



WASH Systems strengthening for Climate - Resilient WASH Programming; the case of Kabarole District – Uganda.

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Background

- Environmental degradation has been gradually contributing to climate change which in turn negatively impacts the WASH sector.
- In Kabarole, this is evident in form of drop in the functionality of Point water sources and dry belts of NWSC hence increasing water demand and depending on River Mpanga for supply.
- IRC-Uganda has been contributing to mitigating the impact of climate change and ensuring early adaptation, through promoting safe, sustainable WASH interventions that are climate resilient among exposed and unserved populations.



Rationale.

- **Outlook of Key water resources management challenges.**

Demands increasing:

- Population growth
- Economic development
- Agricultural demand

-Limited human resource capacity for planning and Management.

-Limited data collection.

-Budgetary constraints



Supply diminishing:

- Catchment degradation
- Seasonal variability
- Low infrastructure functionality



Impending implementation of CMPs, development of key infrastructure and enforcement of effluent discharge permits.



Objectives.

Broad objective

- ❑ Strengthen WASH systems through collaborations to increase access to improved climate-resilient WASH services in Uganda.

Specific Objectives.

- *To create synergies with other institutions to increase intersectoral collaboration.*
- *To empower institutions and communities to adopt resilient WASH developments.*

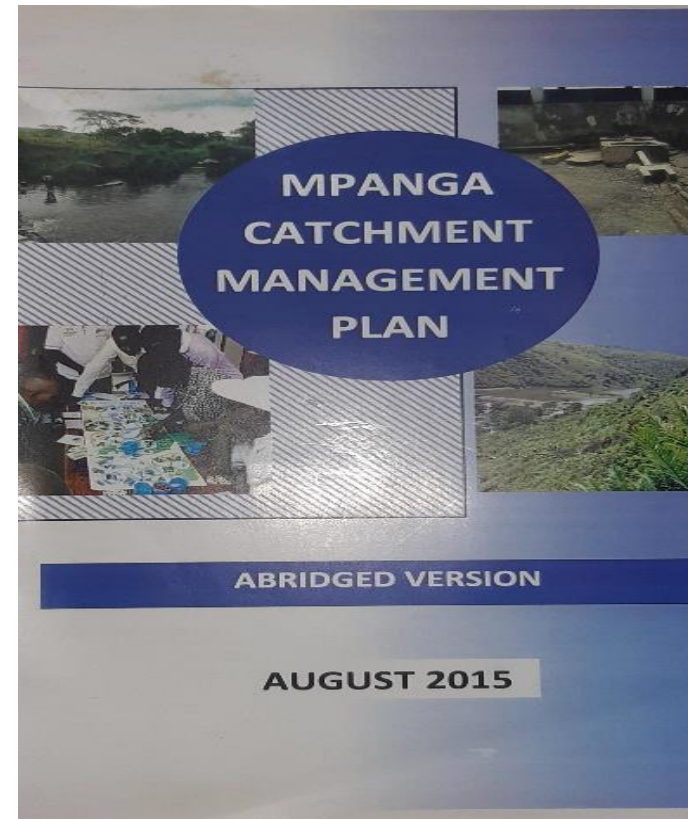


Approach- IRC's response

IRC supports water resources planning, capacity development, monitoring and regulation aspects to strengthen IWRM.

Collaboration with MWE -AWMZ to contribute to:

- The Mpanga Catchment Management Plan (CMP) strategic objectives.
- The Country's water policies, regulations and laws.





Approach- cont'd...

In October 2022, AWMZ with support from IRC implemented restoration and conservation activities for River Mpanga.

- Regulation and compliance; Identified potential polluters without discharge and abstraction permits; Conducted compliance assistance.

- Identified potential environmental hotspots emerging to deteriorate the water quality within River Mpanga Catchment.

- Community sensitization and awareness on river protection and conservation

- Supported water resources studies i.e., water quality assessments

- Planted over 200 trees to protect the Water catchment.



Approach cont'd...

Permit Compliance Assessment



Effluent discharge compliance monitoring

- Monitored to regulate pollution of water bodies



Surface water abstraction monitoring

- Monitored to regulate large surface water abstraction



Groundwater abstraction monitoring

- Monitored to regulate groundwater depletion and interference with hand pump wells



Community Sensitization on Waste Management in Fort Portal City.



Participants during sensitization meeting on SWM at Struggle market – Fort Portal City



Inspection of excavated pit to sediment grey effluent before discharge in to Mpanga behind Mpanga market – Fort Portal City



Engagement with car washers and garage operators on liquid waste management at Mugunu washing Bay – Fort portal City





Approach cont'd...

Community Sensitization on Environmental Management



Community sensitization on riverbank protection.



Community seedling distribution for riverbank conservation



Planting technique demonstration



Approach cont'd...

-Training in Basic Course in WASH systems strengthening for local government and CSOs



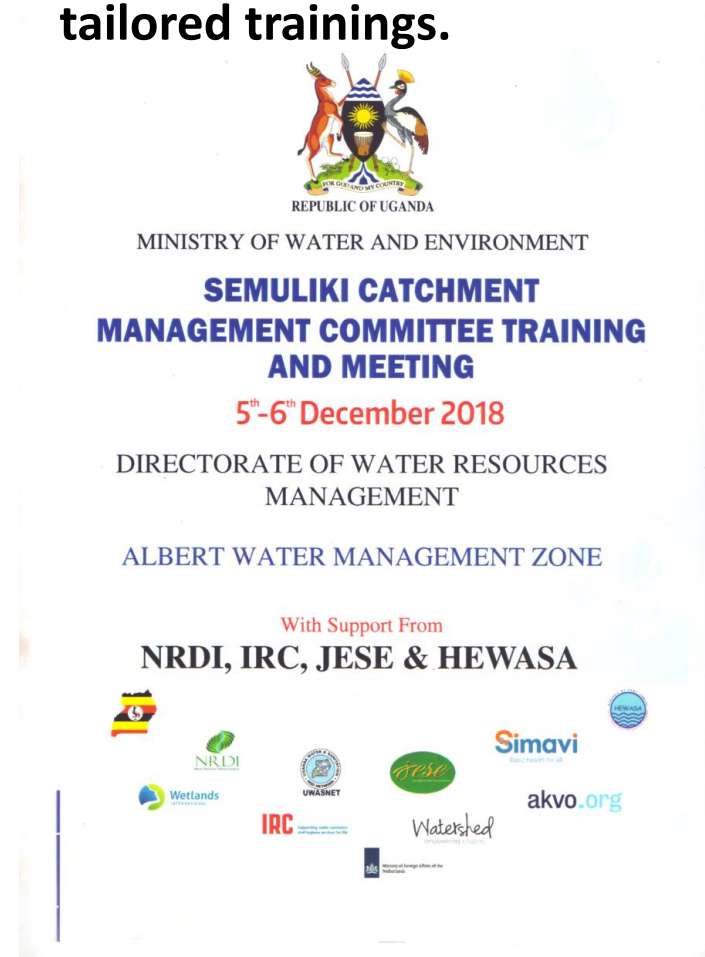
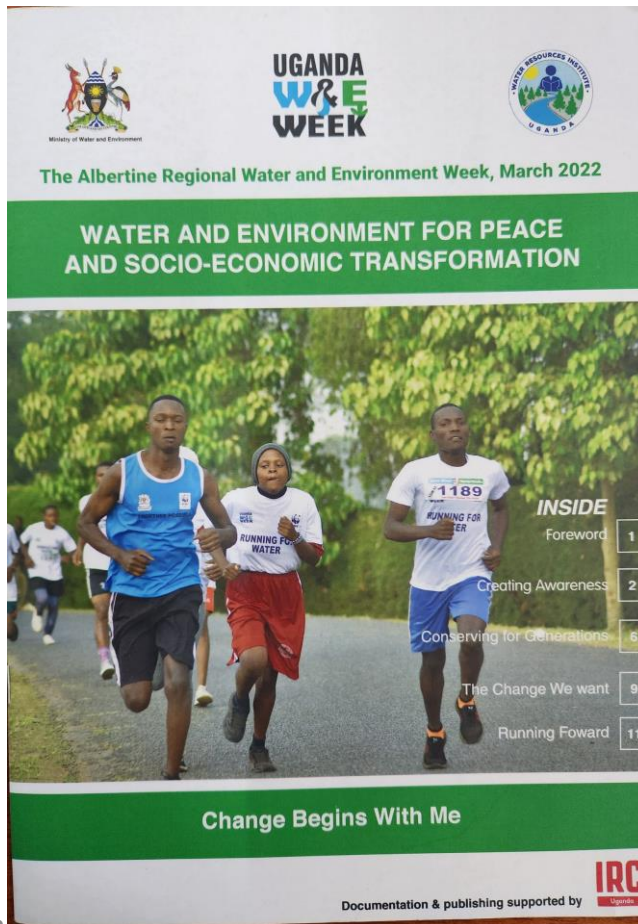
-Regional Learning focused on collaboration with MWE AWMZ and RWSRC5 to organize Albertine regional water and environment week activities.



Approach cont'd...

Awareness on catchment protection and conservation through documentation.

Awareness creation on Mpanga and Semuliki catchments through tailored trainings.





Approach cont'd...

-Among other interventions, efforts were also made to;



Infrastructure development- piped water to the water stressed Kabende subcounty.



Support District Water and Sanitation coordination committee meetings.



Collect data using mWater to identify WASH needs.



DWTT reflection and learning meetings focused on helping the district to implement Master plans.



Support roll out of O&M framework



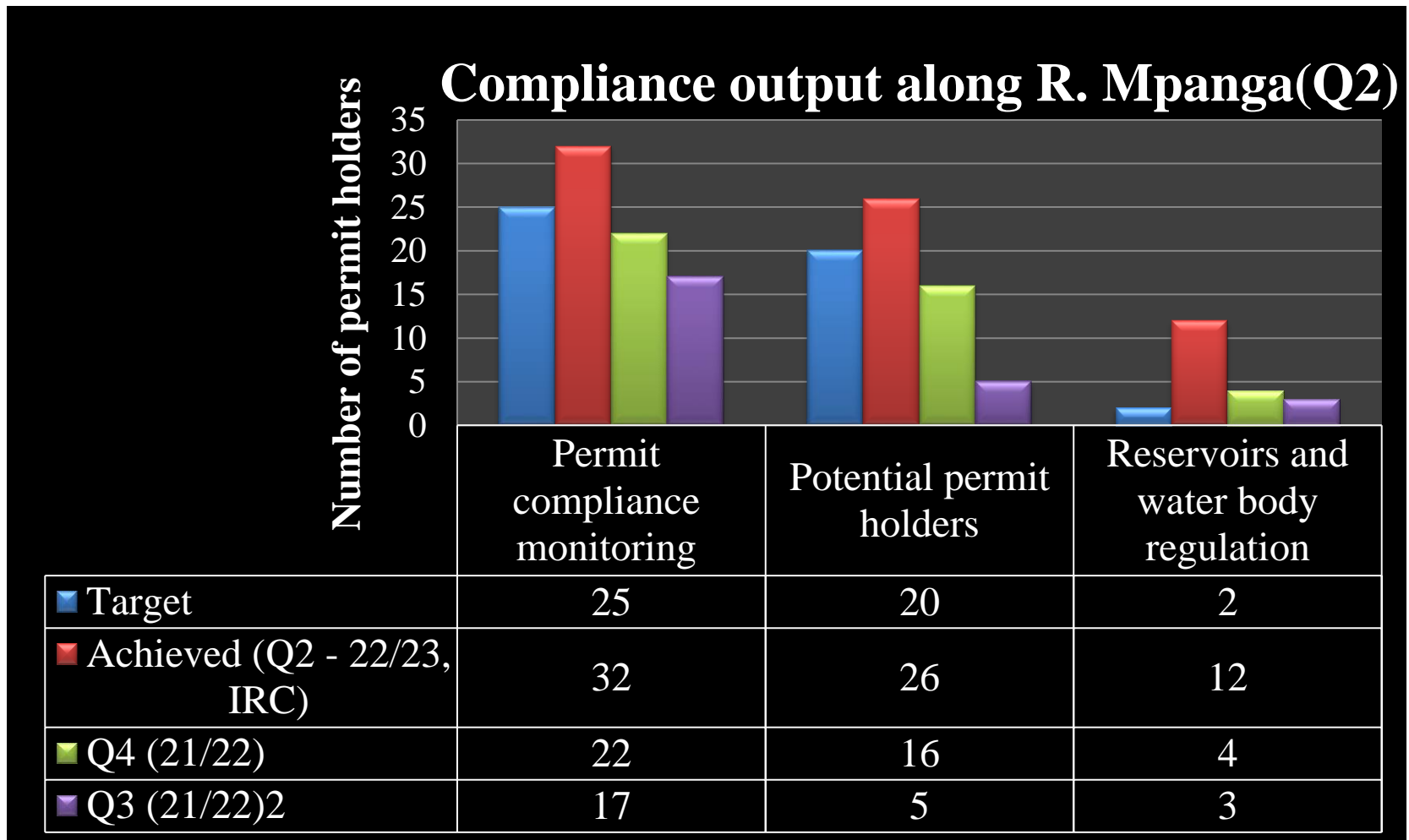


Results:

- The piped water supply system installed in Kabende has increased access to clean & safe water for over 12,000 people in the area along a 4.1 km stretch (*contributed to the 78% safe water access in Kabarole*) and in turn addressed the sustainability element due to its adaptive capacity to climate change, substituting the seasonal shallow wells.
- Over 200 trees planted have contributed to the 20% increase in tree cover and will be enhancing the hydrological cycle.
- 10,251 community members in 20 villages along R. Mpanga expressed willingness to plant and grow trees after sensitization.



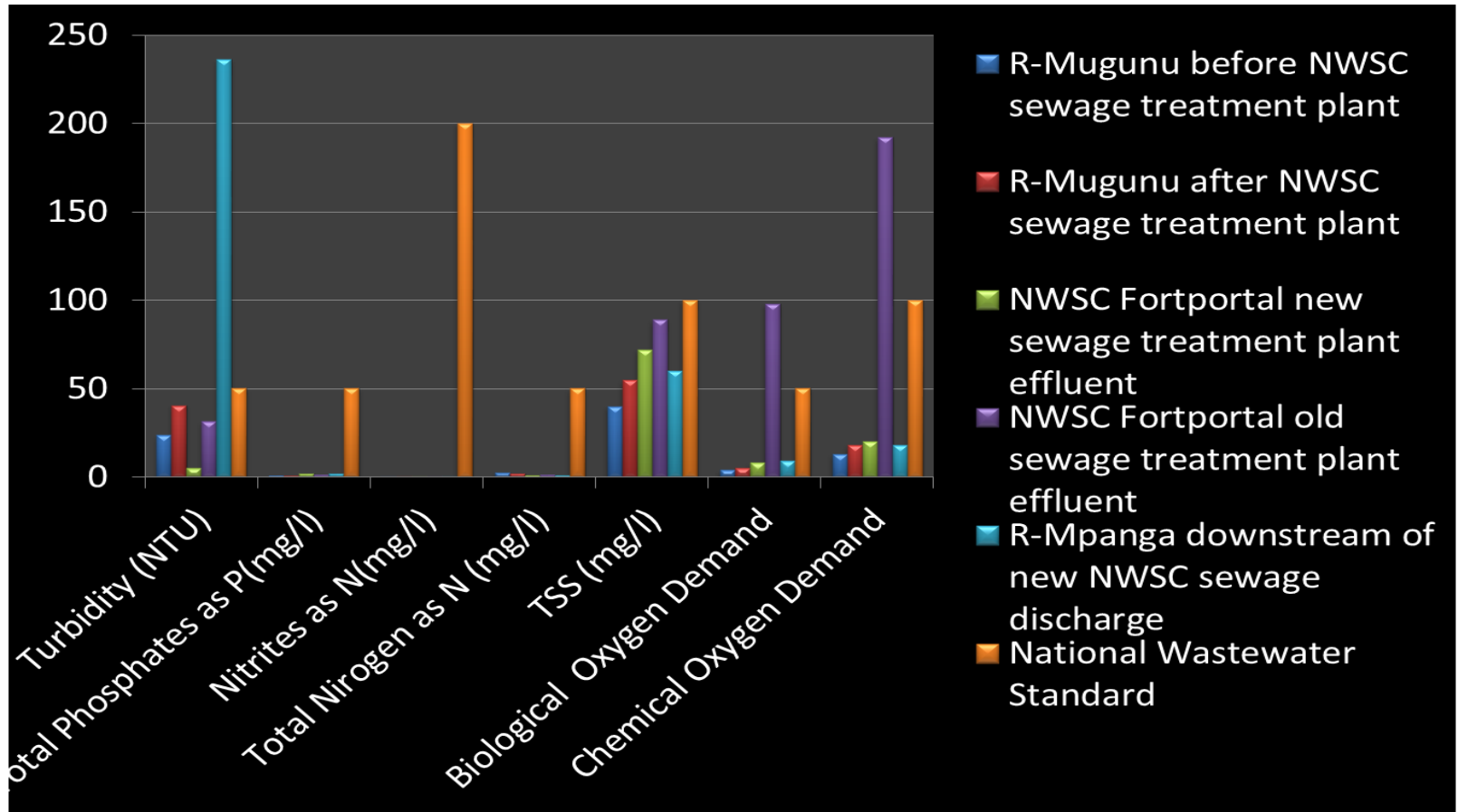
Results cont'd...





Results cont'd...

Water Quality monitoring:





Conclusions:

- Climate change has a tremendous negative impact on WASH services but at the same time the WASH sector presents an opportunity to contribute to adaptation and mitigation measures.
- IRC, through WASH systems strengthening, will continuously reach out and support its partners in the sector across the various programme focus areas to implement climate resilient tailored interventions for prudent impact.



Strategic recommendations.

Advocate for climate risk informed policies, strategies, plans and programmes.

Strengthen inter-sector coordination and stakeholder involvement.

Continuous climate change awareness creation programs (locally, regionally, nationally) for mindset and behaviour change to boost resilience.

Establish periodic monitoring and evaluation systems to review and appraise adaptation options.

Strengthen capacities of local gov't and private sector to implement and monitor resilient WASH programming



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