UGANDA WILDLIFE SOCIETY PROMOTING THE CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT IN UGANDA THROUGH CONSERVATION INITIATIVES, RESEARCH, POLICY INFLUENCE, ADVOCACY AND MEMEBERSHIP

UGANDA WILDLIFE

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SUMMARY

Uganda Wildlife Society (UWS) is a national, not for profit membership based nongovernmental conservation organization that was registered in 1998 after 38 years of operating as the East African Wild Life Society (EAWLS) Uganda Chapter. The driving force behind UWS formation was the need for the EAWLS Uganda members to get better organized in order to effectively engage with wildlife and environment management issues around the country.

To enable knowledge, experiences and lessons generated from her five strategic programmes (research, advocacy, policy influence, conservation initiatives and membership) are used for policy and practice decision making processes in Uganda's Natural Resources and Environment conservation field, Uganda Wildlife Society on annual basis produces a comprehensive end of year report detailing achievements, lessons and emerging recommendations from her conservation works.

In this Uganda Wildlife Society Annual Activity Report 2013, the Society gives her stakeholders and members details on Society achievements, lessons and recommendations that they can use as guidelines to inform design, planning and implementation of conservation programmes in Uganda and beyond.

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction and Background of Uganda Wildlife Society

Uganda Wildlife Society operations are nationwide in Uganda and to an extent in the East African Region through collaboration with the Nairobi-based East African Wildlife Society. The Society has about 530 members now and these are from academia, private sector, civil society, students, policy makers, government and the general public. The Society secretariat is presently located on plot 1521, Mawanda Road, Kamwokya, Kampala, but opens and runs field offices in other regions of the country as when need arises, particularly for smooth implementation of field projects, with communities in remote rural areas.

Uganda Wildlife Society - Organization Vision, Mission, Goal and Objectives

The Uganda Wildlife Society vision is: Wildlife and People living in Harmony. And in that, UWS aspires to contribute towards a harmonious co-existence between wildlife and people in Uganda and beyond. The UWS mission is to: promote the conservation of wildlife and the environment through advocacy, knowledge generation and field demonstrations. This mission underpins UWS's existence as an advocate and facilitator of conservation, focusing on wildlife and the environment

The UWS goal is: *sustainable utilization of wildlife and other natural resources*, which underpins the long term objective for all society programmes and activities is sustainable use and management of natural resources. Unsustainable use of natural resources tends to be the main driver of most challenges facing conservation in the country today.

The Uganda Wildlife Society Objectives are threefold, namely,

- 1. To influence policy formulation for environmental management through providing forums for addressing, advocating and debating conservation issues.
- 2. To generate knowledge on wildlife and natural resources and to provide informed non-biased environmental information to the government, private sector and other Civil Society Organizations.
- 3. To promote the understanding of linkage of livelihoods and sustainable use of wildlife and natural resources through raising awareness about the environment among the people of Uganda.

Therefore the Uganda Wildlife Society core business includes,

- Carrying out advocacy and lobbying for harmonious co-existence between Wildlife and environment.
- Generating and disseminating knowledge and information about wildlife and environment subsectors.
- Field demonstration projects on wildlife and environmental conservation.
- Managing the UWS (Secretariat affairs and membership).
- Mobilizing resources for the UWS

CHAPTER TWO Membership Department

Membership

In 2013, the Society targeted to recruit additional 200 members to bring the membership size to about 530 in all the different membership categories. The Society managed to recruit 184 out of the 200 members targeted in 2013 (an achievement at 92% of the target). Some of the notable new members of the Society in 2013 include Ambassador Julius Peter Moto, the Ugandan Higher Commissioner to South Africa, the Aghakan and St Lawrence High Schools and, Environmental Alert. These were all in the category of corporate members. Special mention we also give to Mr. Albert Wabyoona and Desteo Tugume, members in the category of ordinary membership who participated in helping the Society enter conservation works collaboration partnership with Caritas Hoima Caholic Diocese Development Organization. The Society managed to take her members for three nature walk events that were also to raise their awareness on Biodiversity in Mabira Forest and place them in touch with wildlife at the Murchison Falls National Park. Society members also received all their other benefits including Newsletter Issues, resource centre access for information, participation in society dialogues and in conservation initiatives as interns, volunteers, consultants /service providers. Although not all the members benefited in all the services, the society implemented its set target on membership services to the level of 100%. Members on the other hand and in contrast contributed about two million seven hundred thousand shillings towards the Society works, through membership subscription and donations. This support is about 1% of the Society annual budget in 2013, much of it from new members as, majority of old members did not pay their annual subscription in 2013.

TABLE 1: MEMBERSHIP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AS AT DEC 31, 2013

Category of Membership	Total Number of Members in Category	Number of members who have paid subscription	Number of members who have not yet paid subscription	Income from membership subscription
Students	213	79	134	330000
Individual ordinary	177	20	155	400000
Individual donor	2	1	1	100000
Corporate Ordinary	14	4	10	600,000
Corporate Donor	0	0	0	0
Life time	0	0	0	0
Totals	410	102	302	3,398,001

Some of the membership activities.

Students of St. Lawrence Crown city during a fish farming training at Kajjansi fish farm under National Fisheries and Research Institute/ NARO.

Fig 1:



Fig 2: Members of UWS on different nature walks in Mabira Tropical forest



Lessons learned and Recommendations

There was an increase in visibility and coverage for the Society's strategic programmes and activities among the members and public at large due to several membership activities that were carried out.

Several schools were very willing to participate in the activities held and also committed to participate in future activities for the society.

However, there is still the challenge of most members who complained that there was a lack of value for their subscription, they requested for more activities to engage them throughout the year than just a few spread out in the year.

This was noted and more activities to engage members have been planned for this year than what has been happening in the past.

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CHAPTER THREE

Production Unit

Production Unit was set up as an income generating department to create other income revenues for the Society. It is a fully stocked printing press and also offers other services like catering, tents and chairs hire PA systems, photography and videography.

TABLE 2: PRODUCTION INCOMES AS AT DEC 31, 2013

Period	Activities/Parti culars	Expenditure	Income	Profit/loss
	Documentation Stationary sale Hire of assets	Purchases	Production income generating activities	
1 st Dec 2012 to		Stationary	1,242,700	742,700
28 th Feb 2013		500,000		
TOTALS		500,000	1,242,700	742,700
March 1 st to May		Stationary	3,560,400	2,605,400
31st		955,000		
TOTALS		955,000	3,560,400	2,605,400
		Cartridge (Bullisa, Secretariat) 1,130,000	787,700	(342,300)
June 1 st to July 31 st				
TOTALS		1,130,000	787,700	(342,300)

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

There is still room for growth and also there is need for better marketing strategies for the unit so that it can achieve its full potential.

CHAPTER FOUR

Finance Department

Fundraising and partnership for conservation works

In 2013, for her conservation works, the Society aimed to raise a total of 387,040,000/=. The Society managed to raise about 234,000,000/=, an achievement about 60.5% of the target for fundraising in 2013. Overall, the production unit did not pick up and raise the funds it was expected to raise, the membership annual subscription realised from old members was below the expected and several proposals the Society submitted to a number of potential donors and or in response to calls did not receive funding. In summary, the Society received funds from the Ecosystems Alliance, CARITAS Hoima Catholic Diocese, CARE – the CARE FOREST Project within the Auspice of the ENR-CSO Network, Uganda Wildlife Authority and Members' subscription and donations.

In Conservation works on ground however, the Society partnerships and network increased tremendously, from about 14 partners in 2012 to over 31 by the end of 2013. The Society still 25 needs more partners to collaborate with and or support her works in kind and or with finances. The Society strategic plan remains online www.uws.or.ug under the section of society documents, for interested partners to consider. The Society fundraising capacity is also expected to improve in 2014, given that the fundraising strategy is now in place and was considered in the development of the activity and budget plan for 2014.

TABLE: FINANCE DEPARTMENT JANUARY TO DEC 31, 2013.

Period	Activities/Particul	Expenditure	Income	Profit/loss
	ars			
January 1 2013 to	Ecosystems			
31 Dec 2013	Alliance	188,929,970	188,893,000	(36,970)
January 1 2013 to	Environmental	6,992,000	6,992,000	
31 Dec 2013	Alert			
January 1 2013 to	CARITAS Hoima	17,950,179	18,000,000	49,821
31 Dec 2013	Development			
	Programme			
7 1 2012		• 000 000	• • • • • • • • •	
January 1 2013 to	Uganda Wildlife	2,000,000	2,000,000	
31 Dec 2013	Authority			
January 1 2013 to	Others (Sale of	20,820,843	18,554,943	7,500
31 Dec 2013	assets,			
	Environmental			
	Alert,			
	Subletting, Total			
	membership			
	incomes)			
Totals		236,692,992	236,713,343	20,351

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

The Society achieved only 60% of its targeted fundraising efforts which was just slightly above average. This hinders the growth of the society as a whole and stifles its conservation initiatives. There is lack of data entry books in finance like journals, files and self inking cheque vouchers which would ease work in the finance department

The Finance department recommends more effort in fundraising and proposal development. More emphasis on activities that can generate income for activities in the production unit and a general increase in partnerships with other conservation NGOs.

CHAPTER FIVE

Human Resource Department

TABLE 4: HUMAN RESOURCE JAN TO DEC $31^{\rm ST}$, 2013.

Category	Activities/Partic	Expendi	Benefactors	Remarks/outputs
	ulars	ture		
Capacity	Recruitment	salary	The	Ainembabazi Anne, Laster
Building			Organisation	Ogola, Fiona Adikini,
				Niwagaba Ivan and Ogeatum
				Julius.
Raising staff	Organise staff	Salary	All staff	3 meetings were carried out
awareness on	personel files		participatory	and staff contracts, personnel
Society internal	and talking staff			manuals and financial
policies and	about the			manuals were discussed.
regulations	contracts Talking			
	about personnel			National policies on
	manuals and			employment and work
	Financial			environment have not yet
	manuals			been discussed with staff
Welfare services	Payment of	461,900	Mr. Benard	The health costs for some
	medical costs for		Kazarwa,	staff are too high; they
	staff		Madam	exhaust their share within one
			Teddy	medical emergency.
			Nyangoma	

CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS FOR STAFF 2014

Category	Activities/Particulars	Expenditure	Benefactors	Outputs
Capacity	History makers			
Building	training (institute for			
	national			
	transformation)		Nyadoi Priscilla	
Capacity	Project planning and			
Building	Management			
			Teddy Namirimu	
Capacity	Project Planning and			
Building	Management			
	_		Owino Susan	

Capacity	Project planning and	
Building	Management	Nabasa Sharon
		Magambo
Capacity	Financial	
Building	Management	Christine
		Nabanakulya
Capacity	Human Resource	
Building	Management/CPA(U)	
	level 2	Ainembabazi Anne
Capacity		
Building	GIS (Geographical	
	Information Systems)	
	and or Agronomy and	
	Entomology	Kyalingonza Louis
Capacity	-	
Building		
		Joel Buyinza
Capacity	GIS and Remote	
Building	sensing	Lastan Osalla
C :	D 1' 1	Laster Ogolla
Capacity	Policy and	
Building	Governance	Julius Ogeatum

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

- There is still gaps in each unit in the department both human resources and capacity building gaps
- There is need for proper accountability channels, procedural rules should be followed and implementing departments should always make reference to the budget in requisitioning for money for activities.

References

UWS 2013 .Department of Finance and Human Resource annual activity Report. UWS Uganda Wildlife Society Website (www.uws.or.ug)