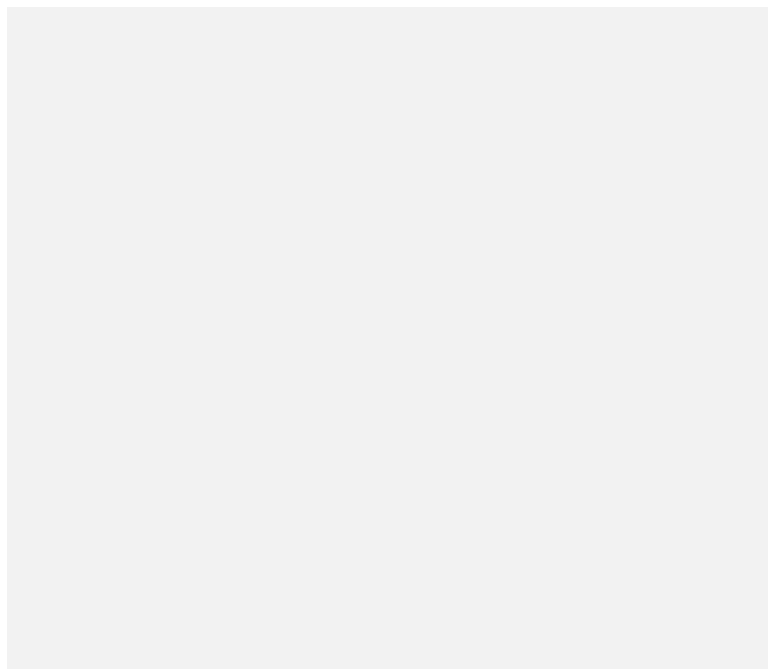


Figure 8: The CSO position paper presented at the APPR

IV. Strengthening collaboration and coordination with influential platforms & stake holders

Sanitation and Water for all

Sanitation and Water for All organized a Sector Ministers Meeting in Indonesia where Ministers for different line ministries including Water, Environment, and Health participated. The meeting acknowledged that as the deadline of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda approaches, our economies, help to prevent future pandemics and reduce the negative impacts of climate change are Key.

there's a need to address the complexities and uncertainties that accompany a global pandemic, economic downturn, and ongoing climate change - known as the 'triple crisis. The need to establish sustainable, climate-resilient water and sanitation systems that strengthen

UWASNET participated in key preparatory meetings to identify the issues that the Uganda Delegation should prioritize and address as a country regards the theme of the meeting as follows:

1. Develop a Climate Financing WASH investment plan by 2023
2. Develop a NAP for the WASH sector by 2024
3. Build the Capacity of Stakeholders to understand and mainstream the WASH and Climate Change Nexus in their programs and projects by 2024
4. Improve water efficiency by promoting and encouraging water harvesting and efficient water utilization among individuals, households, institutions, and sectors



Figure 10; Stakeholder engagement meeting at UWASNET offices in preparation for the SMM



Figure 7; SWA focal points after an engagement on drafting the National WASH and climate overview to the SWA Sector Ministers' Meeting at UNICEF offices

4th Symposium of the Uganda Parliamentary Forum on WASH

The Uganda Parliamentary Forum on WASH is an annual event where MPs meet with WASH service providers, and policymakers from Ministries, Departments, and Agencies of Government to deliberate on existing issues still affecting the WASH sector. This symposium allows washing CSOs to educate parliamentarians on WASH models, and WASH emerging knowledge and an opportunity to report to parliamentarians what key salient issues still impacting the sector yet seeking their commitments to address the existing issues using their mandate of legislation, representation, appropriation, and oversight function.

UWASNET developed a WASH CSOs Position Paper that was presented at

the symposium for the MPs' uptake and action on issues therein. The position paper had clear issues and asks calling for parliament to address inadequate funding for water, sanitation, and hygiene, the poor status of WASH in schools, the inadequate funding for operation and maintenance of water points as well as the non-functional supply chains and low-quality spare parts.

In this position paper, UWASNET and her member CSOs are calling upon parliament to focus on her oversight role to make sure that Ugandans have access to water that meets the human consumption standards.



Ms. Jane Nabunya - UWASNET Board Chair moderates a panel of the Parliamentary

Hon. Silas Aogon the Chairperson WASH Forum giving a welcome address



Strategic Objective 2.

Strengthened coordination and collaboration of WASH Service delivery among state and non-state actors in water resources, sanitation, and hygiene

V. Strengthen linkages and networks among CSOs and other actors through strengthening the capacity of regional coordinators and establishment of district focal points to foster coordination amongst CSOs and other actors

The election of the leadership for the Regional Coordinators was held during the regional meetings across the ten (10) regions. The major outcome of the elections was obtaining Regional and

Assistant regional coordinators. Below are the Regional and Assistant Regional Coordinators per region as elected by members;

S/No.	Region	Regional Coordinator	Assistant Regional Coordinator
1	Central	Wells of Life	WHAWE Solutions
2	Busoga	Living Water International	African Water Solutions
3	Mid-Central	CIDI	Wells of Life
4	Mid-Eastern	Youth Environment Service	URMDA
5	Lango Acholi	AMREF Health Africa	WASEU
6	Karamoja	Save the Children	Welthungerhilfe
7	Teso	Welthungerhilfe	Destiny Community Development Initiatives
8	West Nile	Water Mission	ACORD
9	South- Western	Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme	AVSI
10	Rwenzori	Water for People	Natural Resources Defense Initiatives

With the introduction of District Focal Points in the new Strategic Plan 2022-2026, Regional Coordinators were then tasked to select district focal persons in

their regions to facilitate their work of coordination and mobilization at district level. A full list will be provided within the last quarter of the year.

UWASNET Regional Meetings

As part of facilitating learning, sharing, and networking among CSOs, district local governments, the private sector, communities, and other key stakeholders at a regional level, UWASNET held 10 Regional Meetings

with support from its funding partners (GIZ, SIMAVI, and USHA). A total of over 222 participants participated, that included CSOs and representatives from both Line Ministries and Local Governments.

The objectives of the regional meetings include;

- i. Facilitate members' learning, sharing, and networking and election of their respective Regional Coordinators and District Focal Points
- ii. Disseminate key Sector Policies and Guidelines that include the Menstrual Hygiene Management guidelines, CLTS protocol & National Road map to accelerate basic sanitation and end open defecation
- iii. Facilitate the dissemination of the overarching WASH SBC brand, messages, and materials developed under the "Living Freshi" brand by Uganda Sanitation Health Activity – USAID.
- iv. To orient CSOs on Kobo tool to facilitate data collection for the annual CSO Performance Report

The Secretariat continues to work hand in hand with the Regional Coordinators to mobilize members' participation in the set regional meetings.



Figure 12; Regional Coordinator (RICE) giving her remarks during the Regional Meeting

Figure 8; UWASNET members that attended the Regional Meeting in West Nile



Key Outcomes of the regional meetings;

- i. UWASNET fulfilling its role of disseminating key sector-related guidelines and policies to UWASNET Members. These policies and guidelines are now downloadable from the UWASNET website under publications and were sent by email to members and also shared on the network's social media sites
- ii. Enhanced collaboration between UWASNET, USHA partners, SIMAVI partners, the three-line Ministries of Health, Education and Sports, and the district local governments.
- iii. Dissemination of benefits of UWASNET Membership that led to more than 15 CSOs registering as members.

Strengthening our collaboration, and engagement with the private sector to drive change and encourage investments, innovation, and programming to mitigate the impact of climate change within WASH.

Human Waste to Energy project

UWASNET in collaboration with SHIFT is implementing the Human Waste to Energy 2022 project with support from

the International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF). The overall project goal is to provide adequate

washroom facilities and clean energy for approximately 800 people in a rural community in Mukono. This project will also serve as a pilot project to build similar, scalable anaerobic digesters supplied by human waste in other countries. The project will focus on

demonstrating the technical feasibility and the financial viability of the “From Waste to Wealth” framework. The viability of this approach will be assessed by quantifying the economic, environmental, and human health benefits of the pilot system.



Figure 9; Left to Right, the Headmaster of Kimenyedde, PTA member, and UWASNET staff at the newly constructed toilet block in Kimenyedde



Figure 10; Newly constructed Biodigester

III. Increase multi-sectoral collaboration among state and non-state actors to strengthen systems and capacity for sustainable WASH delivery.

Launch of the Sanitation and Hygiene facilities at Malaba

With support from WaterAid East Africa, UWASNET is contributing to curbing the spread of WASH-related illnesses and Covid-19 among the transient communities across the borders of East Africa. On June 24th, 2022, UWASNET launched sanitation and handwashing facilities at the Malaba border point, Tororo district, and a similar facility was launched in Vurra, Arua City in November 2022. This project was

funded by WaterAid East Africa and in partnership with the Uganda Revenue Authority, which provided the land for the installation of the facilities.

A total of 2,500 consignments that include cargo, vehicles, and travelers pass through the Malaba border point every day making it one of the busiest border points in the region.

URA will play a big role in ensuring the sustainability and functionality of the facilities.



Figure 11; ED-UWASNET together with the mayor representative, Malaba Town Council, CAO Representative & CD Water Aid launching the sanitation facility



Figure 12; Yunia and other dignitaries using the handwashing station

Meeting of Habitat for Humanity

The UWASNET ED was privileged to attend the First Africa Housing Forum hosted by Habitat for Humanity and the launch of the Habitat for Humanity Africa Strategy.

Both events focused deliberated on issues of affordable housing, and WASH was highlighted as a key component within the Housing Sector.



Figure 13; UWASNET ED and other Uganda Delegation during the conference

Formalisation of Partnership with Environmental Health Department - Ministry of Health

UWASNET secretariat held a courtesy meeting with Dr. Herbert Nabaasa the new commissioner of the Environmental Health Department at the MOH to discuss pertinent issues regarding strengthening the coordination of WASH service and how we can build synergies to ensure effective and sustainable WASH service delivery. The

secretariat got an opportunity to share their work and contribution to the sector, and how the two parties can complement each other's mandate to promote WASH services in the country. The meeting culminated in a proposal to have a Memorandum of Understanding to guide the partnership, which has been drafted and submitted to MOH for review.



*L-R ED UWASNET,
Commissioner EHD-Dr.
Herbert Nabaasa, PAC
UWASNET and MOH staff
receiving the UWASNET
Strategy and Directory*

Strategic Objective 3.

Strengthened institutional capacity of UWASNET to effectively, efficiently, and sustainably deliver its mandate

I. Strengthening the capacity of members to have systems in place capable of delivering basic WASH services.

In partnership with CAWST (Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology) a Canadian charity and licensed engineering firm, UWASNET was able to undertake 3 trainings as follows:

S/No.	Name of training	No. of participants
1	Training on household water treatment and safe storage	19
2	Community WASH Promotion training	07
3	Capacity training on bio-sand filters for technicians	08
4	Training of the UWASNET secretariat on administering the scorecard	10
5	Training of UWASNET members in the application of the scorecard	100



Figure 14; One of the training facilities showcasing technology for the treatment of household water



Figure 15; Participants with their certificates of attendance



Figure 16 Participants during the training



Figure 17; Participants that attended a training on the WASH Scorecard in Central Region



Figure 18; MEL officer facilitating the training of the CSOs on the WASH Scorecard



Figure 19; Participants that attended a training on the WASH Scorecard in West Region



Figure 20; MEL officer facilitating the training of the CSOs on the WASH Scorecard in West Nile

II. Increase And Diversify Our Funding Source Base.

WASH House

Following the support rendered to UWASNET by GIZ CUSP on brainstorming strategies for widening its resource base, UWASNET has embarked on a journey to make use of its key asset (Land) by constructing a WASH House. The WASH House is envisaged to contribute to UWASNET income generation and sustainability. During the UWASNET @22 Celebrations, the Secretariat mobilized key guests to install a foundation stone that marked the beginning of fundraising for the WASH House. This was witnessed by key sector representatives from the Ministry of

Water and Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Sports, Members of Parliament under the Uganda Parliamentary Forum on WASH, the Mayor of Nakawa Division, Austria Development Cooperation, GIZ, World Bank, UWASNET new members of the board member organizations who included IRC Uganda, WaterAid Uganda, World Vision, Whave Solutions, Amref Health Africa, Katosi Women Development Trust, Lifewater International, Living Water International, International Aid Services, Voluntary Action for Development, RICE West Nile, etc.

Fundraising drive

The secretariat has continued to look at all different avenues in which it can diversify its funding source base. In the past year, the following are the different proposals written to boost the resource base of UWASNET.

- WASH in Schools proposal submitted to DPA
- Strengthening Membership Engagement proposal submitted to GIZ
- Collaboration with SIMAVI in writing a proposal entitled local CSOs, communities, and service providers in Agago and Pader are actors of governance and development in their own right, engage meaningfully in governance processes, and are responsive to the rights, needs, and priorities of women, youth and other underserved groups
- Proposal to Malta
- Proposals for improving WASH in schools submitted to Hungary

III. Enhance monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems.

Development of the MEL Framework

With the support of the Austria Development Agency, and Hydrophil as Technical Assistants, UWASNET has developed a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Framework that supports the operationalisation of the new Strategic Plan 2022-2026. Consultative meetings were held to inform the process, with input from the Austria Development Agency, Ministry of Water and Environment, GIZ Technical Advisor, and UWASNET secretariat and members (SIMAVI & NETWAS)

The Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Framework stipulates

output and outcome targets and corresponding indicators aligned to the three strategic priorities or overall outcomes of the UWASNET Strategy i.e. improved response of state and non-state citizens' demand for sustainable and inclusive water resources, sanitation, and hygiene programmes, strengthened coordination and collaboration in WASH Service delivery among state and non-state actors in water resources, sanitation, and hygiene and strengthened institutional capacity of UWASNET to effectively, efficiently and sustainably deliver its mandate.

Key elements of the MEL framework include;

- Target audience and Development of MEL
- Description of MEL Framework

Implementation of MEL Framework



Figure 21: Participants and Consultant during one of the engagements to develop the MEL framework



Figure 22: Participants in group session coming up with indicators for the different strategic priorities

Revision of the UWASNET Annual Performance Report Reporting Tool

With the support of the Austria Development Agency, the Secretariat was able to revise the KOBO tool, an online application that is used to generate the Annual WASH CSO Performance Report. The tool was revised in consultation with Regional Coordinators, Line Ministries, and Thematic Working Group Heads. Upon finalization, it was disseminated

amongst the UWASNET members, and trainings to disseminate the tool to members was led by the MEL officer with an attendance of over 60 members. The training intended to equip UWASNET members with the knowledge and skills to navigate the tool but also ensure they understood the questions to be answered.

Key Outcome

- The final revised tool is now in place and was rolled out to capture the 2021 – 2022 total investments and case studies by WASH CSOs. (<https://kobo.humanitarianresponse.info/#/forms/aHkpxLRMS959ZH43oPhx8m>).

IV. Putting in place functional and effective governance implementation structures.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Thursday, May 26th, 2022 at Royal Suites Hotel, Bugolobi. The key objectives of the AGM were:

- Be accountable to members by presenting to them the Annual Performance of the Organization
- Nominate new Board Leadership

The AGM was attended by 81 members and representatives from different Line Ministries and Development Partners. The key outcome of the AGM was the nomination of the new Board as follows; IRC, SIMAVI, Habitat for Humanity, Caritas HEWASA, AMREF, Life Water, URMDA, Water Mission, CIDI, Katosi Women Development Trust, and WHAVE. The following are the Executive Committee and Board Committees constituted.

Chair	Jane Nabunya IRC
Vice	Robert Otim Habitat for Humanity
Treasurer	Charles Bwenvu CIDI

The four different Committees constituted are Finance & Administration, Human Resources, Programs, and Resource Mobilization.



Figure 23: Outgoing Board Chairperson giving his remarks



Figure 24: Commissioner for Water and Environment Liaison giving his remarks during the AGM



Figure 25: ED giving a presentation for the UWASNET Secretariat updates



Figure 26: Funding partner GIZ giving her remarks during the AGM

Members also constituted four different Committees that will enable the Board to fulfill its role effectively: Finance & Administration, Human Resources, Programs, and Resource Mobilization.

Launch of the UWASNET Strategy 2022-2026

With support from GIZ UWASNET finalized its new strategy which was launched during the 22nd Anniversary celebrations on June 29, 2022. The new strategic plan will inform the UWASNET strategic positioning in the sector. It was launched by the state minister for Water represented by

Joseph Eritu Commissioner of Water and Environment Sector Liaison together with the new Board and Old Board of Directors, and UWASNET funding partners that include Austria Development Cooperation, World Bank, and GIZ



Figure 28: A representative from World Bank signing off the UWASNET Strategic Plan 2022-2026



Figure 27 Pictorial on the UWASNET Anniversary Celebrations

Election of Thematic Working Group heads

An online engagement was held on 12th September 2022 which was aimed at the election of the leadership of the Thematic Working Groups. The following emerged as the newly elected heads;

S/No.	TWG	TWG Chair	TWG Chairperson/Secretary	Vice
1	WASH technologies	Water for People	WHAWE Solutions/CIDI	
2	Urban WASH	Water for People	CIDI/YES Busia	
3	Women, Children and Vulnerable	ARUWE	NAWAD/ MUMYO	
4	IWRM	Join for Water	Living Water International/RICA	
5	Hygiene and Sanitation	World Vision	Save the Children/ RICA	
6	Good governance	Red Rhino/UWP	WHAWE Solutions/ International lifeline fund	

To equip the new leadership for both the TWGs and Regional Coordination an induction was held with support from the GIZ CUSP program with objectives of the leadership getting to know their roles, the different aspects of UWASNET secretariat, the secretariat activities in a year and how they contribute to the delivery of the UWASNET Strategic Plan.



A group picture of Regional Coordinators and Thematic Working Group Heads during the Induction that was held at Royal Suites in Bugolobi

V. Attract and retain skilled, qualified, and competent staff that foster the attainment of strategic goals.

Recruitment of new secretariat staff

The UWASNET Secretariat has an addition of four staff to its team to support the attainment of its organizational vision and support the implementation of its mandate in the Water, Sanitation, and Environment Programs. The new staff starting this month are as follows;



Bernadette Kwebiha, The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer: Bernadette is a Public Health and M&E specialist with over 6 years of work experience in WASH, gender mainstreaming and integration, private/public partnerships, and capacity building. She has been previously working with Kampala Capital City Authority as a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer.



James Cleto Mumbere; the Policy and Advocacy Coordinator joined the team on 1st April 2022. James Cleto Mumbere is a solution-driven community development professional with over 10 years of experience in program development and project management for local and international non-profit organizations with a strong focus on agriculture and youth engagement, environment and climate change as well as the Human Rights Based approach to development. James has been overseeing the National Youth Network that is currently housed in CIDI and was the Deputy Advocacy Manager for CIDI.



Patrick Oryono; the Governance and Accountability Officer to be based in West Nile joined the team on 1st April 2022. Patrick has 4 years of experience in Monitoring and Evaluation that he has been overseeing within the West Nile Region, more so in Refugee Camps. He has worked for different organizations within the West Nile Region, overseeing community and district leaders' engagements, more so within the refugee-hosting districts.



Martin Kityo; the Liaison and Networking officer In December 2022, a liaison and Networking officer was hired to head the LNO department. Martin holds a bachelor's degree in Arts and Social Sciences from Kyambogo University, currently pursuing a Master's degree in Science in Monitoring and Evaluation. He poses over seven years of experience in community development, advocacy, and networking both geared towards systems strengthening for improved service delivery. Passionate about Gender equity, inclusion, public speaking, and social justice for ALL, Martin uses different spaces to influence and cause positive change for everyone to achieve their full potential.



Conclusion

Despite a series of challenges such as high fuel prices, fluctuating foreign exchange, high economic prices, landslides, and the influx of Ebola which impacted the effectiveness of some activities, so much was achieved in 2022. UWASNET has continued holding the mantle of its members in spearheading the advocacy and social accountability endeavors towards the achievement of better WASH and environment service provision by the Ugandan government. Thanks to our members and development partners, we have sustained our programs and helped many more people secure their right to water, sanitation, and hygiene.

With new leadership in all UWASNET Governance Structures that include the Board, Thematic Working Groups, and Regional Coordinators, in addition to beefing up the Secretariat with key relevant Staff, we look forward to a fruitful 2023. Building on the outcome of 2022 that's focusing on delivering the targets within our Strategic Plan.

