

Challenges in Enforcing Water Laws in Water Resources Management in Uganda



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Background / Rationale. Uganda is endowed with water resources unevenly distributed threatened by rapid population growth, increased industrial activities and environmental degradation.

There is increased competition between and within sectors that stretches to trans-boundary conflicts that is coupled by severity of droughts.

Water laws and institutions provide a framework and guidance to development, management, allocation, utilisation and conservation of resources.

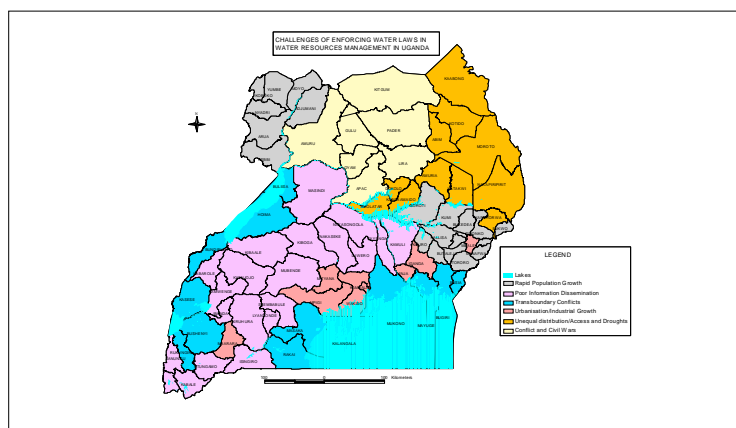
Objectives / Hypotheses to test.

Promote the rational management and Use

Promote provision of clean, safe & sufficient supply

Promote orderly development & use of resources

Control pollution and promote safe chains



Methodology.

- Desk studies / Literature review
- Field visits
- Focus group discussions
- Consultations with Water Resources Management Department (WRMD)



Results.

Low information flow especially in applying for permits

Few water permits issued to those abstracting

Corruption from top officials in government.

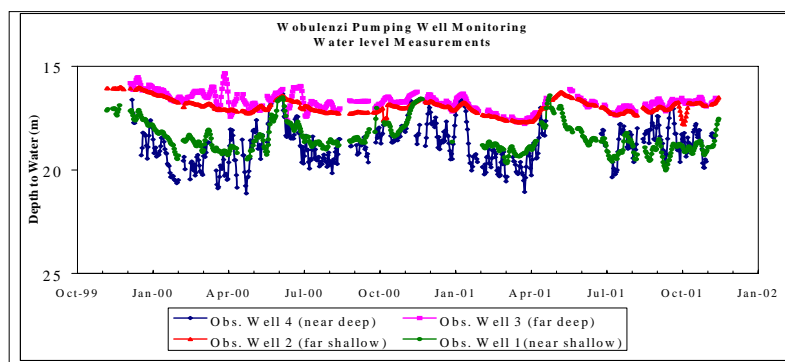
Trans-boundary conflicts

Limited Stakeholder participation

Rapid Population growth challenges safe water coverage/Water Resources.

Complicated terms not easily understood by applicants within the application forms.

Rapid increase in industrial investment, threatening the environment.



Discussion.

•Poor information dissemination especially in conflict and civil war areas, high illiteracy level areas challenge enforcement of water laws.

•Awareness campaign is not much enforced on the abstractors hence most are green about the abstraction permit issuance.

•People pretend not to know about permit issuance hence abstract, discharge water illegally.

•Most people don't want to pay the money, especially, those outside Kampala. They think, it's the people in government who are going to use the money for personal needs/activities.

Conclusions.

1. Increase budget spending within the sector with respect to monitoring water resources.
2. Form coalitions to combat trans-boundary conflicts
3. Streamlining the Institutional Framework would make water law enforcement easier.