



UGANDA WILDLIFE SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2016

Prepared by

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of activities and achievements registered from the Uganda Wildlife Society strategic programmes implemented in 2016 towards its Strategic plan 2013-2018 and vision of Wildlife and Humans Living in Harmony. In 2016, among others, the Society implemented one research project, three conservation initiatives, 2 policy dialogues, 1 membership outing events and recruited additional 15 members bringing its total membership to 716 up from 701 in 2015. The Society total income spent to realize these achievements in 2016 was about Fifty Three Million Shillings Seven Hundred Ninety Five Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Two (**53,795,482**), 99% of which was received from donors and 1% from membership subscription. Outputs, outcomes and impacts of the Society activities in 2016 are given in detail in this report. Many of the Society activities were implemented in partnership with local governments, local communities, conservation agencies, private sector, civil society, ministries, the academia, Society members and other organizations, details of which are given in this report.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Uganda Wildlife Society (UWS) is a national, not for profit membership based non-governmental conservation organization registered in 1998 after 38 years of operating as the East African Wild Life Society (EAWLS) Uganda Chapter. The Society operates nationwide and has over 700 members from diverse fields including the academia, private sector, civil society, students, policy makers and government.

The Society, which was established in July 1998, is nearly 18 years old today.

Vision: Wildlife and people living in harmony.

Mission: Promote the conservation of wildlife and the environment through advocacy, knowledge generation and field demonstrations.

Goal: Sustainable utilization of wildlife and other natural resources.

1.2 Objectives:

1. Influence policy formulation for environmental management through providing forums for addressing, advocating and debating conservation issues.
2. Generate knowledge on wildlife and natural resources and provide informed non-biased environmental information to government, private sector and other Civil Society Organizations.
3. 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.

1.3 Strategic Programmes

UWS implements a range of activities and projects in five strategic programmes:

- i) Research
- ii) Conservation initiatives
- iii) Advocacy
- iv) Policy influence
- v) Membership

2.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED AND ACHIEVEMENTS BASED ON SOCIETY STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES IN 2016

2.1 Research

In 2015, the Society carried out the following research projects:

Project 1: Lessons from strengthening youth and women capacity for environmental management and livelihoods improvement in Eastern Uganda

2.2 Conservation initiatives

The Society achieved its targeted four conservation initiatives in 2016. The four initiatives focused on forestry, wildlife and climate related resources, the Society implemented the following:

- i) Training 124 people (youth and women) in construction and use of energy saving traditional cook stones.**
- ii) Training 124 people (youth and women) in tree nursery establishment and management and tree planting and management.**
- iii) Raising awareness and training 124 people on climate change, climate change impacts and mitigation strategies.**



Plate 1: Tororo Youth and Women participate in capacity building training to enhance environmental management and livelihoods improvement

- iv) The Society facilitated the Tororo youth and women to form a community based organisation promoting environmental management and improved livelihoods in the district.**

2.3 Advocacy and Policy Dialogue in 2016

- i) In collaboration with other partner organizations and, members, the convened three policy/advocacy fora that were aimed at raising awareness about forest conservation issues, and in particular the Bugoma Forest Reserve.

3.0 ACHIEVEMENTS (OUTPUTS, IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES)

3.1 Outputs, impacts and outcomes

1. Over 1,200 participants representing policy makers, conservation agencies, ministries, the academia, local government, communities, students, private sector, civil society and the general public among others participated in the dialogues organized by UWS in partnership with other stakeholders in 2016. The participants debated and recommended a number of measures to strengthen and support conservation in the country. A policy brief was produced using information generated and synthesized from policy dialogues, research and experiences and lessons learnt from engagement of local communities in conservation initiatives. The policy brief will be used for advocacy and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to guide their planning and decision making processes for conservation programmes, particularly those relating to human wildlife conflicts, forestry, wetlands and wildlife resources conservation and land in the country.
2. The impact of some of the dialogues facilitated by the Society have been realized as indicated, for example, by stakeholders' actions and re-directed priority in the Bugoma Forest Conservation.
3. UWS' support for advocacy and conservation initiatives has strengthened the relationship between conservation practitioners and local communities living adjacent to protected areas and a number of stakeholder-networks have been established to support conservation-based enterprises.
4. The Society's outreach function, influence on policy and visibility as a conservation non-governmental organization improved in 2016 as a result of the new conservation initiatives, dialogues and networking indicated in 1-6 above. A number of new partners were identified and involved in the Society's programmes, including youth and women organizations in Tororo district.

3.2 Dissemination and knowledge management

The Society produced eight (8) of the planned seven (7) publications based on information and knowledge generated from the activities implemented under five strategic programmes. The publications included One (1) research report, one (1) policy brief, four (2) newsletter issues, one documentary and one (1) Magazine. The following manuscripts are being reviewed and will be published in the course of 2017:

- i. Building youth and women capacity for environmental and livelihoods improvement in Tororo district, Eastern Uganda- lessons learnt.
- ii. UWS Policy Brief 2016 focusing on Building youth and women capacity for environmental and livelihoods improvement in Tororo district, Eastern Uganda.
- iii. Two E-newsletter issues (UWS Today) disseminating bi-annual progress reports from to UWS stakeholders, members and the general public.
- iv. One Magazine UWS 2016 disseminating the annual progress reports from to UWS stakeholders, members and the general public.
- v. UWS Documentary 2016: The Society Strategic Programmes and other conservation initiatives in 2016.

The publications were used as information resource materials in the Society’s advocacy and policy influence fora held in 2016.

3.3 Membership

5.3.1.1 Membership recruitment

In 2016, the Society targeted to recruit additional members to bring the total membership to 1,000 from 701 in 2015. The Society managed to recruit 15 (5%) of the 299 members targeted in 2016. The membership now stands at 716 (Table 1) and the recruitment drive will be stepped up in 2017.

Table 1: UWS current membership status

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	447	16	437	80,000
Individual ordinary	246	8	240	160,000
Individual donor	2	0	0	-
Corporate Ordinary	17	2	16	400,000
Corporate Donor	0	0	0	-
Life time	0	0	0	-
Totals	712	26	693	640,000

3.1.2 Membership services

a. Outing events

The Society in 2016 organized and took members for one (1) nature walk/run events (in Bugoma Central Forest Reserve. These outing raised members' awareness on deforestation and threats to biodiversity in the Bugoma Forest Reserve, including land ownership conflicts threatening to cause land use change in the Reserve and, provided information used in the Society advocacy/ policy dialogues in 2016. The outing event also enabled members to appreciate nature and wildlife and to raise pressure against land use change in the Reserve and, supported promotion of domestic-nature based tourism that demonstrate beneficial linkages between wildlife conservation and peoples' livelihoods.

b. Knowledge and information sharing

The Society's members received all the Newsletter Issues, some members accessed the resource centre for information, and participated in all the advocacy and policy dialogues.

c. Consultancy

A number of members volunteered and/or were contracted by the Society to provide consultancy services.

3.1.3 Membership fees

In 2016 members contributed Shillings 640,000 (Six hundred forty thousand) to support the Society's conservation works. The membership contributions constituted 1% of the Society's annual budget in 2016, and much of it was paid by new members. Very few of the old members paid their membership dues for 2016 and have been reminded to do so.

3.4 Finance and Resource mobilization

3.4.1 Resource mobilization

In 2016, the Society planned to raise a total of Shillings 655,600,000; however, the Society mobilized about Shillings 53,000,000. The funds were obtained from 4 projects (out of about 8 proposals submitted to various donors) (Table 2), membership subscription/donations and sale of corporate materials (T-shirts). In spite of the financial shortfall, a number of planned conservation initiatives and some were accomplished through collaboration with other partner organizations and members.

The Uganda wildlife society audit report and financial statements – income and expenditure statement - summary for the year ended December 31st 2016-2017 is here below

Table 2: Income and expenditure summary in 2016

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.			
	Notes	Year Ended 31/12/2016-17 shs	Year Ended 31/12/2015 Shs
Sources of funds			
Grants	1	67,439,292	326,473,245
Membership fees	2	2,776,622	2,776,622
Other Incomes	2	4,500	4,500
TOTAL INCOMES		70,220,414	329,254,367
Application of funds			
Programme Expenses	4	36,075,250	131,599,600
Administration Expenses	3	32,315,847	87,330,962
Depreciation	2	12,827,119	11,876,362
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		81,218,216	230,806,924
Surplus / (Deficit) for year		(10,997,802)	98,447,443

3.4.2 Future outlook

The Society in 2017, funds allowing, will recruit a staff member responsible for marketing UWS' services in conjunction with the production unit. Resource mobilization effort and capacity is also expected to improve in 2017, given that there is now a fundraising strategy, strategic plan and activity log frame to guide the Society in the next two years.

3.5 Partnerships and visibility

3.5.1 Society Secretariat and field offices

The Society secretariat offices moved from plot 1521 Mawanda Road Kamwokya to Plot 39 Babiiha Avenue, Kololo, Kampala. The secretariat has various publications and information materials that members can access and use free of charge and stocked with a board room and membership computer, to serve members who wish to use computer and or access internet while visiting the Secretariat. The Secretariat in Kampala also serves members and implements Society programmes in Central Uganda at the national level.

The Society currently has two functional field offices, one located in Buliisa town acts at its centre for members in the Albertine Rift and Western Uganda in general. The second field office is located in Tororo Town, Airfield Road and serves as a centre for Society members and programmes in Eastern Uganda.

3.5.2 Working with communities and other partners

Apart from working with communities who are members, stakeholders and or beneficiaries of the conservation activities and programmes implemented, the Society works in partnership with different organizations and ministries and these in 2016 included but are not limited to the following:

3.5.3 Partnership with conservation agencies and line ministries

The Society collaborates with Uganda Wildlife Authority in Mt Elgon Conservation Area, East African Wildlife Society, National Forestry Authority, and Uganda Tourism Board.

3.5.4 Collaboration with civil society organizations

The Society implemented activities in Buliisa with support from Ecosystems Alliance. At the National level UWS works in partnership with the Environment and Natural Resources Civil Society Network, Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas, Ecosystems Alliance and others. A number of activities were and continue to be implemented jointly with these partners.

3.5.5 Collaboration with local governments

The Society implemented joint activities with local governments in five districts in Eastern Uganda (Tororo, Busia, Namayingo, Bugiri, Mayuge) and Buliisa in the Albertine Rift. Joint conservation initiatives in Buliisa district addressed human wildlife conflicts and empowered local communities to participate in sustainable natural resource management.

3.5.6 Collaboration with the academia

The Society implemented a number of programmes in collaboration with Busitema University, Makerere University, Kyambogo University and others and, schools including the Aga Khan High School.

The Society's partners and networks expanded and to date totals over 50 partners and, collaboration with these institutions have helped increase the Society visibility to the different regions of the country and nationally. The institutions/partners UWS worked with in 2016 include but are not limited to those listed below:

1. Canadian High Commission in Nairobi, under the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives
2. Ecosystems Alliance (IUCN-NL, BothEnds, Wetlands International)
3. East Africa Wildlife Society
4. CARITAS Hoima Catholic Diocese Hoima Development Organization
5. Buliisa District Local Government
6. CARE Uganda
7. IUCN – World Conservation Union- Uganda Country Office
8. WWF-Uganda Country Office
9. AFIEGO
10. NAPE
11. Nature Uganda
12. ENR-CSO Network
13. CSCO
14. Parliament of Uganda
15. Ministry of Water and Environment
16. Ministry Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities
17. Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
18. Uganda Wildlife Authority
19. Uganda Tourism Board
20. Uganda Wildlife Education Centre
21. Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust
22. Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Trust and Conservation Sanctuary
23. National Environment Management Authority
24. Tree Talk Uganda
25. Buliisa Initiative for Rural Development organization (BIRUDO)
26. Kalolo Fishermen and Fishmongers Association
27. Soft Power Education
28. Kakindo Orphans Care
29. Buliisa Catholic Women Association (BUCAWA)
30. Albertine Nature Conservation Network (ANCON)
31. Kabolwa Agro-Environmental Protection group
32. Buliisa Community Integrated Development Organisation (BUCIDO)

33. Buliisa Environmental and Humanity Organisation (BULEHO)
34. Can-Uwodha Beekeeping Group
35. Bubwe United Beekeepers Group
36. Waaki Hand craft Group and Got-Apol tree planting Project
37. Buliisa Environment And Energy Conservation Project (BEECOP)
38. Butiaba Piida B Booma Environmental Protection And Fishing Group
39. Piida A Environmental conservation and fisher group
40. Kabolwa Fisher Folk Environment Protection Group
41. Karakaba Community Landing Site Environmental Protection And Fishing Group
42. Bugoigo Environment Protection Group (BEPA)
43. Wanseko Fishers Association
44. Joint Effort Enterprise (JEE)
45. Ngwedo Sub County Farmers Association(NSUFA)
46. Buliisa Environmental and Private Forests Owners Association (BEPFOA)
47. Busitema University
48. Makerere University
49. Kyambogo University
50. Tororo District Local Government
51. Busia District Local Government
52. Namayingo District Local Government
53. Mayuge District Local Government
54. Bugwe Forest Conservation Group
55. Avogera Craft Works Association, Buliisa
56. Tukolehamu Crafts Women's Group, Buliisa
57. Tororo Youth and Women (from Nyangole and Mudakori)

3.6 Student internships in 2016

UWS operates an open door policy. As such, the Society has continued to attract the interest of students and institutions of higher learning especially for building capacity of young trainees/students in practical skills and knowledge development.

3.7 Governance of UWS

Members of the Executive Committee tirelessly served UWS in 2016. Three of planned 4 quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee were held. The Board convened and successfully conducted the 2016 annual general meeting and provided oversight in the Secretariat implementation of the Society Strategic Programmes and activities. The Board lost one member, Prof Eldad Tukahirwa (RIP) who passed away in December 2016.

4.0 APPENDIX: UWS AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2015

4.1 UWS Income and Expenditure Statement 2015

The Uganda wildlife society audit report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2015 produced by KIT & Co. Certified Public Accountants income statement is given in Table 3 below.

Table 3: UWS Income and Expenditure statement

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2015 Year Ended		Year Ended	
		31/12/2015	31/12/2014
UGX		UGX	
Notes			
Revenue			
Grants	8	326,473,245	214,295,832
Other income	9	2,781,122	5,112,650
Total Income		329,254,367	219,408,482
Less expenditure			
Project expenses	10	131,599,600	183,688,652
Administrative expenses	10	189,807,962	43,989,980
Total expenditure		321,407,562	227,678,632
Surplus/Deficit		7,846,805	(8,270,150)