

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE INTER-LINKAGES BETWEEN BIODIVERSITY AND HUMAN HEALTH FOR AFRICA

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COUNTRY PROFILE-UGANDA

- Uganda is a land locked country, situated in East Africa
- It is bordered by Sudan in the north, Kenya in the east, Tanzania in the south and Democratic Republic of Congo in the West and Rwanda in the South western part of the country
- It covers an Area of: 197,058,000 sq km (93,104 sq miles)
- Population of: 32 million people
- Uganda's Capital City is Kampala with a population of 1.3 million people during day
- Population growth: 3.4% Life expectancy: 52 years
- Under Five Mortality Rate: 152 per 100,000 live births

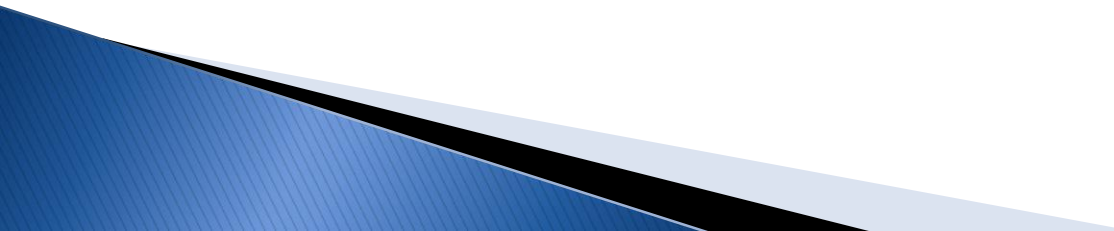
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- Uganda has over 20 tribes; Baganda (17%), Banyankole (8%), Basoga (8%), Iteso (8%), Acholi, Langi small Asian and European communities
- Majority are Christians with a sizeable Muslim minority
- About 75% of the disease burden in Uganda is preventable & mainly related to poor living conditions
- Sanitation & hygiene related diseases include: %
- High Biodiversity
- 80% of the population depend on medicines obtained from nature


Question 1: Joint actions Health and Biodiversity sectors have at national level to develop policies and promote activities to achieve co-benefits

- Strengthen coordination and collaboration– Transboundary, Research networks
 - Strengthen systems for health and environment surveillance to identify risks and manage them better
 - Annual Joint Sector Reviews e.g. having an undertaking on Biodiversity & Human Health
 - Review relevant policies, strategies and guidelines for inclusion of Biodiversity and Human Health issues
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Key elements for a joint Human Health & Biodiversity action plan. At what scale?

- Medicines from nature
 - Biodiversity and Medical research
 - Biodiversity and human infectious diseases – deforestation, bush meat and disease transmission
 - Biodiversity and food production–Malnutrition and threats to crops from pests
 - Climate change
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Needs, at the national and regional scales, in terms of research, capacity building and information dissemination for joint Human Health & Biodiversity concerns and opportunities

- Research and development in natural products value chain, zoonotic diseases, public health
 - Sensitize and advocate for sustainable utilization, use of natural medicines, positive public health behavior at various levels of governance
 - Develop Biodiversity and Human Health Information Education Communication (IEC) materials
 - Disseminate Biodiversity and Human Health IEC materials to the public
 - Build capacity (environmental health, products, public health) at regional, national, district and sub county levels to better prevent and treatment environment related health problems
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Best practices jointly addressing Human Health and Biodiversity concerns and opportunities

- Well developed institutional frameworks
 - Regulatory framework in place i.e. Environment and health enforcement
 - Documentation
 - A forestation
 - City green belt
 - Conservation of Medicinal Plants at community centres, cultural institutions e.t.c
 - Baseline information on Biodiversity trends, status and species diversity
 - Biodiversity policy
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Collaborative mechanisms

- CHM
- PPPH
- National task force

What impedes collaboration?

- Lack of commitment
 - Prioritization
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Urgent HH &BD actions needed

- List priority medicinal plants for conservation at national level
 - Include Human health and biodiversity linkages target in NBSAP
 - Strengthen Government departments and parastatal bodies with relevant technical personnel
 - Lobby funding for of Implementation of the Libreville action plan
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