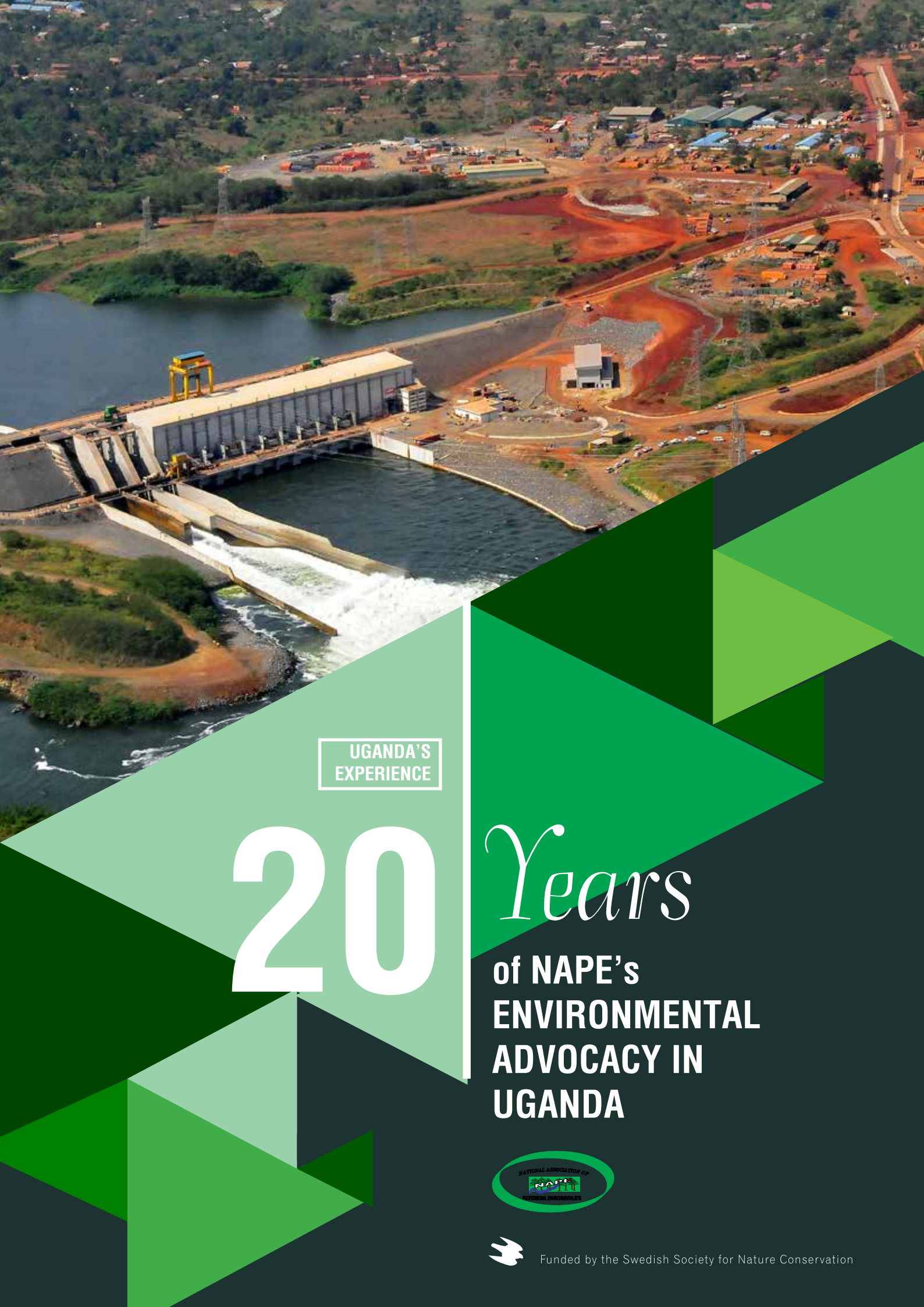




UGANDA'S
EXPERIENCE

20

Years

of NAPE's
**ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVOCACY IN
UGANDA**



Funded by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation

Pictorial of NAPPE 53rd edition



NAPE's Institutional Home, Zzana - Entebbe Road, 2009 to date

NAPE' Vision

A Ugandan society that effectively participates in the sustainable management of natural resources

NAPE' Mission

To promote sustainable use of environmental resources in Uganda, through training, research, advocacy and advisory services so that the people are able to contribute to national development

NAPE' Development Goal

Improve management of natural resources in Uganda

- Promote gender parity in the management of natural resources
- Enhance good governance in the management of natural resources
- Increase public awareness on best practices in natural resources management
- To mitigate effects of environmental / climate change through sound management of natural resources
- Develop and enhance the capacity of NAPE to achieve its objectives

NAPE' Mandate

To promote sustainable, and equitable management of natural resources in Uganda

NAPE' Core Values

Professionalism:

Believes in employing well trained, highly knowledgeable and skilled staff to deliver high quality services through conducting research and confidently advocating for best practices in natural resource management.

Teamwork & Commitment:

NAPE gives due importance to working together to achieve a common objective, respecting each other's contribution, realizing and appreciating that togetherness is prime to accomplishment of tasks.

Transparency & Accountability:

NAPE believes in being open in all ways and at all times, telling the truth, ensuring that resources are effectively and efficiently used, in the interest of every one.

Respect:

NAPE places high value on the preservation of life, property, and the environment.

Integrity:

NAPE expects its members and other networks/ partnerships to conduct themselves in a manner beyond reproach

Strategic Direction

In her early days, NAPE's advocacy actions targeted policy-makers and government. But from 2009, NAPE changed her strategic direction to target the communities themselves to hold their leaders and corporates accountable for their actions.

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FOREWORD

NAPE has made twenty years of environmental advocacy in Uganda. This year we are taking stock of our environmental advocacy work with a focus on the successes we have registered so far, challenges we have encountered and lessons we have learnt during this period.



We also want to share with the wider public the contributions we have made towards the development of this country, region and the world at large.

NAPE started humbly in 1997 as an environmental lobby and advocacy Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). In June 1998, we were registered as an indigenous environmental NGO by the NGO Board to work on a number of environmental issues countrywide. Like many other young organizations, NAPE's beginning was not easy. We started with limited resources – staff, premises and funds to make things move. NAPE had a dream of seeing a Ugandan society that jealously protects and utilizes her natural resources wisely for the benefit of all.

The journey towards having a society that is environmentally conscious on the use and management of their natural resources, and that can jealously guard those resources for the generations to come is not an easy one. We have tried to do this with lots of challenges; we have had difficult environmental campaigns and won, while others are still ongoing. NAPE has the will and zeal to cause change in the governance of our precious natural resources in Uganda. There is cause and need to ensure that NAPE continues to evolve into a strong and reputable organization that lobbies and advocates for sustainable management of natural resources in Uganda for the benefit of all.

We can today proudly say that NAPE has made enormous contributions to ensure that people's livelihoods, human rights and the environment take centre stage in Uganda's development agenda. Environmental advocacy is crucial and a critical instrument in forging, not only sanity in decision-making on natural resources management, but also in promoting good governance, rule of law and the respect for human rights.

NAPE is committed to contributing to sustainable solutions to Uganda's most challenging social, economic and environmental growth problems. We do this by monitoring government actions,

conducting research, providing educational materials, developing science-based strategies, organizing affected communities, making common cause with other civil society organisations and international organizations, and engage government officials at all levels.

It is an ambitious undertaking, but as lifelong Ugandans NAPE cannot ignore what is happening to our precious homeland. While we stand ready to work with anyone committed to the public interest, we also will not allow powerful political or special interests to intimidate or silence us. We have done so since our founding in 1997.

We choose our actions carefully to use our skills and resources most effectively, addressing our most urgent challenges first, and expand our impact by involving like-minded organizations and individuals, and communities in need.

Frank Muramizi,

**Executive Director
National Association of Professional
Environmentalists (NAPE)**



INTRODUCTION

It is now twenty years since National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) started environmental activism in Uganda.

NAPE works on a broad number of environmental issues with specific focus on lobby and advocacy for sustainable use of natural resources in the area of water and energy, land, forests and biodiversity, gender parity, community ecological governance and sound use and management of chemicals to ensure transparency and accountability in development process.

NAPE was born out of the realization that the country's national development processes is posing serious social, economic, environmental, spiritual and human rights challenges to many people, especially to rural communities who directly depend on natural resources for their survival. These challenges are caused by the development practices and laws and legal frameworks that govern it.

Uganda is endowed with natural resources – fertile soils, natural forests, wildlife and, a myriad of mineral resources. These resources if well utilized and managed, can lead the country and its people into prosperity. For nearly over three decades, Uganda has been embracing global development theories – globalization, modernization, and privatization however, these development models are not sensitive to environmental and livelihood issues but rather emphasizes profits. Most of the laws, policies and legal frameworks that govern development under these models are skewed towards maximization of profits. This has left the country in a tricky situation, social, economic, environmental, cultural and human rights abuse is on the increase. Global business

is taking the national center stage.

NAPE appreciates government's efforts of making national development plans that is expected to propel the country into a middle-class nation. However, to achieve this, the country's natural resources should be harnessed in a manner that reduces poverty and increases people's living standards; at the same time increases the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) but this is not the case. As an environmental advocacy group, NAPE has a cardinal duty to provide guidance and steer Ugandan public along the path of sustainable utilization and overall protection of the country's natural resources for the benefit of all. NAPE has been working to provide that guidance by complimenting government's efforts in collaboration with development partners and other stakeholders to steer the country in the right path – a path to prosperity.

NAPE has a vision of seeing a Ugandan population that effectively participates in sustainable use and management of her natural resources. And for last twenty years NAPE has been working towards this through caring out environmental education and awareness raising at local and national level, conducting research in environmental fields and training, sharing information with targeted audiences that are able to influence political decision and cause the desired change, do advocacy and sensitization at local level and national level so that Ugandans can be able to effectively participate in making decisions on issues of concern to them.

The ultimate long-term change NAPE

is searching for is to see a Uganda where natural resources are used and managed sustainably. The organization's Strategy to realize this dream include close collaboration and working with policy-makers to influence the national and international laws, policies and legal frameworks that impact natural resources use and management; and also work with the people who depend on these resources for their survival.

NAPE's work, however, has not been rosy all through. In the course of its work the organization has at some point sailed through turbulent waters, and fought difficult environmental wars and campaigns. We are proud to note that we won some campaigns, while others were lost and many are on-going. But that is what it means to fight for a noble course. We are committed to contributing sustainable solutions to Uganda's most challenging environmental and economic growth problems. We acknowledge it is a difficult undertaking, but as lifelong Ugandans, we cannot ignore what is happening to our precious homeland. While we stand ready to work with anyone committed to the public interest, we also will not allow powerful political or special interests to intimidate or silence us.

As committed activists, we will continue to choose our actions carefully to use our skills and available resources most effectively to address the most urgent challenges faced by our constituencies, and expand our impact by involving like-minded organizations and individuals, and communities in need.

NAPE'S EARLY LIFE

NAPE started humbly with limited resources : staff, premises and funds to implement her activities. The journey was not easy, but the organization had the will and zeal to cause change in the governance of the environment in Uganda. The organization started small, with about three staff working with no remuneration.

The organization had no office premises at the time, but was lucky to have a Good Samaritan who offered a small working space within her premise. At times, we could work under a jack-fruit tree on the compound of our host. The conviction that young organization was capable to make change in people's lives motivated the activists to even work harder.

Between 1998 to 1999, NAPE conducted environmental education and awareness campaigns on key environmental issues in the central region, Kampala and carried activities such as cleaning-up the Nakivubo channel that was frequently clogged by waste materials, cleaning and planting trees in the then Children's Park, that was located between Mulago Hospital and Makerere University. Today the Children's Park has been replaced by tall business buildings, residential homes and fuel refilling stations.

In early 2000, NAPE rented an office in Wandegaya, near Makerere University and extended its activities outside Kampala to neighboring district of Mukono, Busia and Palisa in Eastern Uganda. The organization conducted similar activities of environmental education and awareness campaigns, and also opened an office in Palisa. Unfortunately, due to limited resources to service two offices and pay staff, the Palisa office was closed in 2003.

NAPE carried out environmental education and awareness campaigns in Palisa, and targeted mostly students from a number of schools.

The idea was to inculcate the spirit of appreciation of nature in the young generation so as to make them grow with the love for nature, and it is only then that they can be responsible people who will conserve and protect it. It is about young people taking action today that will reap benefits for their children and grandchildren. The role of young people as active citizens and the importance of the having authentic experiences is what NAPE was doing by getting involved in real life issues in their local context, and helping them explore problems and take action.

Engaging with real environmental issues at the local level helps young people to practice active citizenship and also see the effects of their contributions.

In Mubende, NAPE carried out environmental education and tree planting campaigns. NAPE also conducted



Students in Palisa cleaning after environmental seminar went to clean-up the surrounding areas to their school, 2000



Frank Muramuzi (C), in one of their initial consultation meetings under a tree



NAPE staff standing in front of their office, June 2000



NAPE's Executive Director, Frank Muramuzi (C) planting a tree at the Centenary Park, 1999



One of NAPE's first awareness workshops, Mubende, 1999



Geoffrey Kamese (C) talks to government officials during the tree-planting drive at Centenary Park, 2000

environmental training workshops. These workshops are excellent ways to bring people together and focus on environmental issues. The workshops were also to encourage people to plant trees and protect and realize that the ecosystem services associated with planting depends on tree survival.

In Busia, NAPE organized an environmental exhibition aimed at presenting to the general public what NAPE was doing in environmental advocacy at the time. The exhibition attracted many people including government officials in Busia.



Geoffrey Kamese explains what NAPE was doing in the environmental field to the environmental show goers, 2000

NAPE also planted trees in parts of Kitante Golf Course and Centenary Park in Kampala. This was aimed at creating a green belt within the city, and encourage urban dwellers to appreciate the importance of trees within the city. NAPE's efforts were frustrated when government identified parts of Kitante Golf Course and Centenary Park for the development of business infrastructure facilities. There was a protracted fight between NAPE and government to save the Green Belt, but unfortunately in 2003 NAPE lost the battle. Today parts of the Golf Course and Centenary Park have been replaced by a five-Star Hotel (Golf Course Hotel), big shopping malls and business premises.

NAPE's advocacy strategy at the time was targeting the general public with environmental education and awareness programs.

Environmental management was a new concept at that time and not many people were appreciative of what NAPE was doing. Many people received NAPE's work with mixed feelings. Like any young organization, the biggest challenge NAPE encountered was limited resources to effectively carry out its activities. But this did not deter the organization from its mandate. As time went by, many people, including some government technocrats started realizing the benefits of NAPE's environmental advocacy work and started to associate with the organization. In this way, NAPE started growing bigger and evolved into a civil society organization that was relied on and trusted.

NAPE'S INITIAL CAMPAIGNS: THE BUJAGALI DAM CAMPAIGN



Tourist Rafting at the Bujagali Falls

The Bujagali dam was completed and commissioned in August, 2012

NAPE's first major campaign was a fight against the construction of Bujagali dam project on River Nile. The Bujagali campaign started in early 1997 after government of Uganda proposed to construct a large hydropower facility near the Bujagali falls on River Nile.

But the dam project was widely criticized by NAPE and other civil society organizations inside and outside the country for its environmental, social, economic, spiritual and cultural impacts on the livelihoods millions. Secondly, the dam when completed would submerge the Bujagali Falls which was one of the among the world's magnificent waterfalls.

At that time, Uganda was experiencing a serious energy shortage that was affecting service delivery and economic development. Government insisted that the Bujagali dam, when completed, would add substantial amount of power to the national grid and salvage the country from energy poverty. NAPE however, insisted that the dam was not the best

energy option and called on government to institute a comprehensive study of other available energy options, and also carry out a cost - benefit analysis of Bujagali dam project before making a decision. Similarly many Ugandans believed the Bujagali dam was not the best option for meeting the country's energy needs. Besides, the Bujagali Falls (now submerged) was one of the biggest tourist destinations in Uganda, generating \$60 million a year in tourist revenues at the time.

Since 1954 when Uganda got its first hydropower plant, the country has highly depended on hydropower from large dams for almost all of her electricity needs. Uganda has other energy potentials such

as solar and geothermal; however, these options had not been tested for their capability to increase electricity in the country. Government and donors were more interested in large, centralized hydropower plants rather than smaller scale energy projects that could share the energy wealth around the country. Secondly, the cost of extending power from the main grid to rural communities scattered in different areas remains a big challenge.

In a bid to increase electricity and spur development in the country, government insisted on constructing another big dam near Bujagali falls on river Nile, 8 kilometers downstream of the Naluubale (Owen Falls Dam). The dam project

was developed under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) between government of Uganda, AES Nile Power (an American Company) and the World Bank in collaboration with other International Financial Corporation (IFCs). The World Bank and Uganda Government claimed the project would double electrical output, stimulate industrial development and bring electricity to Uganda's poor.

NAPE and other environmental activists urged that the dam would not benefit Ugandans and it presented numerous social, economic and environmental problems. In addition, the dam would destroy Uganda's "national treasure," the beautiful Bujagali Falls at the source of the Nile.

Government of Uganda and the World Bank however, went ahead to approve the dam project. In 2001 government awarded Multi-national power producer AES Nile Power an American Company the powers to construct the Bujagali dam. The dam immediately encountered a series of challenges ranging from social, economic, environmental including bribery claims. Environmental activists in Uganda and abroad petitioned the Inspection Panel of the World Bank over the controversies surrounding the dam project. The Inspection Panel investigated the project and AES pulled out of the project in 2003.

In 2004, NAPE started a drive to publicize the World Commission on Dams (WCD) Report in Uganda with a view of making the outcomes of WCD a reality in Uganda's large infrastructure development process. The WCD came up with an innovative framework for planning water and energy projects that is intended to protect dam-affected people and the environment, and ensure that the benefits from dams are more equitably distributed.

The WCD framework covers key areas for improved planning of dams, including the need to fully assess all available options for meeting water and energy needs; addressing outstanding social issues

from existing dams before building new ones, gaining public acceptance for key decisions, and the importance of protecting healthy rivers. The WCD recommendations form the basis for many decision-making processes for dams around the world and constitute international soft law.

NAPE initiated the process that formed the Uganda Dams Dialogue (UDD). Having been concerned with the issues and gaps that surrounded the development of Bujagali dam, NAPE saw localizing the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams as an opportunity of bringing the dams developments in Uganda to the world standards. The UDD critically reviewed the WCD recommendations, and put them into the Uganda perspective, provide a mechanism for ensuring broad participation by the government, the private sector, civil society, dam affected communities and academia, to positively contribute to decisions regarding dams development in Uganda. Although government and the World Bank were reluctant to embrace the WCD report, the UDD process initiated by NAPE gave birth to a dialogue process in Uganda and to some extent influenced the Bujagali dam process. NAPE organized a People's Public Hearing on the dam, and many stakeholders including the WB participated and dialogued.

In 2007 Government revived the project and awarded the Aga Khan's Industrial Promotion Services (IPS), a Switzerland based foundation to build Bujagali Dam. NAPE and other environmental activists continued to challenge the project. The project was investigated four times -by the Ombudsman of World Bank (WB), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the European Investment

Bank and an independent coalition Counter Balance. All the reports from the different investigations showed the project implementation did not meet the international required standards. But despite these findings, government of Uganda and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) went ahead to construct the Bujagali dam project.

The Bujagali Dam was completed in 2012, but some of the difficult-to-resolve problems continue lingering over it. Compensations to communities that were affected by the dam project, notable those whose houses cracked due rock blasting during dam construction, and some 577 people who were affected by the transmission line that evacuates power from Bujagali to Mutundwe sub-station is yet to be completed. NAPE helped project affect people with outstanding complaints to seek legal redress and now they have stated to receive justice.

In the aftermath of the dam's completion, many of the campaign's claims have proved to be extremely accurate. Notably, the generation capacity of the dam is less than the projected 250 MW and the cost of power from Bujagali to electricity consumers —domestic consumers in Uganda today are burdened with a tariff of USh.651 per unit (19 US cents per unit). Though the realization has come tragically too late, government of Uganda has acknowledged that the Bujagali Dam project was a major mistake in relation to Uganda's electricity sector. The government has noted that it erred in accepting advice from the World Bank on Bujagali dam, which has turned out to be very expensive and unaffordable to most Ugandans, and it is now contemplating buying the project back from the Independent Power Producer.

NAPE Launched the WCD Report in 2004



NAPE Organized a People's Public Hearing on the Bujagali dam project, 2007



CAMPAIGN TO SAVE MABIRA FOREST RESERVE



The Mabira Central Forest that is being targeted for Conversion into Monoculture Agribusiness

The campaign to save Mabira Forest Reserve started in 2006 when Government of Uganda announced a plan to de-gazette one-third of the Mabira Central Forest Reserve (around 70 square kilometres (27 sq mi) of the only remaining natural forest in Uganda and transfer its ownership to the Sugar Corporation of Uganda Limited (SCOUL), owned by the Mehta Group of companies to expand their agribusiness.

The portion of the natural forest would be clear-cut and replaced by a sugarcane plantation. The deforestation plan however, was disputed within Uganda by many including conservationists and environmentalists spearheaded by NAPE. The environmentalists and the general public in Uganda feared for the loss of hundreds of endangered species in the forest, increased soil erosion as a result of deforestation, negative impacts on water balance and regional climate, and the damage on livelihoods of thousands of local people who directly depend on the forest.

The President and his cabinet then supported the plan, viewing it in terms of increased job to many jobless young people. The cabinet claimed the plan would generate 3,500 jobs and contribute 11.5 billion Ugandan shillings to the treasury then. Unemployment rate in Uganda then stood at 1.90 percent according the Uganda Bureau of Statistics.

NAPE & other civil society groups petitioned the Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Edward Ssekandi over Mabira give-way and presented their reasons, but there was no clear indication that government was considering to abandon their plan.

The group also attempted to arrange a meeting with the investor (management of SCOUL), but they were not ready to talk with the environmentalists. Despite all effort with clear reasons to dispute the forest give-away –dialogue meetings with the president, government line ministries and the management of SCOUL, the president went ahead with the de-gazettement plan.

NAPE mobilized and organized more civil society groups in Kampala and they formed a pressure group and codenamed it

Members of Save Mabira Crusade Standing in front of SCOUL Offices after failed meeting, December 2006



The members of Save Mabira Crusade presenting a petition to Parliament over Mabira Give-Away, 2-006



'Save Mabira Crusade' (SMC) to put excessive pressure and protest the forest give-way. The SMC group further mobilized Ugandans across the country and beyond to protest the forest de-gazettement plan. It was the first time in Ugandan history when unity in diversity prevailed. All Ugandans spoke with one voice. The international community too, supported Ugandans in the struggle to save Mabira forest.

In February 2007, SMC organized a massive demonstration on the streets of Kampala to denounce government plan to give-away part of Mabira forest to the Mehta Group of companies. The organizers of the demonstration duly informed police and clearly indicated it would be peaceful. The police gave clearance to the demonstration and promised to provide security to the demonstrators. Police however, did not live to their promise instead they fired live bullets, tear gas canisters and brutally beat up the demonstrators. Three people were killed including an Indian in the process. Properties worth millions of shillings were also destroyed.

Government did not accept to own their mistake, but blamed the mishandling of the demonstration on the organizers. Some members of SMC including, the Executive Director of NAPE were arrested and incarcerated. But this did not deter them from opposing the unpopular government plan. Government then bowed down to pressure and abandoned the plan to de-gazette the forest. But this was short-lived.



Thousands of Ugandans on the Streets of Kampala protesting the Mabira Forest Give-Away, February 2007



In 2011 government again attempted to resurrect the de-gazettement plan. But NAPE and other civil society groups once again put up a spirited fight to save Mabira forest. NAPE together with representatives of other civil society groups held meetings with the President both at his country home in Ntungamo and at State House in Entebbe and the activists told the President the economic value of Mabira forest and their position to save the forest.

The Executive Director, Frank Muramuzi and other members of SBC at the dock over Mabira protest, February 2007

The activists advised government to look for alternative land to grow sugarcane. The President suggested a joint research between the activists and government on the economic values of Mabira forest so that the findings of that research would inform government on their next step. But since then, the government has kept silent on the Mabira forest issues. For now Ugandans can say they have won the Mabira forest battle, but the war still continues. Who know! The power of money may eventually consume the widely cherished forest.



Civil Society members meet President Museveni over Mabira Give-away_2011

THE CAMPAIGN ON LAND GRABBING IN UGANDA

NAPE has been campaigning against land grabbing, a contentious issue in Uganda that has resulted into the selling or leasing of large pieces of individual and community land to foreign interest under the pretext of development.

Land constitutes the main asset from which people or communities are able to derive a livelihood. It represents a very valuable economic asset, source of identity and culture. Access to land is necessary for access to numerous economic, social and cultural rights, and is an entry for many political rights. The realization of the right to food is intimately tied to the availability of land on which to produce livestock and to grow crops.

In Uganda, many investments have resulted in dispossession, deception, violation of human rights and destruction of livelihoods. Large-scale land acquisitions under plantation agriculture

appear to recognize host communities only in the form of semi-skilled class of farm laborers, while others are marginalized or displaced. Sadly, local communities are rarely adequately informed about the land concessions that are made to private companies.

Land grabbing, which is also tied to water, forest and mineral grabbing, represents a systemic violation of human rights. The condition of landlessness threatens the enjoyment of a number of fundamental human rights. In the current context of Uganda, the problem of landlessness continues to increase as land in rural areas comes under multiple

pressures, including expansion of large scale commercial farming and land use conversion; and mineral resources extraction.

Since 2009, NAPE has been working with communities in Kalangala Islands in Lake Victoria who are confronting multiple challenges from a Palm Oil Project. The Oil Palm Project is owned by Wilmar International, one of the largest oilseeds corporations in the world on highly biodiverse islands in Lake Victoria in partnership with the Government of Uganda, the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and Kenyan oilseeds company BIDCO.

While government and the project owners made numerous promises to the land owners in exchange for their land – jobs, electricity, health facilities etc..., the project appear to recognize host communities only in the form of semi-skilled class of farm laborers, while others are marginalized or displaced. Sadly, local communities were not adequately informed about the land concessions that are made to private companies.

The operations of BIDCO are leading to pollution of water and fisheries by chemical fertilizers; dwindling of common forests on public land accompanied by cultural erosion; food insecurity, spiraling food prices; malnutrition; population displacement and changes to the local climate. Our smallholder farmers have limited or no ability to voice their concerns over these developments on their land.



Parts of the Palm Oil fields in Kalangala District in Lake Victoria which used to be a natural rain forest

Uganda does not have sufficient mechanisms to protect local rights and take care of local interests, livelihoods, and welfare. Insecure local land rights, vaguely defined productive use requirements and legislative gaps are undermining the position of local communities who are now up against multinational companies working hand-in-glove with the political elite.

Members of the local communities around the shores of Lake Victoria used to derive their livelihoods from fishing. However, the fish have become scarce, and this has ushered in poverty, crime, prostitution and conflicts between households and/or community members. Others used to depend on simple or rudimentary

timber harvesting and growing food crops that would be sold in Kampala and neighboring places. However, when Bidco introduced oil palm the micro-economy shifted to growing oil palm, which resulted into food insecurity, environmental destruction, biodiversity loss, and people are poorer than they were. Those who refuse to sell, oil palm is planted to zero them off. The victim finds it difficult to graze animals or have access to water for animals.

NAPE conducted a number of sensitization and awareness campaigns to empower communities to defend and demand their land rights. There is a need for a human development model that provides host communities with the possibility to continue to live on their lands and to decide how their natural resources are going to be used, and this means that it is peoples themselves who should decide what kind of cultural, economic and or spiritual development they want.



David Kureeba of NAPE sensitizing communities in Kalangala about their land rights, 2010

In 2015, affected people of Kalangala dragged project owners, Wilmar International to courts of law for the social and economic injustices the project has caused to them. This project was sold to the residents of Kalangala with promises of employment and a brighter future. But they were not fairly compensated for the loss of their livelihoods, and now without access to land face a daily struggle to get by.

The Court clear the company of land grab case:

Despite the serious questions about the justification for donor funding and private investment in the project, the court in Uganda in 2016 cleared the company of the land grabbing case. The project is now continueing. The first phase of the project was completed in 2011, and despite the identification of a number of social and environmental problems, the second phase of the project is currently going ahead. The second phase will expand palm oil plantations onto several more islands. The project is being promoted as a poverty-reducing endeavour, yet it is causing widespread displacement, food insecurity and deforestation.

Land grabbing continues

In the Albertine Grabane, for example,

where vast quantities of crude oil and gas have been discovered, government is increasingly commoditizing land as an exclusive commercial good not as a human rights issue. A human rights-based approach to land rights brings another perspective to the value of land, as a social and cultural asset and a fundamental right. Development plans including investment negotiations with investors (local or foreign) are conducted behind closed doors. Government and corporations disregard the participation and voice of local land owners who would be

impacted by such investments.

NAPE has worked with alongside other civil society organizations to sensitize communities on their land rights to enable them defend it. NAPE's efforts have not deterred government and land speculators to grab community lands. Many communities in the oil region of Uganda have found their land rights taken away by oil companies. Communities are now living in resettlement camps with very limited facilities. They are hopeless and hapless.



A child standing in Kijayi Resettlement Camp where some communities in the oil region are living after their land was taken over by sugar companies.

THE ECOSYSTEMS RESTORATION CAMPAIGN IN UGANDA

Ecological restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed. It is an intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem that has been disturbed. NAPE started an ecosystems restoration program in Kasese district, Western Uganda.

The goal of restoring a degraded ecosystem is to have an ecosystem that is resilient and self sustaining with respect to structure, species composition and function, as well as being integrated into the larger landscape and supporting sustainable livelihoods. Many healthy ecosystems are a product of human endeavours over very long time periods and therefore restoration commonly requires the participation of resource - dependent communities. Ecological restoration is a well established practice in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management.

Many of Uganda's ecosystems have undergone significant degradation with negative impacts on biological diversity and peoples' livelihoods. Katwe Salt Lake is one such ecosystems that had severely suffered. NAPE worked with communities to restore ecosystems around Katwe Salt Lake, Katwe Landing site on Lake Edward and River Muhokya all in Kasese district, Western Uganda.

Katwe Salt Lake had been severely degraded due to artisanal salt mining activities that has been taking place since the 19th century. The salt miners construct salt pans (temporary solar evaporation ponds) from which salt is harvested all around the lake. The miners harvest salt using traditional solar evaporation method where the sun rays (energy) hit the salty ponds and when water evaporates, salt crystals form. So to realise a good harvest, miners would clear virtually all the vegetation near the lake to allow enough sun rays to reach, for increased evaporation, however, this practice presents low precipitation (little rain). This practice left the lake bare of vegetation cover and exposed to severe degradation and risk to climate change effects.

At the time NAPE started working at Katwe Salt Lake, the lake had already started shrinking in size due to silting as strong winds would blow soil from hills around the lake into the lake. NAPE started by targeting the miners in awareness about the negative impacts of the unwise exploitation of the lake resources.



Katwe Salt Lake before NAPE's intervention, 2011

NAPE helped the communities to develop a management plans for Katwe salt lake and Katwe Fish landing site and supported a stake holder dialogues on Animal-Human conflict, especially Crocodiles in Lake Edward as the area is within Queen Elizabeth National Game Park. NAPE also supported the construction of demonstration cages to manage the problem of killer crocodiles.

NAPE together with the miners and communities around the Salt Lake held meetings and agreed on how to embark on ecosystem. NAPE training salt miners and lake catchment stakeholders on catchment protection, natural resources and their access rights and entitlements, and worked with them to restore the degraded slopes with 90,000 seedlings of indigenous Euphorbia trees on 1100 acres.



NAPE's Executive Director, Frank Muramuzi (R) and some staff and salt miners walking around the degraded salt mining sites 2011

NAPE together with the salt miners, fisher men and communities around the Salt Lake held meetings and agreed on how to restore the ecosystem around the fish landing site and ensure that the lake is maintained and well protected.

The lake is located in Queen Elizabeth Nation Game Park. Animal – human conflict, especially the challenge of crocodiles that used to eat up people as they went to draw water from the lake. NAPE constructed a cage at a point where people draw water to protect them from the man-eater crocodiles. Today people can freely draw water without fear of losing their lives to crocodiles.

Today NAPE can boast of bringing back to life Katwe Salt ecosystem to some extent. Vegetation around is becoming thicker and has attracted birds and other living creatures that had long disappeared. If communities continue to maintain this ecosystem, the lake will completely recover.



NAPE staff participated in the planting Euphorbia trees in degraded areas around the Salt Lake.



NAPE staff and stakeholders standing in the cage constructed to protect people from the killer crocodiles, 2012



NAPE staff and communities participating in the cleaning and restoration activities around the Katwe Salt Lake 2011

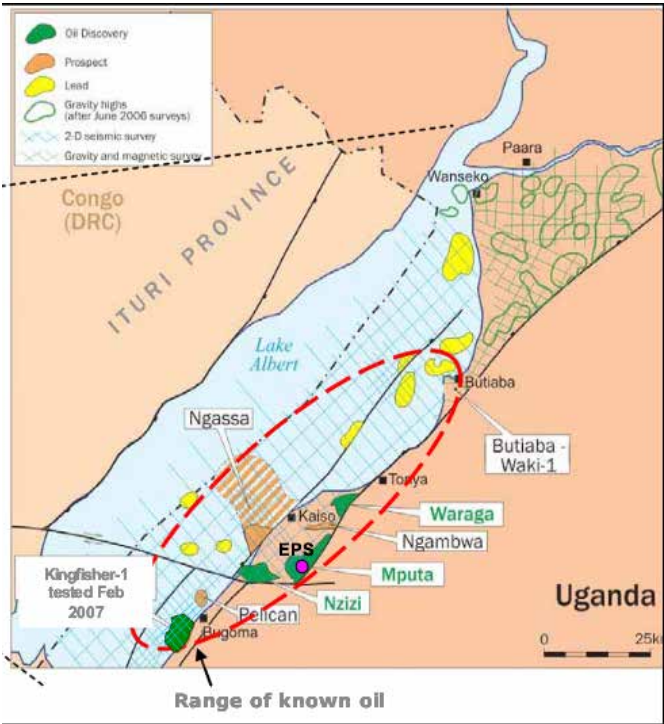


A NAPE staff points at the restored hill slopes of the Katwe Salt Lake, 2014

CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE GOOD GOVERNANCE IN THE OIL AND GAS SECTOR

Commercially viable oil prospects were confirmed in Uganda in 2006, and government started to plan for the exploitation of the resource. Many oil companies showed interest in Uganda's oil, Tullow Oil Company and Heritage Oil and Gas Ltd Companies were the first companies that signed a pact to develop Uganda's oil resource.

Map showing the Albertine Grabane where the Early Production Scheme was planned



In 2008 government proposed to start Early Production Scheme (EPS), that was to start in three oil block 1, 2, and 3A where Tullow Oil Company holds interest in the three exploration licenses. The oil blocks are located in sensitive areas – Lake Albert and Kabwohye Wild Life Reserve. Tullow conducted an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for the EPS. However, when NAPE analyzed Tullow's EIA it was found not to explicitly provide cost-benefit and opportunity-cost analysis of having the EPS in the area vis-à-vis other economic activities such as tourism, fisheries and wildlife conservation.

NAPE contested the EPS, saying that petroleum exploitation must be undertaken in an accountable, equitable, and socially, economically and environmentally responsible manner. The project was being pushed by government in a serious legal and institutional vacuum. NAPE and other civil society organizations demanded that government first puts in place laws and legal frameworks to govern the development and management of the oil sector before any oil development activity begins.

NAPE noted that a number of oil drilling sites were identified but there was no Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA) to form a basis for national planning and decision making concerning the petroleum sector. The SEA is important especially to cater for the uncertainties and conflicts associated with potential medium to long-term indirect and cumulative impacts that may result from further oil exploration and production throughout the Albertine Rift.

The EIA for EPS did not effectively consider impacts of pollution from activities like gas flaring



NAPE insisted the most urgent priorities was to develop appropriate and comprehensive legislations on the licensing and revenue management processes, establishing a compensation regime for those who will be displaced by oil development and developing appropriate environmental safeguards. NAPE's contributions influenced the politics of oil in Uganda and in government abandon its earlier plans of the EPS.

NAPE challenged government to put in place a comprehensive Environmental Management System that includes good planning practices (prior to production), a clear and transparent licensing regime to ensure that only oil companies with top environmental records are invited to participate in Uganda and safeguards to avoid, mitigate, and offset foreseeable environmental damage.

Government started putting in place regulations to govern the oil sector after intense pressure from NAPE and other civil society organizations, including members of parliament. Since then no area was licensed for exploration to allow the government to put in place the required legal, regulatory and institution framework to ensure an open, efficient and competitive licensing process. In February 2015, government announced the first competitive licensing round for petroleum exploration in eight years.

The country has a Mineral Act, which is currently under revision. The existing laws are the Mineral Policy, which was established in 2001, the Mining Act 2003 and the attendant regulations established in 2004. The review is aims to address several issues that have haunted the sector including; conflicts over competing land uses, the rise of unregulated artisanal and small scale mining activities and the inadequate enforcement of health and safety provisions.



An oil well drilled in the middle of a game reserve is a serious threat to wildlife and the tourism industry



An oil well drilled by the shores of Lake Albert - Bunyoro region

In 2012, NAPE commissioned an action oriented research aimed at strengthening Bunyoro cultural institution to defend her cultural heritage from destruction by the emerging oil and gas industry. The research which was supervised by NAPE was conducted by selected cultural leaders from Hoima, Buliisa and Kibaale districts and specifically from the villages of Kakindo, Nyakabingo, Kaiso, Tonya, Bugoigo, Kizonge, Buseruka, Kigoroby, Butiaba, Bugambe and Buliisa Town Council.

One of the most disturbing outcomes of the study regarding the oil and gas industry was that government and the Oil Companies seemed to direct more attention towards the economics of the industry than the significance of Bunyoro cultural institution that has close to six million people. The study also revealed that Bunyoro Kingdom was not involved in the negotiations of the oil deals so far

struck between government and the oil companies. And that cultural resource were being destroyed by the oil drilling activities without permission from the King.



A sacred cave where members of the community consult their gods for blessings.

NAPE has continued to work with host communities in the oil region through education, sensitization workshops, on oil issues and its impacts on environment and livelihoods and their human rights so that communities can position themselves to benefit from the oil sector developments.

NAPE has also supported communities who have so far been impacted negatively by the development processes, especially the fishermen to find alternative sources of economic livelihoods. NAPE has organized some communities and helped them to form association and community-based organizations, provided them with some start-up funds (sub-grants) to support community-led income activities. NAPE has also linked affected communities to relevant institutions that can support their local initiatives to improve their livelihoods. NAPE has also taken some members of affected communities for an exchange visit to Nigeria to share experiences and learn from communities in Nigeria who have for many years confronted challenges related to oil extraction. It is NAPE's hope that such experience exchanges will help to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the impacts of oil on environment and livelihoods.

CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE SOUND USE & MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

In 2005 NAPE participated in the development of a National Chemicals Profile for Uganda.

In 2005 NAPE also conducted a campaign to control and eliminate Persistent Organic Pollutants (PoPs), and participated in the preparation of a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Preparation of the NIP had a series of activities including compilation of preliminary inventories of three groups of POPs chemicals -Pesticides, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and the Unintentionally Produced Dioxins and Furans; and the introduction of Best Available Technology & Environmental Practices (BAT/BEP), use of Cleaner Production Techniques in industry and awareness programmes that would be useful to facilitate elimination of PoPs.

Uganda is a party to the Stockholm Convention, and the NIP identified the actions that government of Uganda has to take in order to fulfill her obligations and responsibilities towards successful implementation of the Convention. The inventories of the three groups of POPs chemicals provided a good insight into the scope and scale of the situation in the country.

Uganda has accumulated some obsolete pesticides over time; however, information about the quantities of obsolete pesticides in the country is very scanty. The storage facilities for these absolute pesticides exist at the ministry of agriculture in Entebbe, Kawanda Agricultural Research Institute, and some other decentralized agricultural centers.

NAPE carried out a study on PoPs hotspot at Kawanda Agricultural Institute (KARI) to establish the types of the obsolete pesticides, their quantities and make recommendations on how to safely dispose them. The study revealed the presence of obsolete pesticides that had been stored for more than three decades and government had not got mechanisms to safely dispose them. The study found dilapidated storage facilities seated on contaminated grounds.

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) are a group of synthetic organic chemical pollutants that are able to resist degradation by light, chemical and biological processes. These chemicals are characterized by their low solubility in water, high lipid solubility, resulting in bio accumulation in fatty tissues of living organisms. They accumulate in the food chain and persist in the environment taking up to centuries to fully degrade.



Some of the Obsolete Chemicals that was found in Kawanda Agricultural Institute (KARI), 2005



Dilapidated Facilities that was used for storing obsolete chemicals in Kawanda, 2005

The semi-volatile nature of POPs enables them to be transported long distances by air currents and marine waters to locations where they have never been used before. Thus, both humans and environmental organisms are exposed to POPs around the world. These chemicals are a threat to human health and the environment.

The study was aimed at finding feasible steps that could be helpful in the control of PoPs chemicals and effective implementation of the NIP. NAPE also carried a number of awareness and education campaigns on the impacts of PoPs to human health and the environment.

NAPE conducted a number of sensitization workshops and public meetings that involved different stakeholders -the private sector, academia, government and civil society organization. We also extended awareness meeting to the local level targeting rural communities, especially where NAPE has running projects.

Promoting SAICM implementation

NAPE has been implementing the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in Uganda. The objective of sound chemical management is to prevent and reduce the potential for human population and ecosystems to be exposed to toxic and hazardous chemicals.

Uganda is experiences difficulty in the area of chemicals management and safety. Some industrial products that contain harmful chemicals such as mercury are imported into the country but little is known about them. These include; paints, fungicides, household appliances, batteries, electronic switches and relays (e.g. automobile switches), certain vaccinations (such as ethyl mercury), dental amalgam, lamps, measuring and control devices (e.g. thermometers, barometers, thermostats, sphygmomanometers) and skin lightening products, among others. Consumer protection in Uganda remains a big challenge to achieving sustainable health and environment management.

In 2010 NAPE conducted a campaign that focused on creation of public awareness and influencing policy, legal and institutional frameworks. The campaign aimed to assess current laws on consumer products as well as looking at possible impacts of harmful consumer products on the environment and health, -particularly children, women and people living with HIV/AIDS.

One of SAICM's objectives is the review and harmonization of policies and legislation related to chemicals management at the national level. Strong national legal frameworks for the sound management of chemicals are a critical component of an enabling environment for SAICM implementation.

In 2010 NAPE conducted a study to review the legal and policy framework for the implementation of SAICM for sound chemicals management in Uganda. The existing legislation is fragmented, overwhelmingly sectoral and sometimes conflicting. Implementation, monitoring and enforcement mechanisms are

also weak.

The outcomes of the study aimed to strengthen the legal framework, and significantly improve implementation, monitoring and enforcement in the whole country.

NAPE also published a number of awareness materials and reports that were disseminated on sound management of chemicals.



Some NAPE's Publication on Sound Chemicals Management

In 2014, NAPE conducted another research on chemicals and chemical waste management in the mining sector in Uganda with specific objective of assessing and establishing the status of chemicals and chemical waste management in identified mining areas. The study was done in salt mining at Katwe Salt Lake, gold mining in the hills of Mubende, and the oil and gas exploration and exploitation in the Albertine Region.

Findings of this study will help to influence policy on mining especially artisanal mining, where miners are exposed to harmful chemicals that presents serious environmental and health impacts.

In 2015, NAPE participated in Lead Poisoning Elimination week. The awareness campaign targeted selected schools in Kampala. Lead in paint is a major source of potential lead poisoning for young children. Impacts of lead poisoning includes brain retardation, which a big concern for young people.



Geoffrey Kamese training school children at Standard Junior School on Lead poisoning, 2015

CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS

The causes of climate change manifests in two broad categories i.e Natural and Man-made. Climate change is mainly caused by the production of green house gases from human activities including agricultural production, industrialization, burning of fossil and bio fuels, and deforestation among others.

These gases react with the thin layer (Ozone) which protects the earth from direct heat from the sun. When this layer is depleted, sun rays hit directly on the earth resulting in temperature raises which influence climate on the earth and these changes manifest as global warming, prolonged droughts, and unreliable rainfall.

Causes of climate change effects in Uganda are to a large extent man-made, and the country has started experiencing some effects of climate change in form of floods, landslides, increasing temperatures, drought in some parts of the country, drop in water levels in major water bodies that produce hydro electricity which is Uganda's major source of power. The projected oil exploration in Uganda and subsequent use of its products is likely to exacerbate the change of climate, thus increase the effects of climate change.

Climate change poses serious threats to socio-economic development, biodiversity and ecosystem services. While the impacts of climate change are already being experienced in Uganda, the country is not well prepared to deal with these impacts. Poor communities, households and individuals with least resources have the least capacity to adapt to the impacts related to these hazards and are therefore the most vulnerable.

Although most people are aware of climate change, they have not yet understood the science of it, so majority are still ignorant of how their actions affect climate change. Climate change awareness is uneven throughout civil society organizations, government, and different ministries and agencies usually plan, invest, and implement adaptation and resilience strategies separately.

The debate on climate change is not about how to mitigate its effects, but how to prepare and adapt to its impacts. Moreover, the linkages between climate change, land degradation and loss of biodiversity are highly interactive and would therefore require more holistic approaches to solve common problems.

NAPE has been working in collaboration with government and other civil society organizations to raise awareness on

climate change related effects and targeted key stakeholders such as policy-makers, local authorities and communities in the organization's climate change campaigns. NAPE's climate messages emphasize sustainability of ecosystems.

NAPE has been working to strengthen the resilience of rural populations and agricultural production systems in the water stressed areas. NAPE's activities aimed at increasing climate change awareness, knowledge and capacities in selected areas in the districts of Mukono, Luwero and Mbarara. NAPE's awareness focuses on teaching communities that continuous degradation of ecosystems weakens their ability to provide essential goods and services to the extent that irreversible.

In 2009, NAPE worked with a water-stressed community in Mukono district to implement a climate adaptation project. This was a community-based adaptation initiative in response to communities' concerns over unavailability of safe water for domestic consumption, and other uses especially during dry spells. With financial support from the University of Western England NAPE helped to rehabilitate two protected community wells that had broken down and also constructed a new one. The communities provided labour and other materials such as stones, and NAPE provided technical guidance and supervision.



Community members participating in the rehabilitation of their protected well, 2009

NAPE's climate change awareness activities in Mbarara aim to mitigate the impact of water scarcity on livestock production systems, with a focus on water infrastructure system. NAPE conducted awareness campaigns aimed at strengthening community knowledge on operation and maintenance of water for production infrastructure, the construction and rehabilitation of protected wells, rainwater harvesting tanks, mainly for livestock, and domestic consumption.

NAPE constructed a rain water harvesting reservoirs for communities of Kashari in Mbarara district that lies within the dry cattle corridor.



Members of Kashari community participating in the construction of their water reservoir, 2010

In 2013, NAPE in collaboration with the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda conducted awareness campaigns on climate change targeting different churches (the Catholic Church, the Protestant Church, the Muslims, the Born Agains and selected faith-based organizations).

Churches command a lot of respect and trust from their followers, and when churches become active and aggressive in climate change advocacy, the message is likely to make great impacts. NAPE sees church leaders as strong and important stakeholders in promoting climate change advocacy.

NAPE conducted awareness workshops for different church leaders across the country educate them about effects of climate change and how they could be involved in climate discussions at the local and national levels.

NAPE also participated in the development of the national climate policy for Uganda, and contributed useful inputs from the civil society perspective that were incorporated in the National



Goffrey Kamese of NAPE addressing Religious leaders in one of the climate change workshops, 2014

Climate Policy 2014. NAPE is now monitoring the implementation of the nation climate policy.

At the international level NAPE has been participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) debates. In solidarity with other international non-governmental organizations and movements, have influenced some political decisions on international climate change instruments and exerted pressure on world governments to commit themselves to reducing global warming.



NAPE members at one of the CoP17 debates held in Johannesburg, South Africa

NAPE is also a member of Friends of the Earth Federation (FoE), and hosts FoE-Uganda; and will continue working with like-minded groups and individuals to address issues of climate change in Uganda, and globally.

PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN WATER AND SANITATION

Good governance in the water and sanitation sectors, combined with citizen empowerment in the planning, budgeting and monitoring of water and sanitation service delivery, is essential not only for these services to reach the poor, but also for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to drinking water and basic sanitation.

NAPE has been work on water governance issues includes advocacy for rights to water and sanitation. We have been doing this through engaging government to formulate policies and legislations that promote the rights to water and sanitation.

NAPE participated in Promoting Water Users Multi Stakeholder Dialogues in Uganda under WASH, that aims at increasing the capacity of local communities to effectively engage with the decision makers and service providers in seeking good governance and accountability in the WASH sector.



Some of the illustration materials made for the rural community in regard to water and sanitation

NAPE formed and has trained some water and sanitation user committee in Luwero, Mukono, Nakawa and Buikwe districts on their roles, and on their rights to water and sanitation so that they are able to demand better water and sanitation service delivery, and hold government accountable.

NAPE has been exclusively working on improving poor people's access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation in selected districts. We believe that water and sanitation are human rights. These essential services are vital for health, education and livelihoods; and form the first, essential step in overcoming poverty. People living in poverty require effective, reliable and affordable water



NAPE staff training communities of Katosi fish landing site in Mukono on rights to water and sanitation

NAPE formed and trained water and sanitation committees that demand and monitor the provision of safe and clean water and sanitation services from Government and other service providers, and they also monitor the implementation of WASH budget at District level among other activities.

and sanitation services which meet their needs. Safe, affordable domestic water, improved hygiene and effective sanitation are essential for people's health, livelihoods and opportunities.

To achieve this, NAPE facilitated various forums aimed at giving a platform for water and sanitation users committees to interface with duty bearers in order to find joint solutions to issues of rights to water and sanitation, and provided WASH facilities to communities as demonstrations to trigger communities to demand similar services from the government and other duty bearers especially those that are responsible for interfering with community water sources, such as owners of flower farms.

NAPE also formed Village Environmental Committees (VECS). The Village Committees are responsible to enhance demand-based approaches by bringing decision-making down to the village level where users can decide, among other things, the type of technology, location of the facility, level and hours of service, tariff charges and how they should be used.

Committees, when empowered can increase transparency by holding open meetings, sharing the minutes of meetings with the community and publicly penalizing people who fail to follow the rules or pay tariff.. Moreover, people's participation contributes to the achievement of the five main objectives of water supply projects: effectiveness, efficiency, empowerment, equity and coverage.

NAPE also trained Village Environmental Committees in construction of Eco-San toilets and maintenance of WASH facilities. It is also important for the community to feel a sense

of ownership for the resource; the community as a whole should believe that this is their project and they are responsible for keeping it operational.

NAPE constructed 55 Eco-SAN toilets that are benefiting over 2000 people in and around fishing villages on the shores of Lake Victoria in Buikwe District and trained communities on constructing Eco-san toilets, and also rehabilitated ten spring wells that is estimated to be benefiting over 8,000 people including two prison institutions and two primary schools.

NAPE also developed Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials that were distributed to communities and schools with an aim of spreading WASH information.

NAPE also worked with water stressed communities in Luwero, Mukono, and other selected districts in improvements to household or community water supplies. NAPE sensitized communities about the benefits of Rainwater harvesting and worked with them to constructed rain water harvesting tanks in selected households.

NAPE also carried out a Training of trainers who in turn trained Village water, sanitation and hygiene committees who provide water, sanitation and hygiene education and awareness to communities and schools within and around the communities. The intervention of NAPE and other NGOs that work on water governance have greatly contributed to government's efforts to provide safe and clean water, improve sanitation and hygiene in many rural settings in the country.



NAPE staff and members of the Village Environment Committee at on of the Eco-San toilet in Njeru, near shores of L. Victoria



Beneficiaries of the rainwater facility pose for a photo in front of the water tank., 2010

PROMOTING THE ORGANIZATION'S ADVOCACY WORK THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

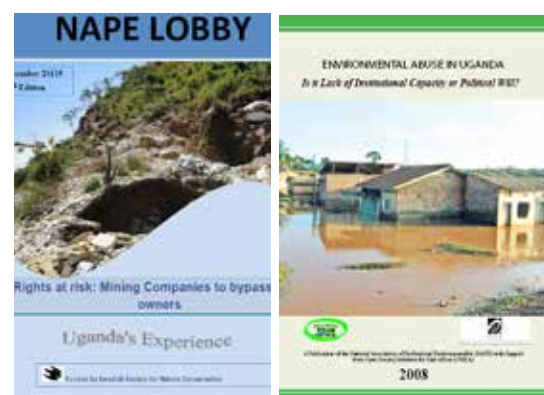
Environmental Advocacy is the active support of ideas and causes expressed through strategies and methods that influence the opinions and decisions of the general public, government and development partners. Aims of advocacy are to create or change policies, laws, regulations, distribution of resources and other decisions that affect people's lives and to ensure that such decisions lead to effective implementation.

NAPE's advocacy work has been generally directed at policy makers including politicians, government officials, public servants and private sector leaders whose decisions impact upon people's lives, as well as those whose opinions and actions influence policy makers, such as journalists and the media and development agencies such as International Financial Institutions (IFCs).

NAPE's work has been around advocacy for political decisions and actions that respond to the interests of people who are directly impacted by development models that usurp local sovereignty of people in resource-rich locations leading to disposition, degradation of community resources, and disruption of community livelihoods all in the name of development.

We recognize that policy change does not happen overnight and that it is often linked to broader change in the political environment. NAPE has been employing long-term as well as short-term thinking with an aim of understanding our points of resistance and the means to gain traction, our readiness to form strategic alliances, and the flexibility to seize windows of opportunities when it presents itself.

To promote the organization's advocacy work and raise its visibility, NAPE has used different communications strategies: from critical writing, use of electronic media platforms such as the website, social media, video and documentary development about impacts of development processes on the environment and people.



Some of the NAPE publications

NAPE also conducted critical engagement such as policy monitoring and policy dialogue, building strong relationship with reputable journalists, through organized campaigns for policy change, to use of folk media such as traditional performances during public celebrations aimed at awareness creation, pathfinder and demonstrator projects such as community radio station (Uganda Community Green Radio) that can inform and influence future policy making.



Launch of Community Green Radio 2014

The Community Green radio has provided a rare opportunity for people facing disadvantage to be able to assert their own needs and interests in regard to their human rights and improvement of their livelihoods.

NAPE's Community Radio hit the Ugandan air waves in 2014 and is increasingly becoming popular in the region because of its community centered programming. The Community green Radio was set to provide a forum for communities concerned about the prospect of oil extraction in the region. The radio has giving the people a public voice in the local, regional and national debate over oil and other eco-social issues. NAPE started the radio after realizing that community radio stations form a critical part of the struggle to provide accurate, timely information on the devastating impacts of mining operations, allowing communities to make more informed decisions on their own terms rather than industry myths and empty promises.

The radio is boosted by a growing number of listeners, and forms a critical part of NAPE's work to strengthen Uganda, and Africa-wide Civil Society networks to respond to the rapid growth of extractive industries.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY SCHOOL APPROACH IN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

Realizing that Uganda's ecological footprint was growing fast, NAPE started a sustainability school programme to address the existing and emerging environmental problems in the country. Sustainability school is not a physical school with structured class rooms and learning sessions, but ideological, issue-based and emphasizes community empowerment.

It is an advocacy strategy or approach that seeks to empower people and communities who are negatively affected by the current development model that is profit oriented and has little regard for the commons and people's livelihoods. The establishment of the sustainability school programme was aimed at accelerating the shift in development thinking and practice towards people-centered program and the participation of people and communities in decisions concerning their own lives.

The main objective of the Sustainability School Approach is to create a critical mass composed of communities, community leaders and growing CSOs able to hold the government, its development partners and the elite individuals accountable for the impacts of their actions on people's livelihoods and national development processes.

The Sustainability School works through the establishment of Sustainability Villages which are based on issues of concern to a particular community or communities. The Sustainability Villages are focal points for facilitating sharing and learning as well as mobilizing and advocating for action on identified issues of concern to the community. For communities to attain capacity to cause change, they are taken through a process of learning from each other and by each other, share experiences, engage in dialogues and agree on collective actions. This learning process is facilitated by volunteers, called Sustainability Educators who are selected from within the communities and guided by NAPE.

Members of communities who attend sustainability trainings use the knowledge they acquire to assist their communities to solve challenges they confront in their daily life. They also use the knowledge to help their communities to address unsustainable practices that result into social, economic, and environmental challenge arising from poorly planned development projects which are usually owned by multinational companies, government in collaboration with their development partners (multinational companies) or rich and powerful individuals with backing from government.

Sustainability School approach helps in the transfer of power from dominant groups such as the state, powerful and influential individuals from within or outside government, multinational

companies in collaboration with International Financial Agencies (IFCs) to the poor, marginalized, disadvantaged and disenfranchised members of communities. Development projects owned by such powerful groups often times impact communities who the project owners claim are beneficiaries.



Communities of Awoo Sustainability School in a meeting to discuss issues of their land rights, 2013

NAPE has established twenty four Sustainability Villages in eight districts since the start of the Sustainability School programme. Many of the Sustainability Villages are located in the Albertine Graben where the oil development processes are posing serious risks to communities. Others are in the central and South-Western district of the country. Communities in these Sustainability Villages are now empowered and have been using the approach to demand transparency and accountability from government and owners of projects that are destroying community resources and livelihoods.

The Sustainability School approach is contributing to the promotion of good governance, gender parity, respect for human rights and democratization processes in the management of natural resources in areas where the approach is being implemented. Testimonies from Sustainability Villages point to improved political decisions, natural resources management and living standards of host communities.

NAPE envisages that through this approach, the government and multinational companies will implement and promote international good principles on business, such as Prior Informed Consent (PIC), and this will go a long way to reduce human rights abuse by companies. NAPE also believes communities can continue to debate and get their own solutions to their sustainability problems even when NAPE and other development partners have pulled out.

CAMAIGN TO AMPLFY WOMEN'S VOICES IN THE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY IN UGANDA

Women's gender role puts them in direct contact with natural resources such as forests, water, land and wildlife. They utilize and conserve these resources to supply basic needs for their families. Therefore, conservation of natural resources cannot be done without the involvement and training of women.

Unfortunately, women are only appreciated as invisible land managers who must only benefit from relevant incentives in their cultural roles. Yet nowhere is their impact and activities more significant as their indigenous knowledge of, and management of natural resources such as land, water, forests, minerals and wildlife from which whole communities depend for survival.

When it comes to extractable mineral resource including oil and gas, women often bear a disproportionate share of social, economic, and environmental risks. The recent large-scale discoveries of vast commercially viable oil deposits in Uganda presents great potential for shared economic growth and reduce poverty levels in host communities and the whole country at large. The oil and gas value chains have important opportunities and considerations for women's engagement; however, this has not yet been fully realized in the Uganda's oil sector.

Throughout the chain of exploration, contracting and licensing, operations and extraction, value addition, tax and royalty collection, and revenue distribution and management, women and men face different needs and opportunities. In the Uganda oil sector for example, in the initial stages of impact assessment and consultation during exploration, little efforts was made to capture women's concerns and include them when disseminating the findings. This means that the timings, location and information provided did not take into consideration the literacy levels and technical knowledge of the rural women in host communities, as well as their ability to attend the meetings with regard to the location of the meeting venues, working hours and gender group hierarchies.

This left rural women in the Albertine Graben of Uganda at a disadvantage due to their exclusion from the value chain and their limited capacity to take advantage of productive opportunities within it. The lack of gender responsive legal frameworks, policies and programmes that consider the rural women's needs and protect their rights; limited access to community resources; lack of adequate political voice; and disproportionate power relations between the genders in households and communities worsened the bad situation.

NAPE has been working with communities in the Uganda's oil region to builds awareness of the gender dimensions of the extractives sector through research, analysis, and publications, and then deploys this knowledge to help women to demand accountability and their rights. The campaign focused on raising women's voices from the local level to the national, regional and international on best practices and challenges faced by women in natural resource management through their inspiring stories via song and poetry, conducting and publishing action oriented research on impacts of natural resources extraction on women.



Some of the Research Reports NAPE has published on the impacts of the extractive industry on women

NAPE started a program - Amplifying Women's voices which aim at giving rural women affected by oil development processes a voice to present their concerns and interests to the government, corporations, and other parties involved in oil extraction in their areas. NAPE mobilized and organized women, and helped them to form an association / group of affected women. Through their association, the women have voiced their concerns and interests via songs, drama, writing petitions and use other communication channels. NAPE has also facilitated women to conduct women-led participatory action research and shared the report findings widely with government, companies and other stakeholders to show the plight of the women affected by the oil development process.

Kaiso Tonya
Women's drama
group rehearsing a
song that demands
women's rights in
the oil development



NAPE has been sensitizing the women on the human rights aspects of the oil industry so that they can understand, demand and defend their rights. We have also form a women dram group and encourage them to make use of drama as a powerful expressive medium to promote equality in their society, as well as to educate and advocate around their issues. NAPE has captured the voices of the women affected by oil development projects and produced documentaries and publications that we use as advocacy tools to influence decisions on developing the oil resource. Communities also use these publications to help them demand for their rights.

NAPE is fostering and supporting the local and regional exchange of knowledge and experiences between communities affected by the extractive industry. Information and communication can stimulate women's awareness and motivation; and it enables them to take informed decisions on the crucial issues affecting their lives. NAPE does this through creating platforms for the women from different groups and communities that NAPE works with to meet and share their experiences, Knowledge, learn from each other, and deepen their understanding of issues around women's rights. The women discuss and together find solutions to their problems. NAPE is working in collaboration with others networks and

organizations to make advocacy campaigns more powerful and bring the sustainable change desired.

NAPE is working in collaboration with other regional networks and alliances that promote women's rights to develop and conduct women-lead advocacy campaigns more powerful to be able to bring the sustainable change desired. NAPE is a member of an African Gender and Extractives Alliance (WoMin) and we undertake women-led research, solidarity exchanges, education and campaigns to promote development models advancing gender, ecological, energy and climate justice. Through WoMin, NAPE has supported leaders of women groups from the Bunyoro region to a solidarity exchange to the Niger Delta in Nigeria to share experience and learn from women affected by oil extraction in Ogoni land.

NAPE and her partners have also facilitated women to participate in international for and push for the protection of women's rights in Uganda and the African region. NAPE's staff was facilitated to attend the UN Status of Women in Sustainable Development (SWSD) in New York, 2013 and also in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations (CoP2) in Paris, 2015.

NAPE will continue to promote development models that advance gender parity. Already NAPE's efforts are begining to bear fruits in the sustainability villages where NAPE is working.

Some NAPE
staff with
members of
WoMin at
a solidarity
exchange
meeting on
fossil fuel,
Energy and
Climate Justice
in the Niger
Delta, Nigeria,
2015



NAPE staff recording
the concerns of a
woman affected by
the oil development
processes



KEY ACHEIVEMENTS

NAPE is proud of our many accomplishments to elevate environmental protection as a primary strategy for creating lasting environmental change. Below are some highlights, none of which could have been achieved without the incredible support of our many valued partners.

Saving Mabira Central Forest Reserve

NAPE in collaboration with other civil society organizations in Uganda and beyond blocked government's plan to give-away Mabira Central Forest Reserve in 2007.

The Mabira Forest Campaign raised fundamental issues of governance and accountability. NAPE and other civil society questions around government's actions included: the country's adherence to international commitments; its compliance with the national Constitution, policy and legislation; its accountability to citizens; its respect for the rule of law; and the ability of national institutions to restrain the power of the executive.



Part of Mabira Forest that was slated to be given-away, 2007

The campaign to save Mabira forest used different strategies and tactics to influence policy decisions around key governance questions. It was a well-planned and focused advocacy campaign that brought in multiple constituencies; tapped into the hopes and values of ordinary citizens; simplified the message; talking to all who would listen; and used a mixture of tactics (from petitions and protests to litigation and media exposure).

An economic study by Nature Uganda - (The Economic Value of the Proposed Degazettement of Mabira Central Forest Reserve, 2007) revealed that the value of the wood then was estimated to be worth US \$316 million by the National Forest Authority (NFA). The forest captures carbon worth US \$212 million annually. It also delivers important ecosystem services, especially as a water catchment area for Lake Victoria, Lake Kyoga and the Nile River. It is the source of many other commodities, such as food and medicines, and supports the livelihoods of local communities. And, it attracted tourists that then contribute 62% of the total revenue collected from visitors to Uganda's Forest Reserves.

Government promised to conduct its own economic study and compare the findings with that of the civil society organizations. Government said these studies would inform government's next cause of action. To date there has been no report of such a study, and government has kept quiet about the forest degazettement plan. For now, NAPE and civil society organizations can proudly say we have won the battle although the war is still on!

Restoring Katwe Salt Lake Ecosystem

NAPE's work around Katwe Salt Lake has enabled the recovery of Katwe Salt Lake ecosystem that had been severely degraded by salt mining activities.

Katwe Salt Lake after NAPE's intervention



Katwe Salt Lake had undergone significant degradation due to unsustainable practice of salt mining with negative impacts on biological diversity and livelihoods of many people who depend on the ecosystem for their survival. Virtually all the vegetation around the lake shores had been cleared by salt miners to provide enough sun light to facilitate the salt wining process which uses solar energy.

NAPE in collaboration with communities around the Lake developed a Katwe lake management plan with an ultimate goal of conserving and promoting sustainable development of the lake so that the livelihoods of people depending on the lake ecosystems can be sustained.

By restoring the formally degraded Katwe Salt Lake ecosystems, NAPE reduced vulnerability and increased resilience of the biodiversity of the lake ecosystem to provide much needed benefits to Katwe communities. The recovery of the lake ecosystem has iattracted many bird Species and brought back some bird species such as Peid Kingfisher, Provers and Lesser Flamingoes that had disapeared or migrated to other locations.

Influencing the Bujagali Dam Development

NAPE is happy that in the aftermath of the Bujagali dam completion, many of the dam campaign's claims have proved to be extremely accurate. Though the realization has come tragically late, the government of Uganda now accepts that the Bujagali Dam project was a major mistake in relation to Uganda's electricity sector.

NAPE and other national and international NGOs criticized the dam project for its' economic, social, environmental and spiritual impacts. The dam fight was protracted and the project was investigated four times. The process delayed the dam project for 18 years. The Bujagali dam was concived in 1996 and completed in 2012.



The Bujagali Dam on River Nile

The government has noted that it erred in accepting advice from the World Bank on Bujagali Dam, which has turned out to be very expensive and unaffordable to most Ugandans. A domestic consumer in Uganda is burden with a tariff of UGX 651 cents per kwh (USD 19 cents), the highest in the East African region. Now government is contemplating to buy back the dam project from Independent Power Producers (IPP).

NAPE is however, continuing to advocate for pro-people energy options that are affordable and able to propel development in the country. Uganda is richly endowed with biomass, geothermal potential, enough sunshine (8 hours a day).

Stopping the Early Production Scheme (EPS) on Oil and Gas

NAPE participated in pushing government to put in place laws and legal framework to govern the oil sector before starting to develop the oil resource. Government of Uganda had proposed to start an Early Production Scheme (EPS) without laws and regulatory frameworks.

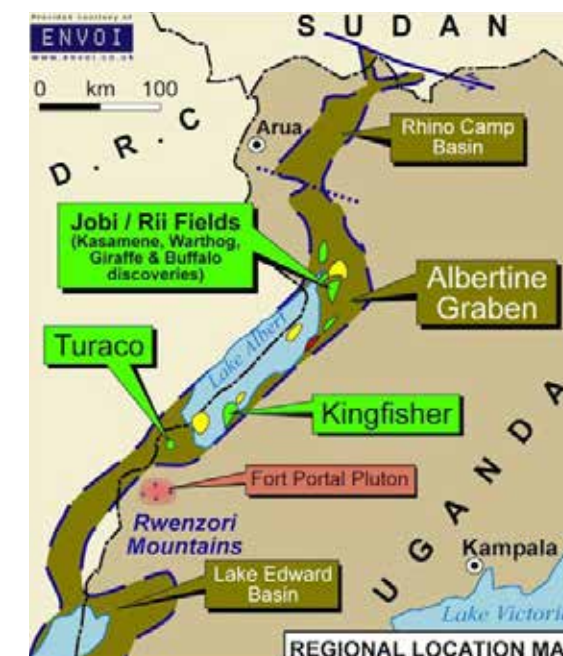
The EPS was proposed in a highly sensitive ecosystems and it presented serious impacts to the environment and livelihoods. Civil society organizations, including NAPE and some members of Parliament exerted intense pressure on government to put in place a comprehensive Environmental Management System that includes good planning practices (prior to production), a clear and transparent licensing regime to ensure that only oil companies with

top environmental records are invited to participate in Uganda and safeguards to avoid, mitigate, and offset foreseeable environmental damage.

Government abandoned the EPS plan and embarked on developing national oil policy and legal frameworks to govern the sector.

Uganda now has a national oil policy and a comprehensive legal framework to oversee and monitor the processes related oil exploitation. Whether the sector will be well managed with laws in place is another matter. However, NAPE and other civil society will continue to monitor the operations of the oil sector.

The Albertine Graben where the Earlt Production Scheme was proposed



Building the Capacity of Other Civil Society Organizations

NAPE has supported a number of Civil Society Organizations including Ecological Christian Organization (ECO) through internal capacity strengthening to enable them to deliver more effectively and efficiently on their advocacy work. This support takes the form of mentorship, local training, support to local actions including linking them up to other similar struggles or framing them through supportive actions at the national level.

NAPE aims at strengthen and build the capacity of NGO and Community-based organizations (CBOS) to be able reach a level where they are trusted and can be relied on in relation to people-centred advocacy from rights-based perspective regarding specific broad issues of their choice that require change.

NAPE believes effective environmental governance requires the participation and cooperation of all actors in collaborative efforts towards sustainable development and environmental improvement.

A first hand account from the Executive Director, Ecological Christian Organization (ECO).

I feel proud to be associated with NAPE. My lobby and advocacy work and organization have grown got prominence because of the mentorship and support from NAPE.



Issac Kabongo, Executive Director, Ecological Christian Organization (ECO)

Geting a Prestigious Human Rights Award

NAPE received a prestigious Human Rights Award by the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) in conjunction with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in 2013. The award was in recognition of NAPE's long time work in fighting for sustainable use of Uganda's natural resources and the rights of communities affected by the numerous development processes in the country.

Amidst a number of challenges, NAPE has stood out against land grabbing by powerful and corrupt corporations. NAPE has also on several occasions criticized government and large corporation's unwise conversion of natural resources into plantations and industrial complexes, and has been at different times sued by corporations that have exhibited irresponsible behaviour towards wise use of our natural resources.

NAPE dragged to court by the Rose Bud Flower Company for reclaiming the Lutembe wetlands; the wetland is very vital for the good health of Lake Victoria.

It should be known that freedom and dignity are not privileges; they are acquired as a birthright of every person. It is also important to know that Justice and fairness are ideals; they are the linchpins of a civilized society. Ironically, these rights are not given to us freely; they must be won by men and women of courage. We all need respect for human rights, we need it now and we strive to achieve it. But it is only when we realize that collective gains come through huge personal dedication and sometimes at the price of personal sacrifice, and for all these years NAPE has been doing exactly that.

The ideals of a democratic nation must be reflected in its

ability to respect rights of its citizens. Government must strive to ensure that its citizens enjoy their rights. It is our resolve at NAPE that we stand with the environment and the communities who are often times victims of poor decisions-making by government, and suffer suppression from corporation. Even when NAPE has been called economic saboteurs and other kinds of names, we know that there are men and women in the country who understand the good intentions of our work. Therefore, we wish to thank the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), together with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and their major partners for recognizing our work.



The Executive Director, Frank Muramuzi receiving the award, 2013

GIVING COMMUNITIES A VOICE

NAPE started a community radio station - Uganda Community Green Radio in the Albertine region in 2014. The community Radio is such a powerful tool through which communities are able to generate their own information of interest to them and share their knowledge and experience, and participate in discourse and decision making at different level.

The Community Radio is playing a major role in the promotion of good governance and civic education. A series of community consultations have taken place between radio community workers and rural community members in relation to the development and production of a series of radio programmes.

The community radio programs are facilitating a process of public dialogue through which people define who they are, what they want, and how they can get it. Rural communities are finding their voice and articulating their concerns. Community radio is giving them a new lease of life.

The radio is for a geographic community, living and working around the same set of political and socio-cultural conditions. The radio is a radio of, by, for and about the community it serves. Each one of the four prepositions is of deep importance for community ownership:

Of - a radio belonging to, managed in partnership with communities, and grown out of dreams, longing and plans for the future of the community, giving communities a voice.

By - a radio with programme policy, profile and programmes produced with participation of community members doing their own programmes about their own lives in their own radio. The analysis and learning process growing from presenting and producing about issues of concern to the community is an important aspect of empowerment growing out of the community radio. It is not just the listening, or just being interviewed, but by active participation of communities in the development of



Fist voice -NAPE Staff presenting at Community Green Radio, 2014

programmes, designing of the contents, putting the elements together to spur dialogue, debate and the continued growth of knowledge and insight and a basis for action.

For - A community radio focused towards a listenership made up by many communities within the community: working through a conscious composition of its editorial including representatives from the communities within the community, ensuring that the radio addresses, effectively, sensitively and usefully the many issues and concerns and dreams the community wants tackled.

About - dealing with aspects of community life through the representatives of the groups working around the radio. To community members, especially those affected by the oil development process, the arrival of a community radio meant for the first time, hearing relevant news in their own language, understanding and thus receiving information, debate in a language understood by all community members was the basis for entering into the debate and taking part.

NAPE'S ROADMAP TO THE FUTURE

Where we are

NAPE's environmental advocacy journey has pivotal moments and important history. It's amazing to look back and see how much ground the organization has covered and to really think about all the experiences, both good and bad, the organization has had in her advocacy work.

There are key events of historical and memorable events that focus attention on the many factors which have contributed to the array of achievements NAPE has registered. This include challenging decisions of powerful and highly placed individuals in government, threats of termination of working permits, arrests, and at worst incarceration. But all these challenges made NAPE stronger and focused in its advocacy work.



NAPE's Executive Direct, Frank Muramuzi at International Fora to influence decisions at international level.

NAPE also works alongside reputable national, regional and international organizations, alliances, movements and networks that shape sustainable global development agenda for the world that we want. Today, NAPE has evolved into a strong advocacy group that is trusted by a large constituency of communities that are confronting social, economic and environmental challenges caused by the current model of development choices.

NAPE has, and will continue to stand with communities, groups and individuals who find themselves in situations where their social, economic, spiritual and human rights are abused in the name of development. We will continue to defend and protect the rights of the commons.

NAPE has closely working with alliances, networks and movements such as International Rivers Network, Friends of the Earth Federation, Oil Watch International, International Forest Coalition, Global alliance for Incinerator Alternatives, Climate Action Network, International Pesticide Network among others. NAPE has provided space and hosted secretariats for some of the networks. For example NAPE is a secretariat to the following national and regional networks:

Network for Sound Chemicals Management in Uganda (NESMAC-U)

NAPE hosts a secretariat for a national network of organizations working on issues related to use and good management of chemicals and chemical waste in Uganda. In 2010 NAPE mobilized and helped to form a national network to promote sound use management of chemicals in Uganda, (NESMAC-U).

NESMAC-U has done remarkable work in promoting the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management in Uganda. NAPE has provided space, time, and technical advice and coordinated the activities of the network. NAPE also provided some small financial facilitation to a few network member groups to implement their activities.

NAPE has extended campaign to promote sound chemicals use and management to local levels. NAPE has conducted sensitization and awareness campaigns in the Albertine region and mobilized and organized communities in Hoima district into grass root association to promote sound chemicals use and management. The Albertine region was targeted because of oil and gas development process that is likely to involve chemicals use and chemical waste challenges. Communities need to be education about the impacts of chemicals to health and environment to enable them to address challenges they face in relation to chemicals use and management in their communities.

African Rivers Network

NAPE has provided a secretariat for the African Rivers Network (ARN) since 2003. ARN is a network of dam-affected people and over 25 non-governmental organizations in Africa that work on river and dam and human right related issues.

ARN' works towards ecological sustainability and social justice in the arena of large dams and their alternatives through: influencing decision making, amplifying community voices and rights, and building capacity of civil society and community participants.



Members of ARN at Bujagali Falls during campaign against the dam, 2005

ARN has worked on the River Nile, the Congo, the Zambezi and countless more rivers across Africa to provide for the people of our land. Many rivers in Africa and the people are under threat from large dams. Dams threaten food sustainability, water resources, and livelihoods. Dams threaten our economies and our sustainable development. Competing demands for water and energy are sharpening divisions between the rich and the poor.

Meeting the energy and water challenges for Africa's growing population require concerted efforts of all actors and stakeholders of society: governments, the private sector and communities.

ARN believes that if this phenomenon is left unresolved, it could lead to social conflicts and political instability. Increasing demand for dams pose enormous pressure on Africa's natural resources, water in particular. ARN is committed to promoting dialogue and people-centered decision-making on dams and other large infrastructure development in Africa.

Hosting Friends of the Earth (FoE) Africa member Groups

NAPE hosts the secretariat for Friends of the Earth Africa (FoE-A) groups, and has been a member of FoE federation since 2007. FoE Federation is a network of over 73 member groups across the globe, comprising of individual activists, pressure group and non-governmental organizations that campaign for environmentally progressive and sustainable policies.

NAPE supports the secretariat and coordinates the network's activities. Friends FoE groups work locally and join together internationally to mobilize, resist and transform. They work in solidarity for sustainable, equitable and just societies.

The federation works to build and strengthen a movement for climate justice and to promote genuine solutions to the climate crisis. Real solutions to climate change are available. They work in solidarity with communities already affected by climate change.

Today the world is experiencing changes in global climate. These changes are man-made -overconsumption of natural resources, which has contributed to the climate crisis. It is everyone's responsibility to act in order to combat the crisis in ways that do not deepen social injustices.

Hosting OilWach Africa Groups

NAPE started providing a secretariat to OilWatch Africa Network in mid 2015. Oilwatch is a network of resistance to oil extraction activities in tropical countries. The network aims to increase environmental awareness at a global level, revealing the impacts of the oil activities in tropical forests and local populations by establishing a link between the destruction of biodiversity, climate change, violations to human rights and the role of the Multilateral financial institutions.

Although the network has registered a remarkable intensity of alliances challenging energy extractive companies and governments over oil and mining related environmental, social, economic, livelihoods and political problems, a lot more needs to be done.

NAPE is supporting and coordinating activities of the network. The network member groups work to influence regional and international processes through constructive and environmentally useful engagements in order to check harmful practices and policies of corporations and governments. The network is targeting regional and international bodies such as the African Union (AU) SADC, ECOWAS and multilateral institutions like the World Bank.

The network needs raise more resources to strengthen network member groups and build their capacities for better engagement with policy and political decision makers at the regional and global multilateral fronts.



The Cordinator of OilWatch network, Rajab Bwengye, standing near a polluted River Ecosystem, Port Acort, Nigeria

Supporting Pan-African Youths selected areas in Uganda

Youth have both special concerns and special responsibilities in relation to the environment. A number of environmental risks and hazards disproportionately affect young people, who have to live for an extended period with the deteriorating environment bequeathed to them by earlier generations. Young people can be compelled to engage in new forms of action and activism that will generate effective responses to ecological challenges.

Uganda has a youthful population made up of enthusiastic and energetic young people who are able to drive the social and economic prosperity of the country. NAPE believes young people are in the driving seat of the change the organization has been struggling to address since its inception.

Since 2014 NAPE has been working with, and supporting members of Pan-African Youth from selected areas in Uganda who are interested in participating in climate change and oil and gas advocacy issues. NAPE identified some youth leaders from Pan-African Youths in Kampala and helped them to mobilize other youths from the districts of Hoima and Buliisa with an aim of training young people on leadership skills and good governance on oil and gas in Uganda.

NAPE provided some funds to the leaders of Pan-African youths to participate in climate change activities, organize a training workshop to develop operational policies and procedures and structures for their targeted districts or constituencies. NAPE also linked the youths to youths from the Parliamentary Press association, Uganda Science Journalists association, Uganda Radio Network, Print and Electronic Media Editors; and supported a joint meeting for them to discuss issues concerning youth people and how it can be widely covered in the mass media.

NAPE also supported field visits by media journalists to NAPE's model Sustainability Villages and selected schools in oil region to interact and interview young people affected by oil development activities with the aim of publishing and amplifying the concerns of young people regarding the oil sector.

NAPE will continue to work with Pan-African Youth for the next few years to strengthen their capacity to be able to conserve and protect natural resource in Uganda.



NAPE staff and Pan-African Youth in Kampala during the occasion to flaf off the Caravan of Good Hope to Durban, South Africa on Climate Change Campaign, 2011

Running a Sub-granting program to national and grassroots organization

NAPE became a pass-through entity and started giving a portion of donor financial awards to some grassroots national organizations. This was after determining that other organizations can be of assistance in implementing some project that NAPE has been doing. To do this, NAPE first secured prior approval from the funding donors before sub-granting, transferring and contracting out any work under a specific financial award. The number of projects NAPE has been implements through sub-grants is steadily increasing.

Since 2013, NAPE has dispensed funds to ten Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), most of them working in the Albertine Rift in Western Uganda. NAPE is responsible for identifying the partner organizations to work with, assess and monitors activities to minimize risks, obtain reasonable assurance that funds are expended as intended, and that sub-grantees are in compliance with applicable donor rules and regulations.

The Sub-grantees have supplemented NAPE's efforts

to achieve the organizations goal of having a Ugandan society that effectively participates in sound natural resources management. Some of the Sub-grantees NAPE has been servicing include;

Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO)

AFIEGO is a public policy research and advocacy NGO dedicated to influencing energy policies to benefit the poor and vulnerable. AFIEGO conducts research and community education, and lobbies leaders to ensure that energy resources are utilized in a way that promotes equitable development, environmental conservation and respect for human rights. AFIEGO has been beneficiary of NAPE's Sub-granting program since 2013. The organization receives the funds to strengthening the organization's community education and sensitization campaigns on human rights issues, land grabbing associated with oil and gas development projects. AFIEGO has also use the funds to translate relevant pieces of legislation on oil and gas and human rights in local languages and disseminated to the communities. They also built the capacity of youth to be able to effectively participate in oil and gas debates and be able to influence decision in that respect.

The Executive Director, BSCA explaining to community members the benefits of indegenous tress at the organization's demonstration plot during a community training, 2014



Butimba Sustainability School Conservation Association (BSCA)

BSCA is a community-based organization that promotes conservation of natural resources in Buseruka, Hoima.

BSCA is one of the Sustainability Villages under the NAPE Sustainability School programm, and NAPE supported the group to carry out community sensitization on natural resources conservation, raise seedlings of indigenous tree species and distribute to communities, and educate community members on the benefits of greening their environment with the aim of contributing to national efforts of mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Kakindo Ophan's Care (KOC)

Kakindo Orphans Care (KOC) is a community-based organization (CBO) in Buliisa in Hoima district. KOC's core mandate is to mobilize communities and creating awareness on HIV/AIDs and caring for orphans. Since the commencement of oil development in the Albertine Graben. KOC is also now working to promote sustainable natural resources use and management through community sensitization on land and human rights. Buliisa is district is a host to over ten (10) oil wells. The drilling of these oil wells posed social, economic, cultural and environmental challenges to the communities.

KOC is a beneficiary of Sub-grants through NAPE to sensitize communities in Kakindo village about their land rights. KOC has also mobilized and helped the communities to form a village land association. The Village Land Association brings people together to discuss and agree on how to protect their land and other resources. Kakindo community has for now pushed away land speculators.

Other beneficiaries of NAPE sub-grant program include the following community-based organizations: Kwataniza Women Farmers Association (KWFA), Kaiso Tonya Women's Group (KtWG), Awoo Sustainability Development Association (ASDA), Bujumba Sustainability Association (BSA) among others.

Where NAPE is headed

NAPE's advocacy model aims to create a critical mass that is able to emphasize sustainability. We are promoting the emerging doctrine that economic growth and development must take place, and be maintained over time, within the limits set by ecology.

NAPE is using sustainability school approach to sensitize communities, government and development partners that environmental protection and economic development are complementary rather than antagonistic processes.

NAPE's ALLIANCES,
COALITIONS & NETWORKS

NAPE believes in working together with others networks and organizations to make advocacy campaigns more powerful and bring the sustainable change desired. Working with others also also empower those involved, and build their capacities and reputation.

This is a value-driven system. Typically, the objective is to exchange or publish information, hold joint meetings and/or trade shows, offer education and training programs, services, and/or monitor policy issues nationally and globally. These partnerships are most often informal, such as using the expertise of a counterpart organization to strengthen the organization's own capacities and advocacy work.

NAPE's collaborators in this regard include;



SOME KEY STRATEGIC PARTNERS,
DONORS

NAPE's Programms and activities are supported by strategic partners, some of whom are here below:



Some of NAPE's Work in Pictures



NAPE's Campaign to Save Mabira and other Forests in Uganda



NAPE & other Civil Society Organizations advocacy work around Bujagali dam & dialogue meetings with the WB Inspection Panel, EIB & AfDB over Bujagali Dam



The Manager World Bank in Uganda addressing participants at the People's Public Hearing on Bujagali Dam, 2007



The Director of NAPE (L) & members of Save Mabira Crusade standing at the dock for charges on saving Mabira Forest, Kampala Hight Court, 2007



NAPE in restoration activities of Katwe Salt Lake Ecosystem in Kasese District, Western Uganda



NAPE's Campaigns to Promote Sound use and Management of Chemicals in Uganda



NAPE staff at one of their early exhibitions on Environmental Protection & Management at the former Centenary Park, Kampala, 2000



NAPE staff at a side event organized by African Rivers Network and NAPE during WSF in Nairobi, 2007



NAPE and Civil Society Coalition on Oil in Uganda Petitioning the Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Rebecca Kadaga on the Oil Bill 2012



NAPE amplifying voices of women affected by natural resources use and management, especially oil



NAPE staff participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), CoP11 in Daburn, South Africa,



Pan-African Youth and NAPE in Kampala during the ceremony to flag-off the Caravan of Hope, to Daburn, South Africa for Climate Change Summit -CoP, 2010



Community Consultative meeting, 2014



Empowering women - Alternative livelihoods, 2013



NAPE in international fora, Daburn, south Africa 2011



NAPE meeting Inspection Panel of WB over Bujagali dam project



Inspection Panal of WB and NAPE with Jaja Bujagali, 2003



Launch of Community Green Radio 2014



NAPE promotes local solar lanterns in the Kyapaloni, Hoima 2012



Nape restoring vegetation in L. Katwe, 2013



Mabira Forest Campaign_Lobbying the Presiden2011



NAPE amplifying voices of women affected by natural resources use and management, especially oil



NAPE staff consultation meeting_2010



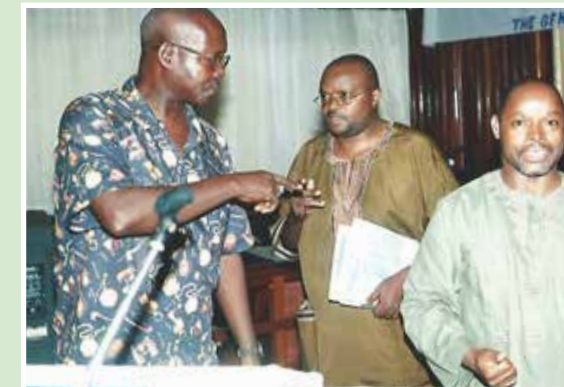
NAPE staff in the participating in cleaning Lake Katwe shores, 2010



Women constructing local bee hives, 2012



NAPE in one of the dialogue meeting to promote the world commission on Dams, 2005



Frank talking to the officials from Ministry of Energy about people's public hearing on Bujagali dam.



NAPE promoting Geothermal Energy in a workshop with government officials 2004, Kampala.



Frank talking to the then Minister of Energy Hon. Hilary Oniek on world commission on dams, 2004 in Kampala



NAPE in International meeting, Nairobi



NAPE's early exhibitions on enviromental protection talking to the then Ministry of Enviroment. Hon. Kahinda Otafire, 2004



one of the early meetings of NAPE, 2002



NAPE meeting with Bujagali dam - affected people, 2005



Frank Muramuzi in a recording studio on Bujagali dam project, 2004.



Frank with partners from international rivers, 2003



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