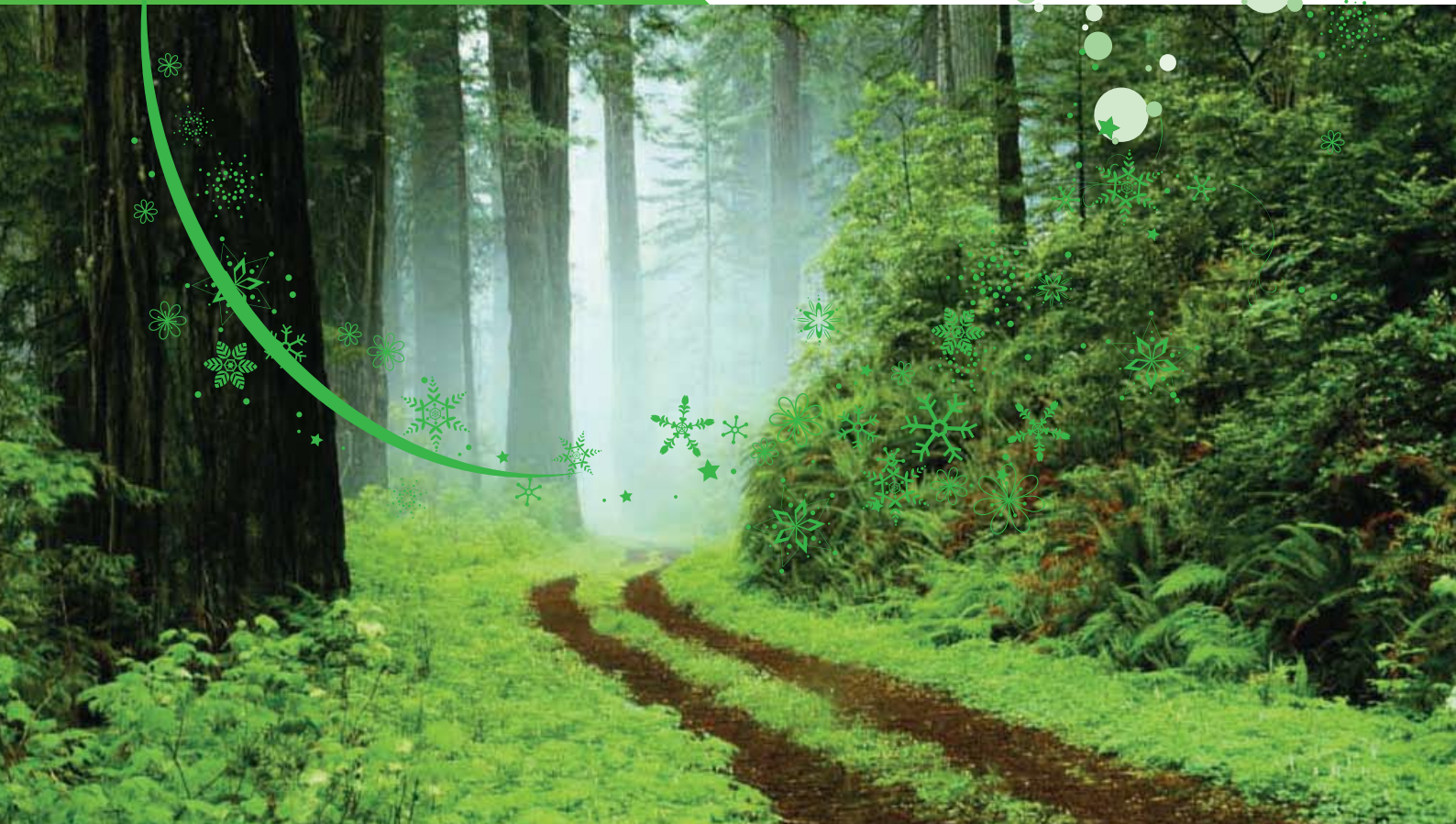




ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF LEGISLATORS IN UGANDA

**Scrutinising Plenary Debate of Environmental Issues in the
8th Parliament**



September 2010

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PREFACE

Many of Uganda's natural ecosystems are undergoing conversion, degradation and decline in a totally unplanned and uncontrolled manner. Examples include – uncontrolled expansion of agricultural land; the erosion of soils and a decline in their fertility; falling quality and availability of water; unregulated use and degradation of wetlands; encroachment of forest reserves; deforestation and the overgrazing of rangelands; and the invasion of weed species and poor management of rangelands. With the country's current population of approximately 31 million people set to double by 2037 these pressures are bound to be insurmountable without sustainable action at both national and community levels.

Poor people, who rely disproportionately on the environment for their basic needs, are confronted with environmental problems including soil erosion and declining land productivity, the spread of alien invasive species, and declining fish stocks. With over 80 percent of the Ugandan workforce involved in agriculture, soil erosion and declining soil fertility are significantly impacting the ability of the poor to meet nutritional needs. This is resulting in an increase in deforestation and encroachment on ecologically sensitive areas (such as wetlands), as poor people attempt to secure alternative income sources in the face of growing food insecurity.

According to the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, "Parliament shall have the power to make laws on any matter for the peace, order, development and good governance of Uganda". More than 80 percent of Uganda's population depend entirely on the environment and the natural resources therein. If this population is to be sustained, a constant flow of natural resources is to be ensured, and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals are to be achieved, then meaningful representation of environment issues must be prioritised in parliamentary business. In addition to allocating adequate time to environmental issues, Members of Parliament need to keep updated with the trends and changing aspects of the environment.

As a developing country, Uganda is confronted with many emerging problems. On one hand, the declining forest estate, the floods and landslides, the loss of habitats and biodiversity, the land acquisition issues, the waste management challenges, the unpredictable seasons, the increasing food insecurity, the rates of disease spread, the shrinking funding to the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) sector and the low level of debate about these issues in parliament are signs of an impending disaster. On the other hand, the contribution of the environment and natural resources towards national development has not been recognized. One is inclined to deduce that lack of information coupled with a low level of interest in environment issues is responsible for weak representation of these national development issues in the legislature.

This study targets Uganda's National Legislature, which is uni-cameral and has seats reserved for special groups such as women representatives from each of the districts Peoples with Disabilities, youth and salaried workers. The legislature in Uganda conducts its business at four main levels. These include; the plenary, sessional committees, standing committees, and the speaker's chambers.

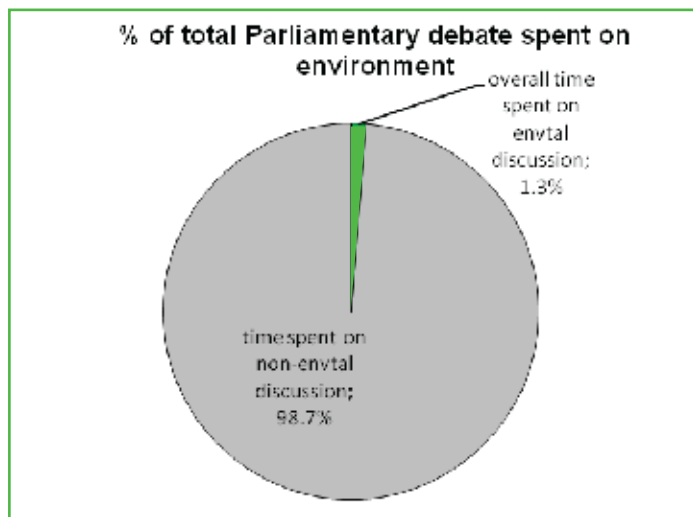
The main objective of this study was to gauge the performance of the 8th Parliament of Uganda in legislating and debating environment issues. The main purpose of developing this performance indicator is to highlight weaknesses in environmental legislation while at the same time pointing to key issues that ought to have been debated on during this tenure. This initiative serves to awaken legislators to their constitutional mandate while at the same time it informs future parliaments. Overall, the project sought to create a mechanism for constant evaluation of legislators' performance with the aim of maintaining and/or enhancing environmental awareness in parliamentary work.



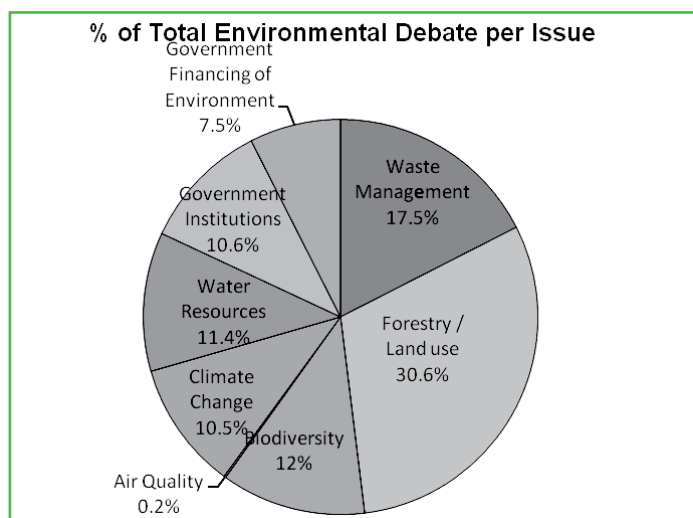
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The aim of this report is to promote the appreciation and communication of environmental issues by Ugandan legislators. It is the intention that the report acts as a future aid to appropriate environmental parliamentary debate, ensuring sustainable development. The Parliament of Uganda debates issues at different levels, the main ones being; the plenary, sessional committees, standing committees, and the speaker's chambers. At all these levels, there is debate and ordinarily, the electorate expects matters that affect their well-being to feature at some level. A number of issues of key environmental significance have, for long, been either poorly debated or not debated on at all in parliament. Empirical evidence indicates a deficiency in the understanding and appreciation of such issues. This is why the main target of this project is Members of Parliament, with an objective of using this performance indicator to, on the one hand, show them that their electorate are watching their performance, while on the other hand the indicator shows the gaps in representation of environment issues in Uganda. Against this background, Parliamentary plenary debate for the period between March 2006 to September 2009 of the 8th Parliament was reviewed to evaluate the work of this Parliament to meet the above project objective.

It can be seen from the chart below that only 1.3 percent of total parliamentary time in plenary, was spent debating environmental issues.



The 1.3 percent of total parliamentary time spent debating the environment was then broken down to determine time spent debating separate environmental issues as shown in the figure below.



This report deals with environmental issues separately. 'Double-counting' has been avoided wherever possible. For example debate regarding tree planting can be included in both forestry and also climate change sections. Where this has occurred the parts of the debate belonging to forestry (the planting of trees only) have been calculated once and have not then been counted again within the climate change issue.

It can be seen from the chart above that debate, under the issue of forestry and land use, was the most frequent compared to other environmental issues. Members of Parliament primarily discussed the ownership of protected forestland and particularly the Mabira Forest. Afforestation, with emphasis on tree planting, also took up a significant proportion of time under this issue. The 'gazetting' of land, where there was potential for tourism, was also included under the land use issue. No opportunity was taken by MPs to include discussion of the potential conflict of oil exploration with tourism, particularly with reference to the Albertine Rift.

Waste management was the second highest debated environmental issue. The debate seemed to be dominated with the minimisation and control of waste - 'kaveera' polyethylene. This time might have been better utilised discussing the control of polyethylene within the context of integrated waste management for Uganda, which could have included collection, recycling, management and disposal options. MPs missed the opportunity to extend the debate to the management of other types of waste such as hazardous and clinical waste.

It can be seen from the chart above that time debating the issues of biodiversity, water resources and climate change were about the same for each.

The issue of biodiversity was seldom directly referenced by Members of Parliament, although it was touched upon when other environmental issues were debated. The fragile relationship of ecosystems in Uganda did not appear to be fully understood by the majority of Members of Parliament. When the contentious subject of using DDT pesticide to control malaria was debated, Parliament did not appear to be informed of the long term environmental affects of this persistent organic pollutant and it's potentially devastating affects on biodiversity.

The preservation of water catchment areas and the potential threat to catchments from hydropower schemes was not fully debated. When the issue of serious implications of depleted reserves of water was raised, Parliament did not appear to suggest the need for coherent planning to ensure Uganda has sustainable water resources.

With climate change as the leading environmental issue for the world's politicians only 0.13percent of total plenary debate time was spent debating the issue in plenary despite the Government's National Environment Management Authority's 2008 report stating the threat of climate change to Uganda and indicating the extent of deforestation throughout the country¹.

Air quality was the least discussed environmental issue equating to just 0.002percent of total plenary debate time.

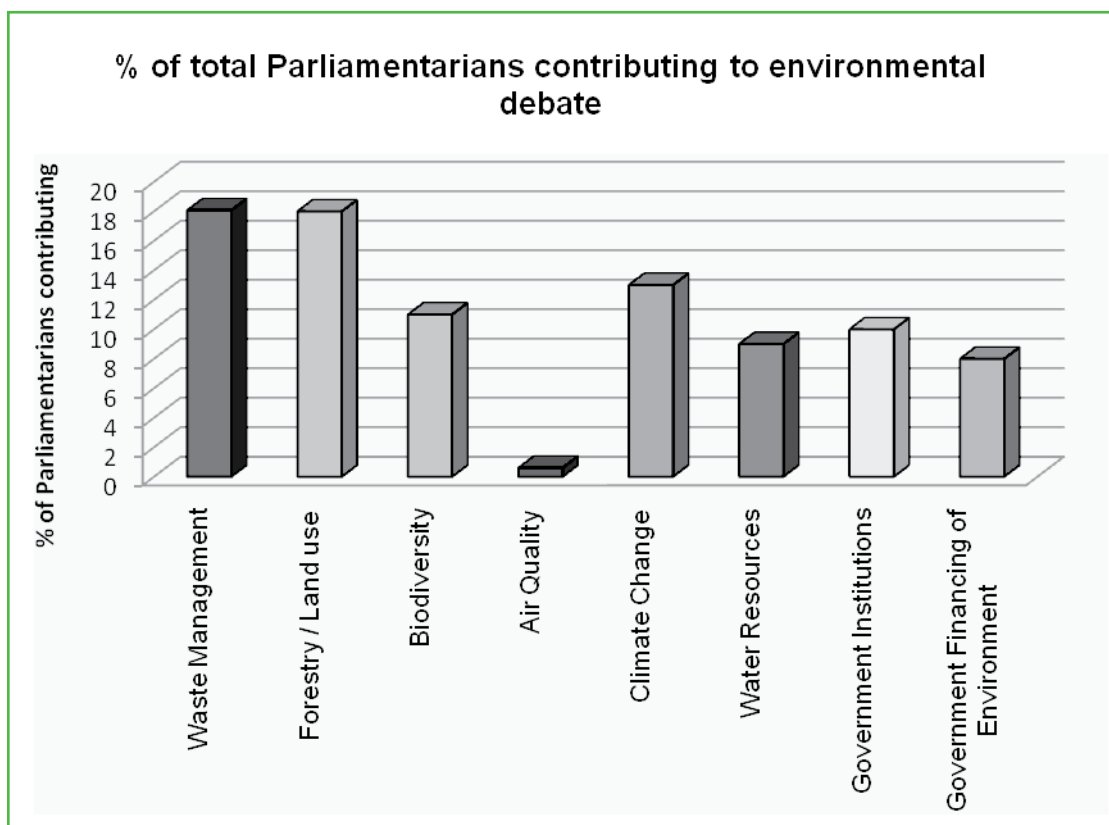
The Government's environmental institutions, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the National Forestry Authority (NFA) and the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) were mentioned

¹State of the Environment Report for Uganda 2008, NEMA

in Parliament, although the associated importance of regulatory institutions on the management of the environment was not discussed fully.

Discussion of Government financing of environment was given only 0.09percent of the total plenary parliamentary time, despite unstable funding mechanisms and reliance on external donors for the financing of NEMA, the NFA and the UWA. The opportunity to raise significant internal revenue through potential 'carbon trading' (especially through reforestation) was not fully debated.

Of the 332 members of the 8th Parliament, 144 (43percent) contributed to environmental debate. Although a significant proportion of total parliamentarians were involved with environmental debate, the minimal total amount of time spent on this debate reflects the cursory nature of many contributions. The following graph illustrates the numbers of Parliamentarians contributing to each environmental issue is shown in the following graph. A full list of contributing Members of Parliament and their dates of contribution, are available in Appendix A below.



GLOSSARY

Aerial particulates	Very small separate fragments (particles) suspended in air.
Aquatic	Living or growing in, on, or near the water
Biodegradable	Capable of being decomposed by biological agents, especially microorganisms such as bacteria
Biodiversity	Also known as biological diversity, this is the variety and variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they occur
Biomass fuels	Organic material which can be converted into heat by burning. Materials can include wood, wood waste, straw or manure
Blue-green algae	Single and multicelled organisms which are usually bacteria. A bloom results from a rapid increase or accumulation in the population of algae an aquatic system.
Carcinogenic	A substance or agent which causes cancer
Cardiovascular Disease	A class of diseases that involve the heart or blood vessels.
Carbon Trading	A system of credits that allows a company or country that reduces its carbon-dioxide emissions below a target level to sell the extra reduction as a credit to a company or country that has not met the target level
Clean Development Mechanism	An arrangement under the Kyoto Protocol allowing industrialised countries with a greenhouse gas reduction commitment to invest in ventures that reduce emissions in developing countries as an alternative to more expensive emission reductions in their own countries.
Climate Change	The statistical distribution of weather over periods of time. Human influenced climate change is the increase in the average of the Earth's near-surface air and oceans since the mid-20th century and its projected continuation.
Clinical waste	Waste products that cannot be considered general waste, produced from healthcare premises, such as hospitals, clinics, doctors offices, labs and nursing homes.
Contamination	To make impure or unclean by contact or mixture with a chemical which exists at a concentration that poses an unacceptable threat to the environment
Contaminate	To cause an environment to be contaminated
Cycad	Ancient palm-like plants closely related to ferns
Decomposition	The disintegration, breakdown or decay of organic materials
Deciduous	Trees and shrubs that shed their leaves
Deforestation	The clearance of naturally occurring forests
Deposition	The accumulation or laying down of matter by a natural process
Dioxin	A group of 75 different toxic chlorine containing hydrocarbon chemicals formed as by-products in chemical reactions.
Ecosystem	A natural unit consisting of all plants, animals and microorganism in an area functioning together with all the non-living physical of the environment.
Carbon emissions Credits	Carbon emissions credits create a market for reducing greenhouse emissions by giving a monetary value to the cost of releasing greenhouse gases to the air.
Energy efficiency	Conserving energy by decreasing the quantity of energy used while achieving a similar outcome
Energy efficiency audit	An evaluation of energy consumption, as in a home or business, to determine ways in which energy can be conserved.



Gaseous	Existing as a gas
Greenhouse gases	Greenhouse gases are gases in an atmosphere that absorb and emit radiation within the thermal infrared range. This process is the fundamental cause of the greenhouse gas effect. The main greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. These gases are the main contributors to human influenced climate change.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A detailed study to determine the type and level of effects an existing facility is having, or a proposed project would have, on its natural environment.
Environmental Sustainability	Maintaining the factors and practices that contribute to the quality of environment on a long-term basis
Exhaust emissions	Spent gas leaving an internal combustion engine such as a car.
Exhaust Treatment System	System to treat the gas emitted to reduce any harmful component.
Fauna	Animals
Flora	Plants
Fossil fuel	A hydrocarbon deposit, such as petroleum, coal, or natural gas, derived from living matter of a previous geologic time and used for fuel.
Freshwater resources	Source of water that is not salty, including rivers and lakes
Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)	A genetically modified organism (GMO) or genetically engineered organism (GEO) is an organism whose genetic material has been altered using genetic engineering techniques.
Geothermal energy	Energy extracted from heat stored in the inner geology below the surface of the earth.
Groundwater	Water that is held in geology below the earth's surface.
Hansard	Official reports of the proceedings and debates of parliament.
Heavy Metal	Chemicals that have metallic properties and are often toxic.
Hazardous waste	Waste that poses substantial or potential threats to human health or the environment
Hydrocarbon	Organic chemical substances associated with oils and fuel.
Hydropower	Energy that comes from the force of moving large volumes of water.
Incinerator	A furnace for burning waste materials.
Insecticide	Man made chemical used to kill insect pests.
Knowledge transfer	Sharing expertise, ideas and information with others.
Landfill	Disposing of waste materials by burying in layers in low lying areas of ground.
Municipal waste	Waste originating from urban towns and cities.
Neurological	Of the bodies nervous system.
Nutrient	A substance that can be transformed by a living thing to help it survive and grow.
Organic	Chemicals that contain the carbon element.
Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP)	Polluting organic substances that are not easily destroyed.
Pesticide	Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying repelling or mitigating any pest.
Plenary	Meeting as a complete group of members.
Pollutant (Pollution)	Something which enters the environment and alters it causing harm.
Polychlorinated	Industrial derived chemicals that can accumulate in animal bodies.



Polyethylene (polythene)	Polymer material often used in the manufacture of plastic shopping bags.
Rainwater harvesting	Collection of rainwater in containers for use.
Reafforestation	Replanting new trees in depleted forests.
Recycling	Utilising old used materials instead of using new materials.
Renewable energy	Energy generated from natural resources, such as the sun.
Silt	A sedimentary material consisting of very fine particles intermediate in size between sand and clay.
Species	A Biological classification commonly defined as a group of organisms capable of interbreeding and producing fertile offspring
Species migration	A survival mechanism by some species where they move often long distances from one location to another in search of suitable habitat to take advantage of food, shelter or water for feeding or breeding purposes.
Species extinction	The end of a species, generally considered to be the death of the last individual of that species
Soil erosion	Removal of fertile topsoil faster than the soil forming processes can replace it, due to natural, animal, and human activity, such as over grazing, over cultivation or forest clearing.
Solar power	Solar power is electricity generated from the levels of natural energy contained within the sun's rays (solar radiation).
Solar radiation	Radiation from the sun
Sustainable Development	A pattern of resource use that aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for future generations.
Sustainable energy generation	Provision of energy derived from renewable energy sources.
Terrestrial	On the surface of the earth.
Toxic	A substance capable of damaging a living organism.
Volatile Organic Compound (VOC)	Organic, often toxic, chemicals that can form vapours and enter the air.
Waste management	Collecting, transporting, recycling, storing and disposing of things people no longer want.
Water quality	Physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water referenced to official quality standards.
Water catchment	An area of land which drains water to the same lowest point such as a river, swamp or lake
Water resources	Natural sources of water that are potentially useful to man.
Wildlife	Non-domestic plants and animals living in their natural environment.
Zero carbon renewable energy	Energy derived from renewable sources that does not add equivalent net carbon to the atmosphere.



1. INTRODUCTION

Global context

The United Nation's Millennium Goals set out the requirements to meet environmental sustainability as follows:

- “integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources,
- reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss,
- halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation,
- by 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers”.

The legislature holds the power to achieve environmental sustainability and ensure that Uganda joins the environmental debate on a global scale.

National context

Uganda depends heavily on environment and natural resources. Over 90 percent of the population directly or indirectly depends on the products and services from agriculture, fisheries, forests, wetlands etc. Natural resources account for 85 percent of export earnings and more than 80 percent of the workforce is active in agriculture.² The country is subject to several environment-related worrying trends which put economic, environmental and social development at risk. These include soil degradation, deforestation, drainage of wetlands, loss of biodiversity, pollution and unsanitary conditions.³

About the report

This report reviews the work of the 8th Parliament as it relates to environmental issues. Public health and the economy are often discussed in relation to the environment. For the purposes of this report, parliamentary business involving agricultural, public health, natural disaster relief and national security, have not been included as contributing to discussion of environmental issues. Only parliamentary debate, where environmental issues have formed the key focus, are included in this report. The report is the result of scrutinising the Hansard transcripts of the plenary sessions of the 8th Parliament from March 2006 up to September 2009.

Environmental debate was dealt with under a list of key environmental issues as set out in the body of this report. Time spent debating an issue was determined proportionately according to the number of lines in the transcript recording environmental debate, expressed as a percentage of the total debate of the Hansard transcripts available. Some of the transcripts covering the period of March 2006 to September 2009 were not publicly available but this did not have a significant implication on the figures show in the tables and graphic illustrations.

Methodology

A ‘review process’ based on a qualitative and quantitative study was chosen as opposed to a ‘scorecard’ methodology. Although the latter was originally preferred by the researchers, it became apparent that the

²Poverty Eradication Action Plan (2004)

³National Environment Action Plan (1995)

extremely limited debate of environmental issues (1.3 percent of total parliamentary plenary time) in the 8th Parliament made statistical analysis required for the scorecard methodology practically impossible. As such an indicator approach was preferred. This approach maximized that reliability of results since the evaluation considered the performance of Parliament as a whole, in representing environment issues. The following data sources and review style applied:

- Legislation passed during the 8th Parliament,
- Electronic copies of Hansard transcripts were obtained in 'pdf' format (comprising 431,697 lines). 22 key words were then entered into an advanced search facility. These words included for example, "climate change", "biodiversity" and "waste".
- Having identified areas of the text containing the keywords, the whole passage was then read in which the keywords had appeared, in order to capture the context of the debate.
- Only the text relevant to the keywords was captured. Peripheral parts of the text that were considered irrelevant, such as those involved with parliamentary procedure, were omitted.
- The lines of relevant text were then highlighted for future reference.
- Data was recorded on an electronic spreadsheet which included the date, the MP and the whole paragraph in which the MP had spoken.
- The whole process was repeated for the 22 key words.
- Having scrutinised the Hansards text, environmental debate was then allocated under the headings of the 8 'environmental issues', as mentioned above.
- The number of lines that were highlighted were then counted and recorded in order to calculate the percentages given in this report.
- The Hansard texts were then re-read to ensure that all environmental debate had been identified.
- The Hansard texts were then re-read with reference to the recorded data in the spreadsheet in order to ensure that all the information had been captured.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

2.1 Waste Management

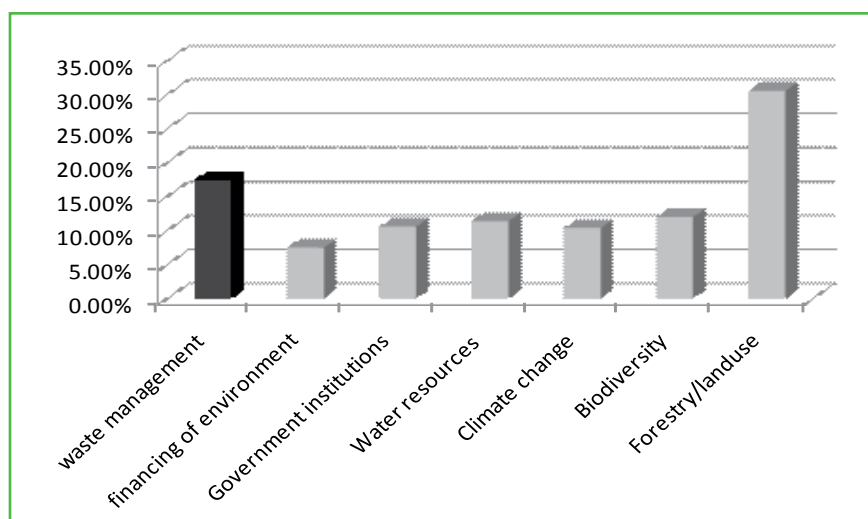
Increasing urbanisation in Uganda will no doubt result in an increase in waste (Uganda's population is expected to reach 103.2 million people in 2050⁴). Refuse is often dumped on open land and can present problems through associated vermin and disease. The uncontrolled burning of domestic wastes is common practice as a form of disposal. The market report on Global Waste Management, published by Key Note in 2007⁵ stated that "...in much of Africa, waste management is in a poor state due to a lack of government policies, legislation, funding, implementation and, for the population as a whole, a lack of education regarding the importance of a proper approach to waste collection, treatment and disposal. Where legislation exists, a lack of administration may prevent its implementation".

In Uganda, the absence of a waste disposal policy has, in part, compounded the waste management issues. Urban waste management is drawing increasing attention, as citizens observe that too much garbage is lying uncollected in the streets, dustbins, causing inconvenience and environmental pollution, and being a risk for public health. Even when Kampala City Council has demonstrated a weakness in handling the massive volumes of waste, Parliament has not found this issue a priority despite the associated environmental, scenic and health implications. Most outstandingly, the issue of enforcement has remained a challenge, leaving the existing waste management regulations with no impact. Parliament, the arm of Government charged with monitoring and ensuring compliance is naturally expected to have taken keen interest in the escalating trend in waste mismanagement.

Parliamentary debate on waste management:

Members of Parliament spent just 0.22 percent of total parliamentary time debating waste management issues. Where environmental issues were discussed, waste management formed 17.5 percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart:

% of total environmental debate spent on waste management



⁴State of the Environment Report 2008, NEMA.

⁵ISBN 978-1-84729-116-5.

Waste reduction

Polyethylene:

Polyethylene bags and packaging, whilst useful for transporting and carrying products, can present significant problems once poorly discarded. As polyethylene waste has no intrinsic value it can be found littering the environment, blocking drains, harbouring mosquitos and being burnt at the side of the road.

Parliament debated the use of alternative biodegradable materials, the introduction of incentives for recycling as well as the imposition of a ban on the manufacture and distribution of plastic bags with a thickness below 30 microns.

MPs debated the use of legislative instruments to enforce the control of polyethylene waste, including the formulation of provisions of the "Finance Bill" to introduce taxation to control the distribution of plastic bags.

Despite the introduction of measures to address the problem of plastic bag waste, the debate continued in 2008 where the feasibility and clarity of the adopted measures was questioned. This culminated in the Minister of State for Water and Environment, Jessica Eriyo, addressing Parliament (25th September 2008). The Minister stated that the provisions of the National Environment Act 1995 and particularly section 28 of The National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations 1999⁶ provide adequate means of effective enforcement. This statement did not appear to meet the requirements of John Arimpa Kigyagi (seconded by Emmanuel Dombo and supported by Kassiano Wadri) who introduced a private members bill on 12th May 2009 entitled The National Polyethylene Materials and Plastic Bags Management and Control Bill, 2007. It is possible that the Bill informed the Minister of Finance's fiscal policy leading to the ban of polyethylene material below 30 microns in the 2008-2009 national budget, although Parliament has not followed up to pass it into law.

Electrical and electronic waste:

The safe disposal of mobile phone batteries and electronic waste was raised including the suggestion to ban the import of old fridges, freezers and computers. This was mainly citing the inefficiency and environmental hazards associated with such used items, including the emission of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) into the environment. Lobbying for the inclusion of environmentally sound safe disposal of "e-waste" was initiated by Patrick Amuriat during Parliament's reading of the National Information Technology Authority Uganda Bill, 2008, and continued up to the final draft of the National Information Technology Authority Uganda Act 2009.

Energy from Waste:

Combined heat and power technology converts the heat generated by the incineration of waste, to produce electricity which is then utilised. Parliament briefly heard the argument for the use of municipal waste as a 'fuel' to produce energy by means of incineration.

Municipal waste collection:

The inadequacy of municipal waste management and disposal was raised suggesting that investment from sources such as China, may be necessary.

Radioactive waste:

The reading of the Atomic Energy Bill 2007 raised debate on the need to revise the control of the disposal of radioactive waste as a result of the use of radioactive sources and this resulted in the Atomic Energy Act 2008. The Act includes the provision to set up the Atomic Energy Council to enforce the safe handling of radioactive waste materials.

⁶S.L. 52/1999.

General discussion:

The need for the construction of adequate waste disposal facilities, including the engineering and landfill gas management of Kampala City Council landfill, was mentioned. The need for incinerators for hospital waste was also raised. Illegal dumping of waste from border countries, as well as concern over the import of old clothes and old vehicles to Uganda was also mentioned.

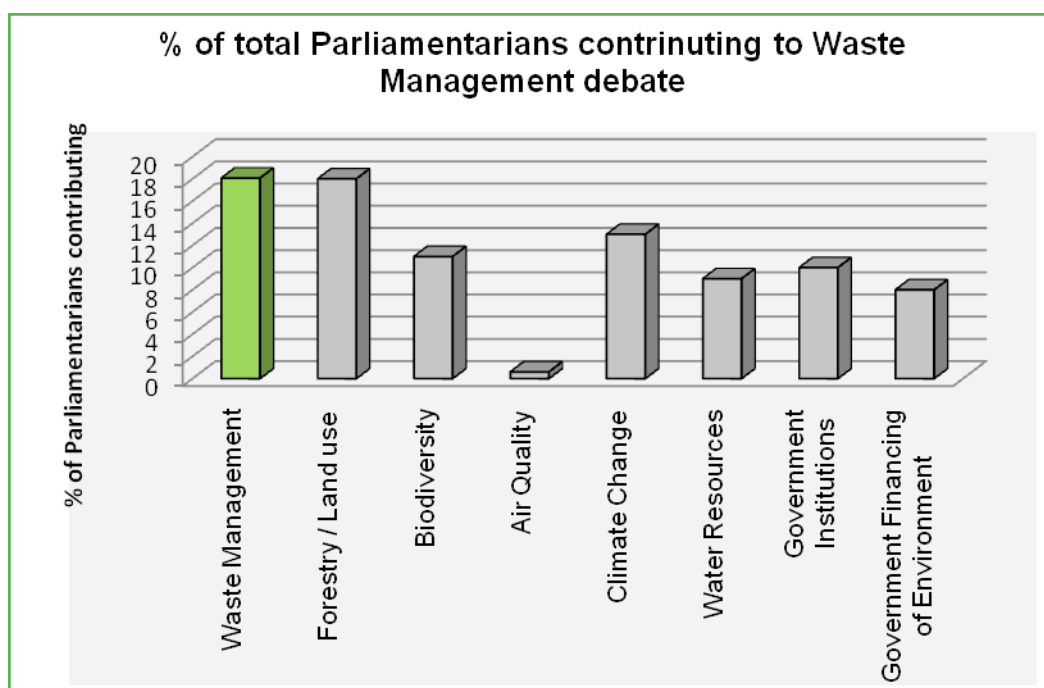
Comment:

It would appear that about 77percent of Parliamentary debate on waste was given to discussion of “*kaveera*” (referred to in this report as polyethylene waste). Although limiting the production of polyethylene waste was addressed, scant time was given to debate the need for efficient collection, the recycling/reprocessing opportunities or even the environmental impact of options for disposal i.e. incineration/combined heat and power.





It would appear that the opportunity was missed to address the implications of other forms of waste such as hazardous and clinical.

Parliament would appear to have failed to make the connection of the deposit of aggregate/building foundation materials (“*murrum*”) at wetland sites as waste disposal.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the waste management debate as compared to other environmental issues;



Key contributing Members of Parliament:

Amuriat, Oboi Patrick	(FDC Kumi County, Kumi District)	
Arimpa, Kigyagi John	(NRM Mbarara Municipality Mbarara District)	
Eriyo, Jessica	Minister of State for Water and Environment (NRM, Woman Representative, Adjumani District)	
Wadri, Kassiano Ezati	(FDC, Terego County, Arua District)	

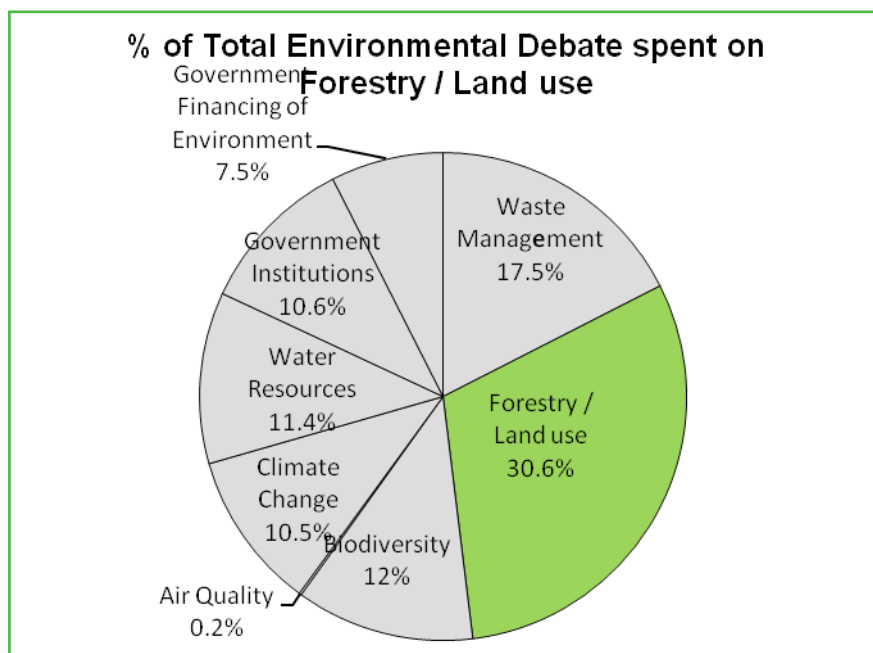
2.2 Forestry /Land Use

Uganda's rich and diverse landscape is under threat from encroachment from agricultural production, deforestation, oil and gas reserve exploitation and industrial and domestic use. Beneficial use of the land includes sustainable forestry (with the potential for additional income from carbon trading through the issue of 'emissions credits') and the protection of natural areas to expand the tourism industry. The pursuit of sustainable forestry resource management is emphasized in the National Forestry Policy of 2001 and given legal backing by the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act of 2003. Even though critics have severally pointed out a loophole in efforts towards implementing the policy, and the various contradictions in the forestry law, the analysis below indicates that Parliament has not adequately played its role in addressing such lacunas and designing mechanisms of dealing with the various challenges facing the forestry sub-sector and the struggle for sustainable development.

The forestry sector has for a long time been challenged by problems of a political and administrative nature, which the legislature ought to have prioritised in its work. For instance issues such as political interference in the institutional administration of the sector, poor funding of forestry institutions (DFS, FSSD, NFA), and interference from the Executive are areas that ordinarily, we would have expected Parliament to find significant. On the administrative part of it, the sector is operating without a plan, having failed to review the old one. As such, the current operations have no basis. To note also, there are issues of illegal felling, charcoal burning, illegal timber trade and the issue of encroachment that has persisted.

Parliamentary debate on Forest/Land Use:

Parliamentarians spent just 0.38 percent of total time debating forestry and related land use issues. Where environmental issues were discussed, Forestry and related land use formed 30.6 percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart:



Human encroachment upon protected areas:

Mabira Forest stands out as a case study. Government deliberation as to whether to 'degazette' an area of protected forest in order to permit the use of the area for commercial sugar cane production, took a significant proportion of environmental debate, especially in 2007.

Standards for the forestry sector:

Charles Ngabirano was given permission to introduce a private member's bill entitled The Uganda Forestry Association Bill 2007 in order to require professional standards and ethics for those working in the forestry sector. The motion was supported by the Prime Minister, Prof. Apolo Nsibambi.

Geoffrey Ekanya requested the President to intervene so as to empower the National Forestry Authority to licence foresters and evict encroachers.

Tree planting, conservation and afforestation:

Stephen Mukitale introduced a motion to Parliament for the promotion of tree planting. The Minister of State for Water and Environment, Jessica Eriyo, mentioned setting up funding for tree planting and also talked extensively on the conservation of the Cycad tree in response to concerns as to the preservation of these trees from Richard Mutumba.

Theodore Ssekikubo presented a petition to protect the Kazooba Central Forest Reserve.

The threat to the environment from palm oil plantations was touched upon and the detriment of charcoal burning and the affects of afforestation on soil erosion and landslides were also mentioned.

Comment:

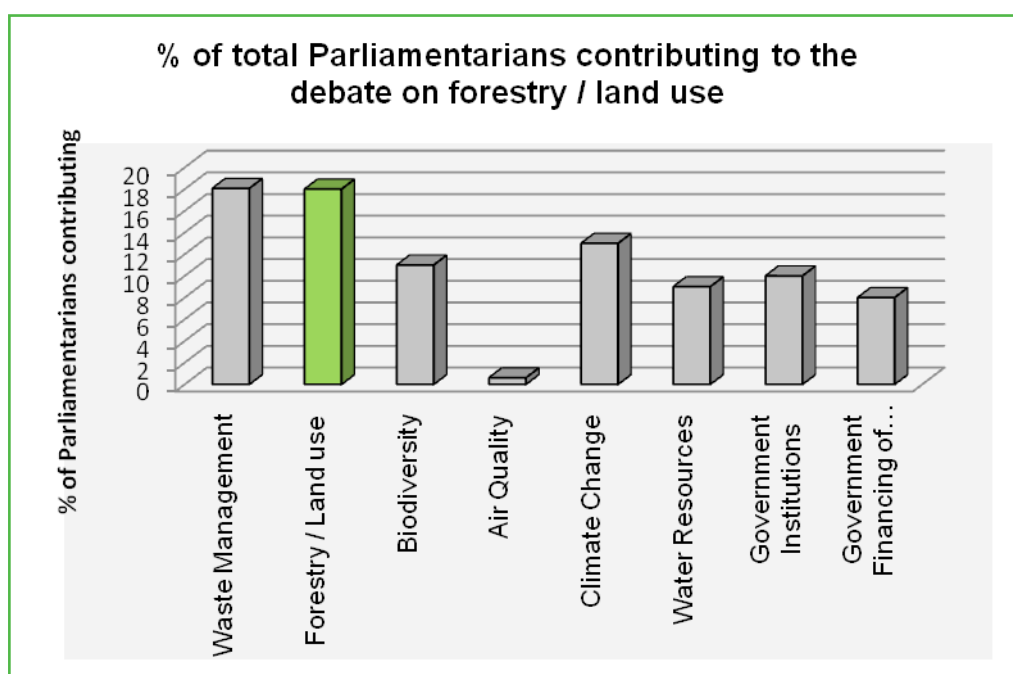
The Mabira Forest debate illustrates the difficulty of balancing industrial and economic interests with conservation. It would appear that a firm decision to resolve this issue has been protracted and delayed. However, the delay in parliamentary decision appears to have contributed to the escalation of extensive environmental debate beyond parliament, bringing this into the wider public forum.

The Land Amendment Bill 2007 was being read in Parliament at the time of writing and it will be interesting to note whether this will address outstanding issues of land use and ownership.








The Committee on tourism, trade and industry recommended that the best way to balance communities and wildlife protection is to engage in wildlife related economic activities and work in co-operation with the Uganda Wildlife Authority, as opposed to continuing to cultivate crops.

The recommendation made in Parliament, that Uganda renew membership of the World Tourism Organisation, will require Uganda to ensure environmental sustainability by adhering to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, particularly Goal 7 – Environmental sustainability.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the Forestry / Land Use debate:



Key contributing Members of Parliament:

Anywar, Beatrice	(FDC, Woman Representative, Kitgum District)	
Bbumba, Syda	The Minister of Finance for Planning and Economic Development (NRM, Igara County West, Bushenyi District)	
Ekanya, Geoffrey	(FDC, Tororo County, Tororo District)	
Eriyo, Jessica	Minister of State for Water and Environment (NRM, Woman Representative, Adjumani District)	
Mukitale, Stephen	(NRM, Buliisa County, Buliisa District)	
Sebuliba Mutumba, Richard	(DP, Kawempe Division South, Kampala)	
Ngabirano, Charles	(NRM, Rwampara County, Mbarara)	

Nsibambi, Apolo (Prof.)	Prime Minister	
Ssekikubo, Theodore	(NRM, Lwemiyaga County, Sembabule District)	

2.3 Biodiversity

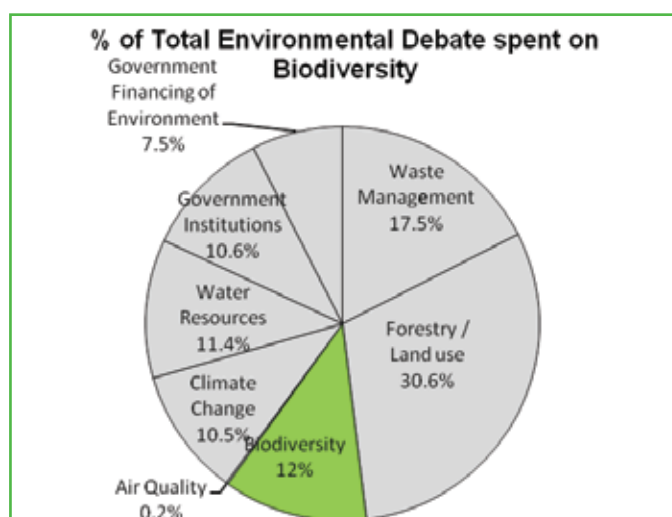
Biological diversity is essential to environmental sustainability. Uganda hosts an exceptional number of species due to the wide variety of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, ranging from mountains, rainforest, deciduous bushlands and extensive freshwater resources. Uganda’s biological diversity ranks within the top ten countries of the world. Conservation of biodiversity can also help to preserve and protect clean water resources, clean air and maintain soil fertility.

There are a number of issues that affect biodiversity and its conservation today. The reducing for forest estate, the continued wetland reclamation, acts such as bush burning and such other related human activities are ongoing at the peril of biodiversity. Some permitted activities such as the spot hunting practiced in protected areas have no guiding legal foundations in Uganda, yet it impacts a sector that generates the highest foreign exchange.

Although Uganda has established protected national parks and wildlife reserves, it must also protect biodiversity outside those protected areas in order to retain a network of biologically diverse ecosystems throughout Uganda that are linked to and essential to, the survival of existing protected areas. It is surprising that conservation agencies and interventions have continually relegated biodiversity to the protected estate without provoking the legislation for a reaction.

Parliamentary debate on biodiversity:

Parliamentarians spent just 0.15percent of total time debating biodiversity issues. Where environmental issues were discussed, biodiversity formed 12percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart;



Wildlife

Vice Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry, Rose Munyira called for the need to acknowledge and address the legal requirements of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) and this was supported by Santos Piro.

Vice Chairman of the Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry John Bosco Lubyayi referenced a 10 year National Wildlife Conservation Development Plan. Parliament was also informed of the management of the Kabwoya Wildlife Reserve jointly between a limited company and the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

The Minister of State for Tourism, Serapio Rukundo stated the importance of using effective boundary control in order to contain wildlife within protected areas.

Richard Sebuliba stated the need to regulate the export of animals and to protect their eco-systems.

Ruth Nvumetta informed Parliament of the importance of wildlife protection including snakes.

Tourism

The examination of the Uganda Tourist Bill 2007 included relevant discussion on the importance of environmental protection to the tourist industry. The Minister of Finance for Planning and Economic Development, Syda Bbumba, acknowledged the value of Uganda's diverse flora and fauna to the potential growth of the tourism industry.

Biohazards

The use of the pesticide DDT to control malaria was debated. John Odit suggested that environmental scientists and agricultural experts be consulted regarding the use of this persistent organic pollutant. Cecilia Ogwal requested the Government produce a definitive statement on the use of DDT. On 19th November 2008, Dr Chris Baryomunsi informed Parliament that the application of DDT would be carried out in accordance with the 2001 Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, which forms a framework, based on the precautionary principle, that seeks to guarantee reduction in their production and use due to their harmful nature to human health and the environment. The Convention prohibits the use of DDT except for disease control, and calls for all DDT use to be phased out.

Biodiversity in general

Concern regarding fish habitats and depleted stocks due to over fishing was raised. Joseph Mugambe stated that legislation was needed to control the use of Genetically Modified Organisms.

Encroachment into wetlands through the deposit of aggregate/building foundation materials "*murrām*" was mentioned.

Comment:

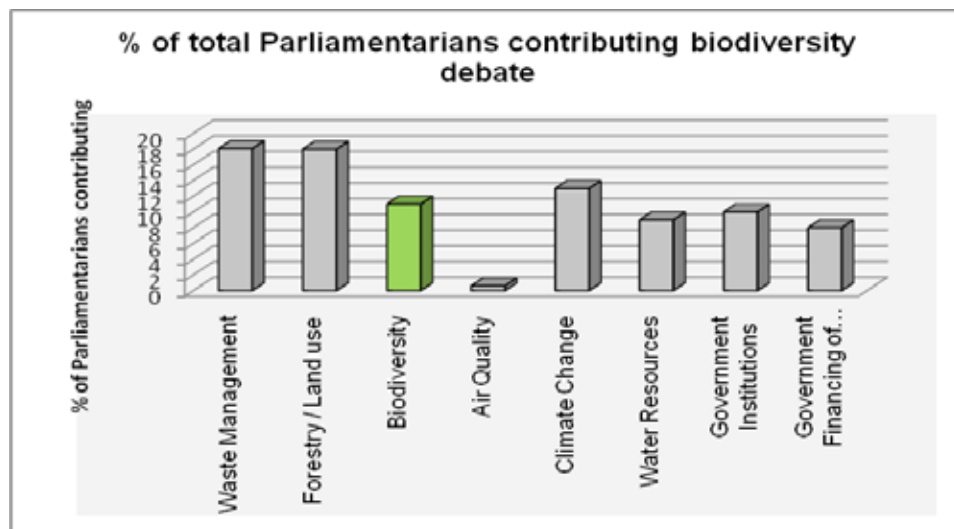
Biodiversity was not debated as an issue in itself although it was discussed indirectly under more general Parliamentary debate, wildlife and biohazard issues.

The Stockholm Convention on persistent organic pollutants, of which DDT is one, permits the use of this insecticide to control malaria as long as the application of the chemical follows the guidance of the World Health Organisation. The report, published by the WHO Pesticide Evaluation Scheme⁷, identified the





⁷Malaria Vector Control – Insecticides for indoor residual spraying, Dr J.A. Najera & Dr M. Zaim, 2001







washing of spraying equipment and the disposal of contaminated equipment and materials together with residual DDT, as potentially dangerous to natural water resources and the environment.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the Biodiversity debate as compared to other environmental issues:



Key contributing Members of Parliament:

Baryomunsi, Chris	(NRM, Kinkizi County East, Kanungu District).	
Lubyayi, John-Bosco Sseguya	Vice Chairman of the Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry, (NRM Mowokota County South, Mpigi District)	
Mugambe, Joseph	(NRM, Nakifuma County, Mokono District)	
Munyira, Rose	Vice Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry (NRM, Woman Representative, Busia District)	

Nvumetta, Ruth	(NRM, Woman Representative, Kalangala District)	
Odit, John	Chairperson, of the Standing Committee on Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises, (UPC, Erute County South, Lira District)	
Cecilia <u>Atim</u> Ogwal	(Independent, Woman Representative, Kitgum District)	
Piro, Santos	(Independent, East Moyo County, Adjumani District)	
Rukundo, Serapio	Minister of State for Tourism, (NRM, Kabale Municipality, Kabale District)	
Sebuliba, Mutumba Richard	(DP, Kawempe South Division, Kampala District)	

2.4 Air Quality

Clean air quality is essential for healthy living and a healthy environment but is also a major carrier of environmental pollutants. As an uncontrolled, common natural resource with no boundaries and no documented owner, air is particularly prone to mismanagement and vulnerable to the tragedy of the commons.

Air quality in Uganda is compromised by a number of polluting sources. As vehicle ownership increases, so does the emission rate from vehicle exhausts. Vehicle emission pollutants include volatile organic compounds (VOCs), particulate hydrocarbons, heavy metals and a range of carbon, sulphur and nitrogen oxides. Inadequately maintained vehicles and those that lack exhaust treatment systems, can result in the highest levels of pollution.

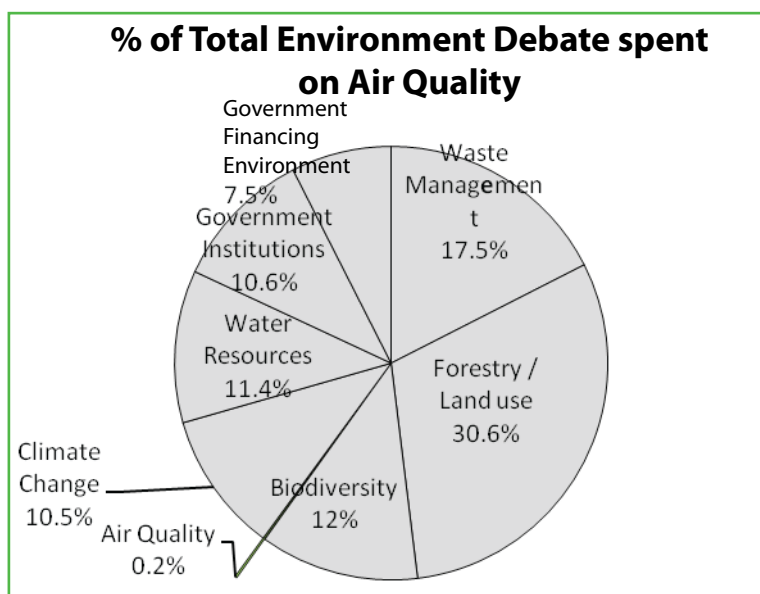
The health effects of vehicle exhausts are well documented⁸, causing irritation to the nose, throat and lungs, increasing rates of respiratory diseases and neurological related disorders. Inhalation of suspended particulates may also result in cardiovascular disease and are known to have carcinogenic properties. Heavy metals are also known to be carcinogenic and cause reproductive disorders. People spending significant amounts of time at the roadside, either living close to roads or with roadside stalls, are at higher risk of exposure.

The environmental effects of vehicle exhausts are numerous. Gaseous exhaust emissions contain a range of greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change, while deposition of exhaust pollutants to ground can alter the purity of water bodies and contaminate soils.

In the absence of controlled collection and disposal of municipal wastes, much household waste is burnt at the roadside. This uncontrolled burning of unknown, mixed municipal wastes can contribute to air pollution. These fires can result in a cocktail of highly toxic, carcinogenic aerial and particulate emissions, including dioxins, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other hydrocarbons. Heavy metals such as lead, mercury and arsenic are also present. The ash residue from fires can also result in contamination of soils.

Parliamentary debate on air quality:

Parliamentarians spent just 0.002percent of total time debating air quality related issues. Where environmental issues were discussed, air quality formed 0.2percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart:



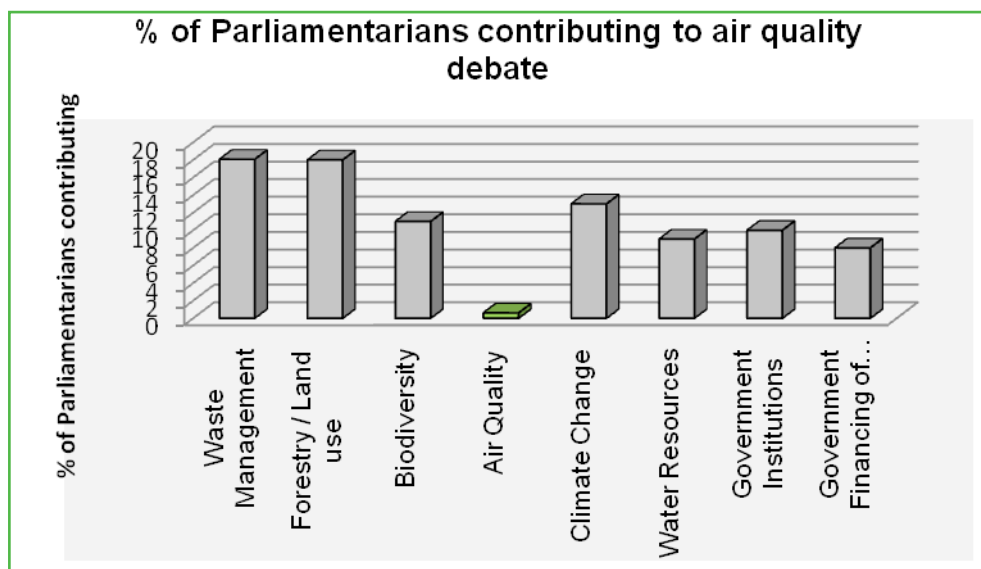
Relevant debate consisted of passing reference to aerial particulates arising from dusty roads and vehicle exhausts.

⁸Health effects of transport-related air pollution. World Health Organisation, edited by Michal Krzyzanowski et al. (2005).

Comment:

The issue of air quality and the control or mitigation of polluting aerial emissions receives strikingly little prominence within parliamentary debate. The opportunity was not taken to open up the discussion onto the control of emissions and pollution mitigation. While carbon dioxide emissions are referenced indirectly during debates on climate change (see section 2.5 below), other pertinent air quality issues of relevance to Uganda are omitted.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the Air Quality debate as compared to other environmental issues:



Key contributing members of Parliament:

Byabagambi, John	Minister of State, Works (Ibanda County South, Ibanda District)	
Namijja, Susan	Shadow Minister for Gender, Labour and Youth (CP, Rubaga Division South, Kampala)	

2.5 Climate Change

The concept of human induced climate change is one of the most important environmental issues to be discussed in recent times. After much widely published debate, there is now overwhelming scientific consensus that accelerated global climatic changes are attributable to human activities⁹. Global climatic

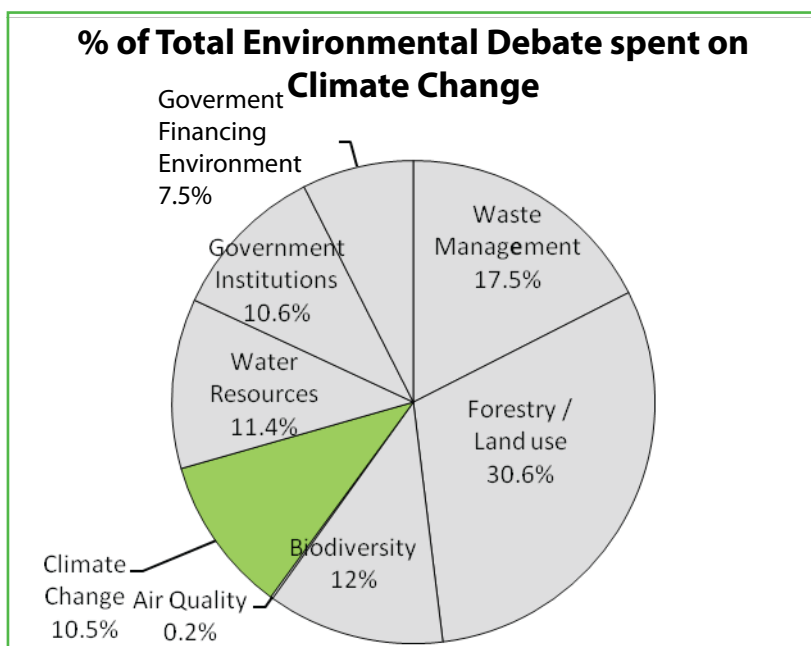
⁹Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC) (2007), Fourth Assessment Report 'Climate Change 2007'

changes are primarily caused by the burning of fossil fuels and the release into the atmosphere of unprecedented levels of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide. Greenhouse gases interfere with the earth's natural regulation of solar radiation, leading to a warming of our atmosphere. Impacts resulting from climate change include alteration of weather patterns and increased frequency of extreme weather, alteration of rainfall leading to increased risk of droughts and floods; and disturbing effects on the stability of ecosystems leading to increased likelihood of species migration and species extinctions as well as impacting global food security.

The urgency to implement appropriate technical and financial mechanisms, to reduce further human impacts and to adapt to expected climatic changes, now dominate environmental discussion. The Parliament of Uganda established a Forum on Climate Change, which has been instrumental in debating the Climate Change discourse in Uganda. However the challenge is that all the proposed interventions and those under implementation (NAPA, REDD) are in place in the absence of a legal framework to support them. The August house is expected to have worked expeditiously to enact a law to guide all dealings with climate change and its effects.

Parliamentary debate on climate change:

Parliamentarians spent just 0.13percent of total time debating climate change related issues. Where environmental issues were discussed, climate change formed 10.5percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart:



Sustainable energy generation

Within the issue of climate change, parliamentary discussion focused primarily on the need to increase national availability of renewable, environmentally sustainable energy sources.

The President of Uganda underlined the need to expand renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes during his 2007 State of the Nation address. Parliamentarians debated the need to develop alternative and renewable energy i.e. from geothermal, solar power and energy derived from the decomposition of organic wastes (biogas).

The need for wider distribution of non-smoke energy saving stoves for domestic cooking was requested, which has clear greenhouse emission reduction qualities, as well as improving indoor air quality.

The 2002 Energy Policy, introduced by Minister of Energy Daudi Migereko, highlights the requirement for energy efficiency measures to be implemented. Increasing public awareness of energy efficiency and other measures, is referenced within Parliamentary debate, however reference to the distribution of energy saving

lightbulbs is the only energy efficiency programme discussed that referenced to a clear funding stream. The Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Dr. Ezra Suruma (within his 2007/8 budget) included financial measures to improve energy efficiency through the technical audit of public buildings, including schools and universities. Funding was to be made available for implementation of high impact efficiency measures identified during energy efficiency audits.

Hydropower:

Much of the renewable energy debate relates to the provision of hydropower. Hydropower plants are known to have potentially serious environmental consequences for the water catchment on which they are located and as such can be highly environmentally sensitive projects. However, parliamentary debate focuses mainly on the provision of energy for social and economic reasons while the potential environmental impacts of such schemes do not receive prominence.

Parliamentarians also referenced the need to take climate change mechanisms and impacts into account when proposing measures to address water resource issues, such as droughts and falling water levels within Uganda's major water bodies.

Development of capacity and policy

In addition to general debate, parliament actively sought greater climate change knowledge through the attendance of John Kigyagi at the E-Parliament Energy Hearing in Nairobi in November 2006. Feedback to parliament was detailed on the technical causes and expected impacts of climate change. The need for prevention and mitigation measures was emphasized including a call for increased energy efficiency, zero-carbon renewable energy generation and knowledge transfer for environmentally sustainable energy generation from developed countries. Nathan Nandala-Mafabi requested input from the E-Parliament members for technical input to the Sessional Committee for Natural Resources.

Carbon Trading

The concept of carbon trading as a potential source of revenue was raised. Tree planting schemes, through the Clean Development Mechanism, were suggested as a significant source of revenue.

Comment:

Jane Alisemera raised questions over the financial viability of the 'energy saving lightbulbs project' (as referred to above) citing a lack of available quantifiable data such as how many homes this project had reached and energy saved as a result. The 2002 Energy Policy specifically references the need to establish sustainable financing mechanisms for renewable energy technologies. However, financial commitment or incentives for the development and implementation of renewable energy sources are largely absent from parliamentary debate.

The 2002, National Energy Policy included within its remit the intention to meet Uganda's energy needs in an environmentally sustainable manner, by managing energy related impacts. It is stated that the mechanism to ensure environmental sustainability is through the implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 1998 as overseen by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). While this mechanism for control may be effective, the minimal reference to Environmental Impact Assessment documents during parliamentary debate of energy from hydropower, would indicate that environmental concerns from the engineering and development of such schemes, may not be given the attention by parliament that the Energy Policy suggests.

In 2007 the Ministry for Energy, Minerals and Development published the Renewable Energy Policy for Uganda, with the key aim to increase the use of modern renewable energy to 61 percent of the total energy

consumption by the year 2017¹⁰. Parliament did not take the opportunity to discuss the scope and proposed implementation of the policy in detail.

In 2007, the Ugandan Government endorsed the 'Uganda National Adaptation Programmes of Action on Climate Change' report, written in line with the requirements of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The document aims to identify priority activities for Uganda's urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change. The report states that Government is committed to implementing the National Adaptation Programmes of Action to compliment other social and economic development programmes such as the Government's Poverty Eradication Plan. However, the endorsement of the report and the resulting prioritized actions were not discussed in parliament.

In 2008, government established a Climate Change Unit within the Ministry of Water and Environment and a Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change. The Parliamentary forum has a mandate to promote awareness and action on climate change through targeted capacity building. The official Parliament of Uganda website lists the Parliamentary Forum as having 200 active Members of Parliament as members, however membership of the Forum, its remit and achievements were not subject to parliamentary debate.

Uganda's constitution enshrines the requirement for sustainable energy generation within section XXVII (iii) stating 'The State shall promote and implement energy policies that will ensure that the people's basic needs and those of environmental preservation are met.'

Uganda has a high reliance on low grade energy forms such as traditional biomass fuels (estimated at 90percent total energy consumption), with only approximately 5percent of the population connected to the national electricity grid¹¹. The reliance on biomass fuels has heavily contributed to severe degradation of forest resources. Excluding biomass, the use of renewable energy sources is estimated to contribute just 2percent to Uganda's total energy consumption. It is suggested that discussion on the implementation of sustainable and renewable energy generation in rural communities, that would not rely upon connection to the national electricity grid, should receive more attention in parliament.

No mention was given to the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD). This scheme offers incentives to Countries, such as Uganda, as a means of creating financial value for the carbon that is stored in remaining untouched forest. It has been predicted that the total market for carbon from this programme could be worth up to USD 30 billion per year¹².

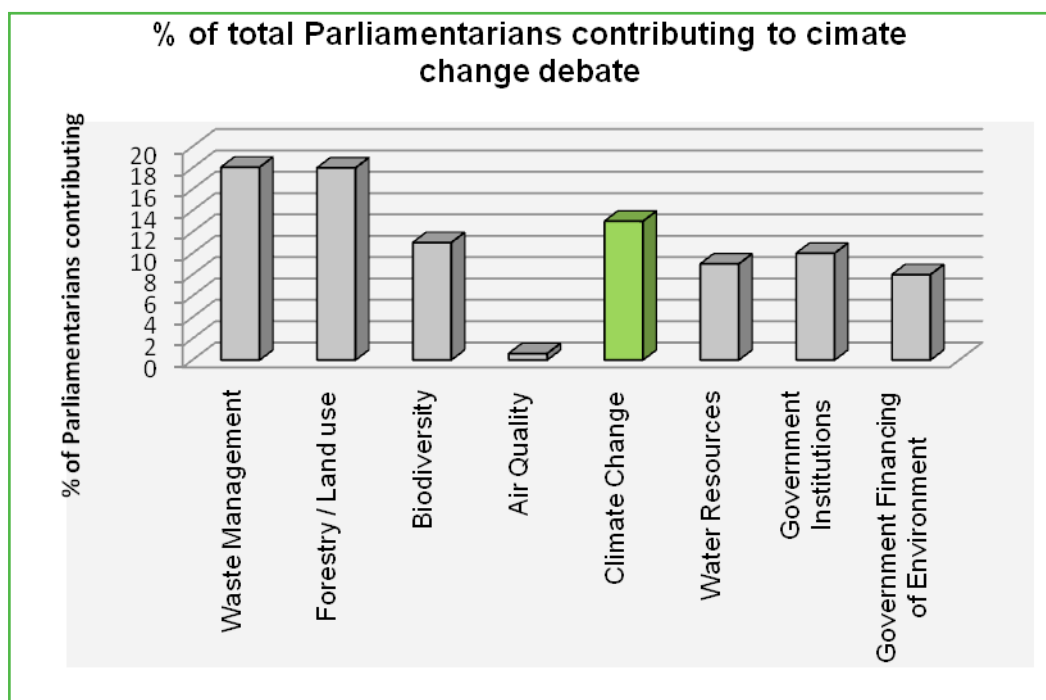
It is interesting to note, that despite recent exploration and confirmation of commercially viable oil and gas reserves within the sensitive Albertine Rift, the climate change implications of utilizing these carbon heavy fuel sources are not referenced within the climate change debate.

¹⁰MEMD (2007), Renewable Energy Policy for Uganda. Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development.

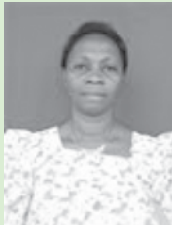



¹¹The Republic of Uganda, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (2002) Energy Policy for Uganda

¹²UN-REDD Programme website.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the Climate Change debate as compared to other environmental issues:



Key contributing members of Parliament:

Alisemera, Babiha Jane	(NRM Woman Representative, Bundibugyo District)	
Migereko, Daudi	(NRM, Butembe County, Jinja District)	
Arimpa Kigyagi, John	(NRM, Mbarara Municipality, Mbarara District)	
Nandala Nathan Mafabi,	(FDC, Budadiri County West, Sironko District)	

Suruma, Ezra (Dr.)

Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Ex-Officio)



2.6 Water Resources

Uganda is blessed with extensive freshwater and groundwater resources. Surface water resources include the rivers of the upper Nile catchment and Lakes Victoria, Edward, Kyoga and Albert, which together account for approximately 20 percent of Uganda's total territory¹³.

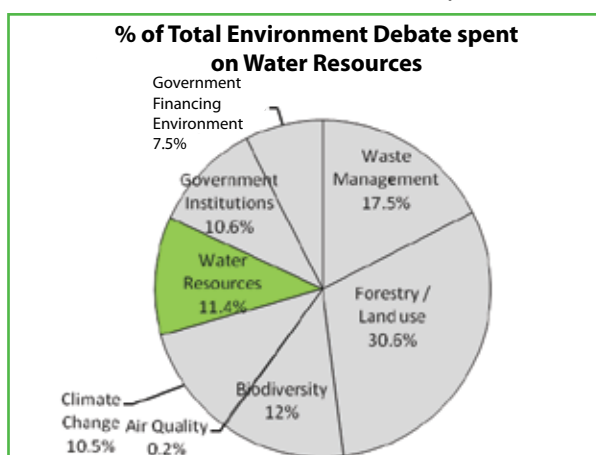
Water is a key strategic resource and as such, maintaining good water quality and adequately managed resources is essential for advancing development and promoting a healthy population. Access to clean water for drinking and bathing is a fundamental human right. In addition to human health implications, a buoyant economy is also reliant upon well managed water resources, including the agricultural and fisheries industries, hydropower generation, tourism and protection against drought and floods.

The Ugandan constitution acknowledges the need for protection of water resources stating that 'the state shall protect important natural resources including ... water', 'promote sustainable development and public awareness of the need to manage ... water... resources in a balanced and sustainable manner..' and shall take 'all practical measures to promote a good water management system at all levels'. Finally, the Constitution pledges to take 'all possible measures to prevent or minimise damage and destruction to ... water resources resulting from pollution'.

Uganda's water resources are, however, under an escalating threat of degradation. Risks include increasing abstraction of surface and groundwater resources for consumption due to population growth and increasing urbanisation and industrialization. Pollution arising from diffuse and point source pollution discharges can be related to poor sanitation infrastructure, agriculture, urban and industrial related pollution. Increasing exploitation of surface water for hydropower generation also alters the natural hydrology of catchment areas. There are reported cases of siltation of rivers and lakes and loss of water catchment basins. All this has a bearing on water quality and resource availability.

Parliamentary debate on water resources:

Parliamentarians spent just 0.14 percent of total time debating water resources issues. Where environmental issues were discussed, water resources formed 11.4 percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart:



¹³UNESCO (2005), Uganda National Water Development Report

Issues relating to health (provision of safe drinking water, sewerage infrastructure) and disaster relief (drought related food security issues, flood related population displacement) tend to dominate parliamentary debate within the water resources sector. It is these environmental-specific topics that are discussed below.

Water catchment management;

Protection of water catchments receives some coverage within parliamentary debate, specifically in relation to wetland encroachment, deforestation, soil erosion and related heavy silt loading of water sources.

The contribution of poor water catchment management, wetland encroachment and deforestation was implicated in the flooding associated with the construction of the Kampala Northern Bypass. It was noted that the recommendations of the environmental measures recommended by the National Environment Management Authority to avoid soil erosion and flooding had not been implemented.

Environmental implications of hydropower generation;

Parliamentarians acknowledge the need to manage water catchment ecosystems to retain surface water levels, particularly in relation to lakes and this debate is closely interlinked with the debate on climate change impacts and mitigation. As part of this debate, parliamentarians reference the need for transboundary co-operation with neighbours to ensure the sustainable exploitation of shared surface water resources. The need to engage with the Democratic Republic of Congo Government for the conservation of Lake Albert is highlighted. The collaborative Lake Victoria Environment Protection Project, established to ensure sustainable management of transboundary natural resources, is also highlighted with reference to the need to conserve water catchment ecosystems.

In 2007, Elioda Tumwesigye and David Bahati specifically highlighted the need to consider the long term environmental implications and sustainability of water catchments associated with hydropower dam construction.

Rainwater harvesting;

With an annual average rainfall in the range of 600 – 2500 mm¹⁴, Uganda has substantial potential to implement rainwater harvesting technology as a contribution to safe water supply. However, in rural areas the traditional thatched roofs of domestic buildings reduce technology options requiring additional investment in collection structures and storage tanks.

Rainwater harvesting is included within the Government's plans for provision of safe water to rural areas. In his 2006 Budget Speech, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Dr. Ezra Suruma), made financial provision for 2,000 new rainwater harvesting tanks to be constructed in rural areas. Despite this financial commitment, Charles Ngabirano questioned why rainwater harvesting was not being more widely promoted and why rural communities are required to contribute up to 50 percent of total rainwater harvesting infrastructure costs, when other potentially less suitable schemes receive full funding.

Rainwater harvesting was again referenced as a budgetary priority within the 2007 Budget Speech. Here, Dr. Suruma states that Government will be looking to provide funding for rainwater harvesting infrastructure by encouraging investment by credit organizations.

In 2007, The Chairperson for the Committee on Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (Deusedit Bikwasizehi) updated parliament on the progress made through the Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation Project which seeks to improve incomes and rural livelihoods through sustainable natural resource and water management. This 5 year project, due to complete in 2010 with a budget of nearly

¹⁴Enable (2006), Water Sector Policy Overview Paper.

USD78 million, includes provision for designing and constructing rainwater harvesting structures.

In June 2009, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Syda Bbumba) presented the Budget priorities for the year 2009/10. The government committed to providing 883 rainwater harvesting tanks as part of a suite of measures to improve rural water supply.

Water quality;

April 2007 saw a detailed debate on the implications of decline water quality within Lake Victoria. Concerns were mainly centred around the potential human health hazard and damage to fish stocks arising from the presence of a 'green, viscous and odourous' substance at the margins of the lake. It was not until September 2007 when the laboratory results were again referenced within Parliamentary debate. Results confirmed the substance to be blue-green algae, population blooms of which are characteristic of elevated nutrient loading. The presence of the algae to levels where fish mortality was observed indicated eutrophication of Lake Victoria due to increasing organic pollutant discharges. As part of the September 2007 water quality debate, The Minister of Water and Environment (Mary Mutagamba) was able to reassure parliament that as the Chairperson of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (under the umbrella of the East African Community), the Commission was aware of the need to address water quality issues.

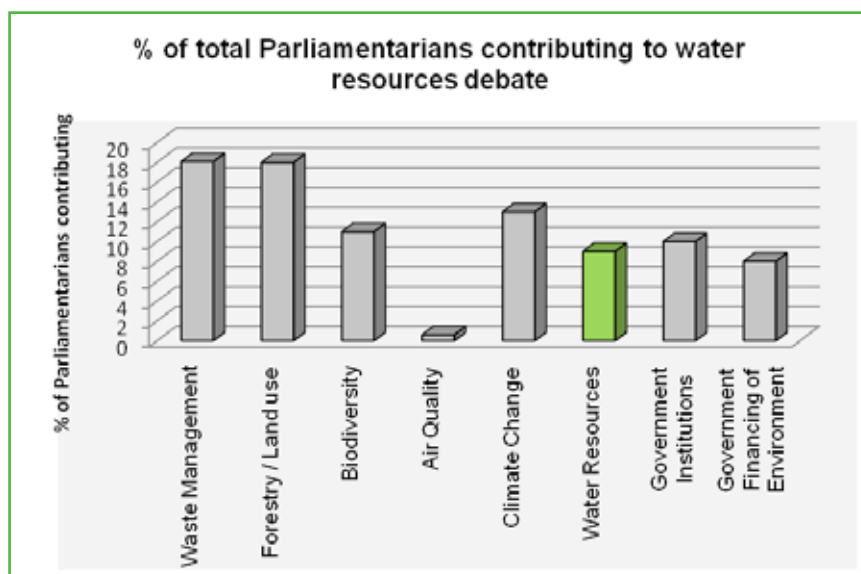
Reference is also made to the high levels of pollutants within Kampala's receiving surface waters due to inadequate sewerage infrastructure and surface water runoff.

Comment:


Sustainable water resource management should begin at a catchment level to be truly effective. However, reference to water catchment management is often simply just a passing comment in relation to the mitigation of the social and economic implications of floods and droughts, rather than as an opportunity to present quantified measures for mitigation and conservation of the water catchments. The implications of water resources management to environmental sustainability appears not to have been debated.

Although the hydropower generation debate is primarily concerned with the social and economic implications of power generation, the impact of dam construction on waterbodies and their catchments is only occasionally referenced. Wider consideration of the environmental impact of hydropower was lacking from parliamentary discussions.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the Water Resources debate as compared to other environmental issues:



Key contributing Members of Parliament:

Bahati, David	(NRM, Ndorwa County West, Kabale District)	
Bbumba, Syda	Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, (NRM, Nakaseke County, Nakaseke District)	
Bikwasizehi, Deusdedit	Chairperson for the Committee on Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (NRM, Buhweju County, Bushenyi District)	
Mutagamba, Mary	(NRM, Woman Representative, Rakia District), The Minister of Water and Environment	
Ngabirano, Charles	(NRM, Rwampara County, Mbarara District)	
Suruma, Ezra (Dr.)	Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Ex-Officio)	
Tumwesigye, Elioda	(NRM, Sheema County North, Bushenyi)	

2.7 Government Institutions

The Ministry of Water and Environment oversees the operations of environmentally focused semi-autonomous agencies – the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the Wetlands Management Department (WMD), the Directorate of Water Development (DWD) and the National Forest Authority (NFA). These, in addition to the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) are some of the agencies in mandate with wise management of the Environment and Natural Resources in the country. Parliament is expected to keep an eye on the operations of each of these agencies to ensure the diligent execution of their constitutional mandates. Beyond this, Members of Parliament should represent the interests of these institutions to ensure their capacities are enhanced. However common issues affecting the operations of environment-focused institutions have not found their way on the floor of the 8th Parliament. These include inadequate staffing, poor funding and lack of institutional coordination and a lack of independence in their day-to-day business.

National Environment Management Authority (NEMA):

NEMA is the primary environmental management agency within Uganda. The Authority was established by the National Environment Act 1995 and is responsible for the co-ordinating, monitoring, supervising and regulating all environmental matters. Activities, undertaken in line with the legislative requirements of the National Environment Act, include - integrating environmental concerns within national planning; liaison with key stakeholders; proposing environmental policies and strategies; initiating legislative proposals, standards and guidelines; approving Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA's); promoting environmental awareness and undertaking environmental research and reporting.

National Forestry Authority (NFA):

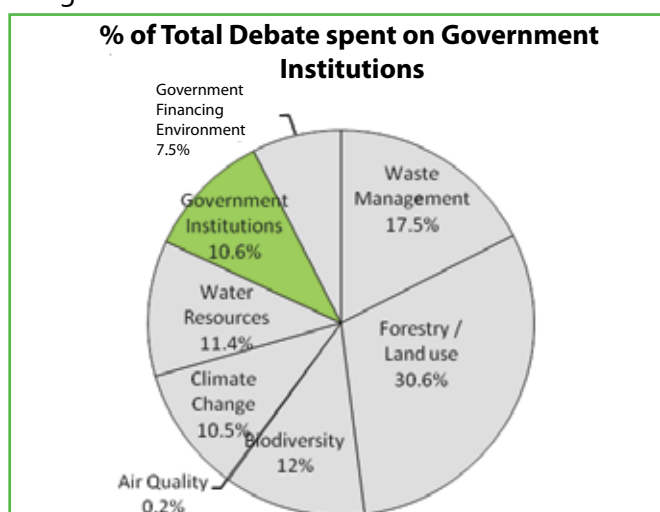
The Authority was established by the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act 2003. Activities undertaken by the NFA include; improving the management of the Central Forest Reserves to ensure sustainable yields through agreed forest plans and professional forestry management and expanding the area of Central Forest Reserve being managed under partnership agreements.

Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA):

The Authority was established in 1996 by the Uganda Wildlife Statute and is responsible for the management of 36 National Parks, Wildlife Reserves and Wildlife Sanctuaries. Activities include; management planning for protected areas, promoting community conservation programmes and promoting wildlife tourism.

Parliamentary debate on Government Institutions:

Parliamentarians spent just 0.13percent of total time debating environmental focused government institutions. Where environmental issues were discussed, government institutions formed 10.6percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart:



NEMA:

As the primary environmental regulatory agency in Uganda, NEMA receives numerous references with regard to the formal ministerial duties of parliamentary debate. Ministers make reference to NEMA's activities in regulating the agricultural sector and enhancing the capacity of districts to sustainably manage their environment through partnership with NGO's.

NEMA is referenced within parliamentary debate in relation to their role as environmental regulators, approving EIA documents. NEMA is identified as the competent body to which parliamentarians must refer before decisions can be taken on a range of environmental issues, including proposals for indoor spraying of DDT, infrastructure development projects, identifying banned polyethylene, and the Kampala Northern Bypass project. The recommendations by NEMA on environmental impacts and appropriate mitigation are also seen to be central to technical decisions undertaken by the Committee on Natural Resources. It is noted that NEMA's influence is less effective at local level, with a requirement for greater transparency requested by Emmanuel Dombo during his 2006 Report on the Committee on Natural Resources. It was also noted by Nathan Byanyima that the recommendations of the Kampala Northern Bypass EIA were not implemented leading to harmful environmental impacts.

NFA:

The role of the NFA is primarily discussed within the context of forest encroachment enforcement action. Debate is polarized, with some parliamentarians supporting the residency claims of specific communities within forest reserves, while other parliamentarians reject such claims and support the enforcement activities of the NFA. The NFA receives criticism for financial management and what is perceived as an overly heavy handed approach to enforcement activity. Poor relations between the NFA and local communities are referenced within Parliament, for example within the 2007 report by the Committee on Natural Resources presented by Emmanuel Dombo. The report discussed at length the findings of an investigation into an encroachment petition and the activities and remit of the NFA.

UWA:

The UWA is primarily discussed within Parliament in the context of encroachment within protected areas and their role in the promotion of tourism. The remit and effectiveness of UWA is discussed in detail by Rose Munyira within the 2006 report from the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry. The report makes a series of recommendations for rectifying land concession anomalies in relation to protected areas and the request to transfer these lands to UWA. The report also calls for the Uganda Wildlife Statute (now the Wildlife Act 2000) to be reviewed to improve the effectiveness of the UWA, although Parliamentary debate does not explore the technical detail of this requirement further. Rose Munyira calls for greater collaboration between Government ministries (Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry in consultation with the Ministries for Lands and Surveys and Foreign Affairs) in order to support the work of UWA in ensuring protected areas on border regions are marked and protected. Recently John Bosco Lubyayi, in his role as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry, reiterated a call for cross function co-ordination, recommending that UWA work closer with the Uganda Tourist Board to promote tourism. In relation to land encroachment within protected areas, the UWA was also said to have a confrontational approach to enforcement.

Legal enforcement;

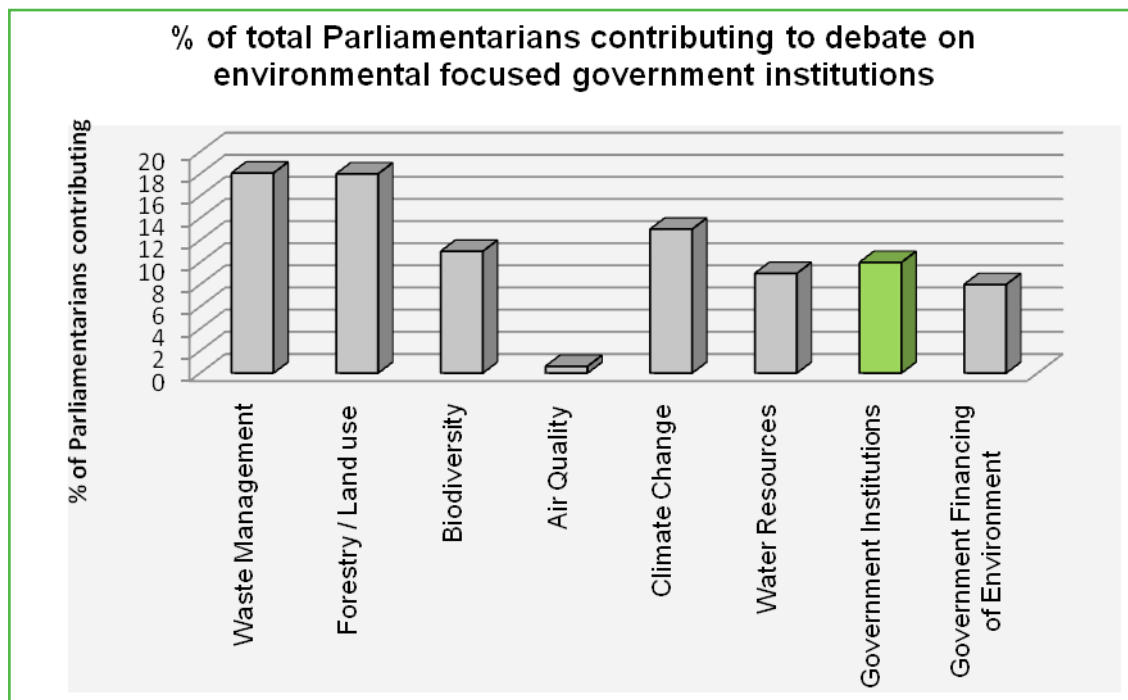
In 2008 Jessica Eriyo, the Minister of State for Environment acknowledged that policing and enforcement of environmental law was ineffective, largely due to a lack of awareness of environmental legislation by law enforcers. It was proposed that the Ministry was investigating the feasibility of setting up an Environmental Police force with specific responsibility for environment law enforcement. Prevention and mitigation of encroachment within protected forests and wetlands was cited as a particular problem for environmental law enforcement.

Comment:



Reference to NEMA's technical remit and expertise is encouraging, as it indicates some awareness within Parliament of NEMA's important consultancy role during debate that may have environmental repercussions. Concerns raised over NEMA's lack of impact at local level and non-enforcement of technical recommendations raised questions in Parliament over NEMA's effectiveness on the ground.




Parliamentary debate relating to both the NFA and UWA indicates a lack of trust and cohesion between the environmental enforcement agencies and local communities. This indicates a need for further parliamentary discussions on how the NFA and UWA can work in cooperation with local communities to build trust.

Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the debate on environmentally focused government institutions as compared to other environmental issues:



Key contributing Members of Parliament:

Dombo, Emmanuel	(NRM, Bunyole County, Butaleja District)	
Eriyo, Jessica	Minister of State for Water and Environment, (NRM, Woman Representative, Adjumani District)	

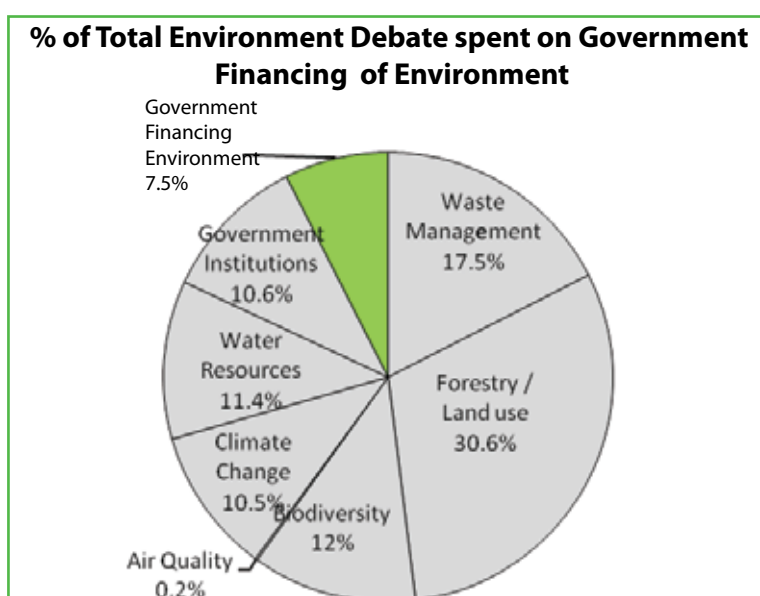
Byanyima, Nathan	(NRM, Bukanga County, Isingiro District)	
Lubyayi, John Bosco	(NRM, Mawokota County South, Mpigi District)	
Munyira, Rose	Vice Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry (NRM, Woman Representative, Busia District)	

2.8 Government Financing of Environment

Central financing is vital to the function of Government institutions in order to provide consistent and sustainable environmental regulation and management. The main challenge consistently pointed out by government institutions towards executing their mandate has been poor funding. Over the years Government has failed to demonstrate that NEMA, UWA, NFA, WMD and DFS are a priority in allocation of funds from the national treasury. As such, the institutions have been left incapacitated. The other issue relates to staffing constraints in all environment sub-sectors within the respective Government institutions.

Parliamentary debate on Government financing of environment:

Members of Parliament spent just 0.09 percent of total time debating the financing of the environment. Where environmental issues were discussed, environmental government institutions formed 7.5 percent of the debate as indicated in the following chart;



Government Institutions

NEMA:

The financial status of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) was subject to parliamentary discussion. NEMA was heavily financed by the World Bank, whose existing funding stream expired at the end of 2007. From 2008, a substantial funding gap occurred with the risk of severely undermining the effectiveness of NEMA core functions. The need for Government to prepare for and address this funding short fall was raised by Emmanuel Dombo in his 2006 report on the Sessional Committee on Natural Resources and then in 2007 by the Chairperson of the Budget Committee, William Okecho in his presentation of his three year macroeconomic plan and programmes for economic and social development. The request for government funding to address the donor funding shortfall, continued through 2008 and 2009.

NFA:

On 17 May 2007, William Okecho referred to the financial instability of the National Forestry Authority (NFA) due to reliance upon donor funding. On 5th September 2007 the Minister of State for Water and Environment, Jessica Eriyo stated that the NFA would be allocated 200M Shillings. On 12th December 2007 the Chairperson, of the Standing Committee on Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises (John Odit) delivered the report of the committee stating that the NFA had not been allotted funds during the recent budget. He reported that the NFA had opted to retain autonomy and flexibility which prevented it from receiving funds from the Government. On 20th August 2009, Geoffrey Ekanya stated that an executive order issued by the President, suspending part of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act 2003, is preventing the NFA accessing donor funds to carry out it's functions. The NFA has recognised the long term financial challenges it faces and this is stated on the official NFA website.

Uganda Wildlife Authority:

On 1st September 2006 the Vice Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry (Rose Munyira) stated that the Uganda Wildlife Authority budget for 2006/7 was Shs 31 Billion and a significant proportion of this funding was allocated from donors including the World Bank.

Forestry and land use

Parliament was informed of how funds from the World Bank, to administer the Second Environmental Management Capacity Building Project, would be spent. The World Bank has stipulated that funding is to provide for tree planting in deforested areas, provide investment in priority environmental regulation and to provide monitoring equipment and training relating to the rapidly expanding petroleum and gas sector in Uganda¹⁵.

Comment:

On 21st August 2007, Parliament debated the expenditure estimates for 2006/7 and the proposed budget for 2007/8. The Minister of State for Water and Environment, Jessica Eriyo, stated that a revised Environment and Natural Resources Sector Investment Plan would inform Parliament further on expenditure on the environment. This appears to have been published¹⁶.

On 18th May 2009, the Minister of State for Finance and Planning (Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu) informed Parliament that the equivalent of USD 26.6M was to be borrowed from the World Bank to finance the Second Environmental Management Capacity Building Project (EMCBP II). He stated that this was to be implemented by NEMA and the NFA under the control of the Ministry of Water and Environment. The funding was also sought to help increase and enhance environmental enforcement capacity.

¹⁵ World Bank website – www.worldbank.org

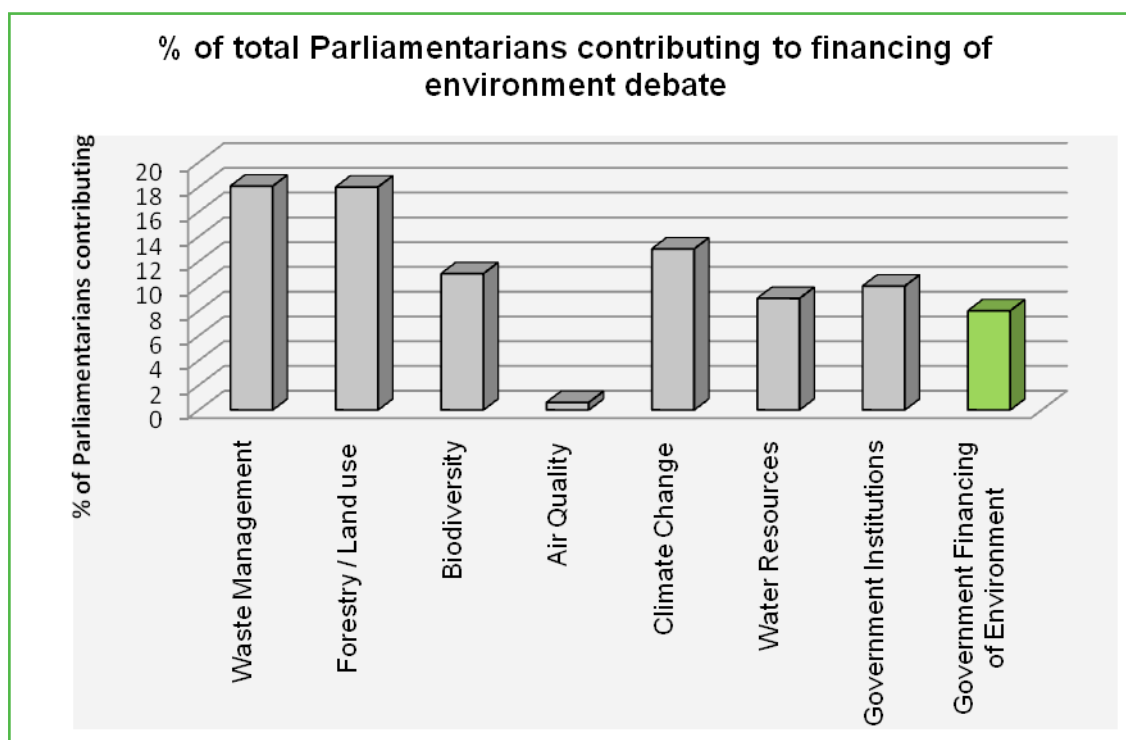
¹⁶ Natural Resources Committee on the Ministerial Policy Statement and Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2007/8, August 2007.

Checks and balances of Government finance were observed as reported by relevant committees, for example on 20th August 2008 by Winifred Masiko (Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Natural Resources).



The main objective of the Second Environmental Management Capacity Building Project (EMCBP II) for Uganda is to contribute to sustainable management of environmental and natural resources at national, district, and community levels. The additional credit is to finance an extension of EMCBP II until 30th November, 2011¹⁷.

Funding of the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre Trust was also discussed, where Parliament was informed that it's trust status restricted the Trust's ability to attract Government funding and support and also prevented the Trust from owning land.








Total number of Members of Parliament contributing to the debate on government financing of environment as compared to other environmental issues:



Key contributing Members of Parliament:

Dombo, Emmanuel	(NRM, Bunyole County, Butaleja District)	
Ekanya, Geoffrey	(FDC, Tororo County, Tororo District)	

¹⁷ www.worldbank.org

Eriyo, Jessica	Minister of State for Water and Environment, (NRM, Woman Representative, Adjumani District)	
Kamuntu, Ephraim (Prof.)	Minister of State for Finance and Planning (NRM, Sheema County South, Bushenyi District)	
Masiko, Komuhangi Winifred	Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Natural Resources (NRM, Woman Representative, Rukungiri District)	
Munyira, Rose	Vice Chairperson of the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry (NRM, Woman Representative, Busia District)	
Odit, John	Chairperson, of the Standing Committee on Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises, (UPC, Erute County South, Lira District)	
Okecho, William	Chairperson of the Budget Committee (Independent, West Budama County North, Tororo District)	
Suruma, Ezra (Dr.)	Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Ex-Officio)	



3. CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

Uganda's wealth is already dependant upon the natural environment. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries make up a third of the country's Gross Domestic Product. The future of Uganda's economy would also appear to be finely balanced with the environment i.e. oil and tourism¹⁸. With this in mind the legislature of Uganda are entrusted by the people to ensure the electorate's best interests are represented at Parliamentary level. With just 1.3percent of parliamentary plenary debate given to matters regarding the environment, Parliament has clearly not regarded the environment as a priority issue.

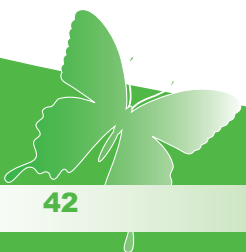
It is noted that Parliamentary debate of environmental issues is dominated by a few key speakers who either have an environmentally focused ministerial role or a personal interest in environmental subjects. Environmental debate is therefore led by the subjects of ministerial or personal interest by these outspoken Parliamentarians. Outside of these key speakers, informed or detailed discussion of wider environmental issues is often missing within Parliamentary debate. Development of debate to address related and interlinked environmental issues is frequently weak. As such, debate is often piecemeal with subjects for discussion lead by personal interest and not reflecting a coherent prioritisation of environment subjects within Parliamentary business.

Technical understanding of environmental issues would again appear to not be widespread amongst Parliamentarians. As a result, social and economic issues tend to dominate debate with environmental consequences of decisions overlooked or sidelined.

Recommendations

- The key recommendation of this report is therefore the call for environmental education of all Parliamentarians. Greater technical understanding is required for environmental issues, how issues interrelate and the social and economic implications of action. Education will empower Parliamentarians to wider environmental debate, enable them to interrogate the implications of decisions made by their peers and ensure coherence and positive direction within environmental decision making. Education will also enable Parliamentarians to seek opportunities for environmental, social and economic enhancement resulting from good environmental management.
- Parliamentarians should seek technical advice more frequently from dedicated academic and governmental environmental institutions to inform debate in a timely manner. Mechanisms should be put in place to ensure that Parliamentarians are kept informed of fast moving and new environmental issues such as climate change and oil exploitation.
- Government budget should seek to permanently allocate sufficient funding to enable the government environmental institutions to be able to carry out their essential advisory and regulatory roles.

¹⁸State of the Environment Report 2008, NEMA.



Appendix A

Members of Parliament and their contribution to environmental debate

Name	Political Party	Constituency	District	Waste Management	Forestry / Land use	Bio-diversity	Air Quality	Water Resources	Government Institutions	Climate Change	Government Financing of Environment
Aadroa Onzima Alex	FDC	Maracha County	Arua District								
Abura Pirir Samuel	NRM	Matheniko County	Moroto District								
Acen Rhoda	FDC	Woman Representative	Amuria District								
Achia Terence Naco	NRM	Bokora County	Moroto District								
Achia Remigio	NRM	Pian County	Nakapipirit District					04-Apr-07			
Achila Alepar Margaret	NRM	Woman Representative	Kotido District								
Aciro Concy	INDEP	Woman Representative	Amuru District								
Adong Omwony Florence	NRM	Labwor County	Abim District								
Ahabwe Godfrey Perezza	NRM	Rubanda County East	Kabale District		04-Sep-07						
Akandwanaho Caleb		EX-OFFICIO									
Akbar Hussein Godi	FDC	Arua Municipality	Arua District								
Akello Judith Franca	FDC	Woman Representative	Pader District								
Akena James Micheal Jimmy	UPC	Lira Municipality	Lira District	21-Aug-08						12-Feb-08	21-Aug-08
Akiror Agnes Egunyu	FDC	Woman Representative	Kumi District								
Akol Rose Okullu	NRM	Woman Representative	Bukedea District	19-May-09							19-May-09

Birekeraawo Nsubuga Mathius	DP	Bukoto County South	Masaka District		1 Sept 06 / 29 May 07								
Boona Emma	NRM	Woman Representative	Mbarara District										
Bucyanayandi Tress	INDEP	Bufumbira County South	Kisoro District										
Bukeni Gyabi Fred	NRM	Bubulo County West	Manafwa District		25-Sep-08								
Bukenya Gilbert Balibaseka	NRM	Busiuro County North	Wakiso District			19-May-06							
Busima Cosmas Mafabi W.	NRM	Budadiri County East	Sironko District										
Busingye Karooro Okurut Mary	NRM	Woman Representative	Bushenyi District		26-Aug-09								
Butime Rwakaikara Tom	NRM	Mwenge County North	Kyenjojo District										
Buturo Nsaba James	NRM	Bufumbira County East	Kisoro District										
Bwerere Kasole Lwanga Edward	NRM	Buwekula County	Mubende District										
Byabagambi John	NRM	Ibanda County South	Ibanda District				14-Jun-06						
Byamukama Nulu	NRM	Kitagwenda County	Kamwenge District										
Byanagwa Samuel Rwamafa	NRM	Rukiga County	Kabale District										
Byandala Abraham James	NRM	Katikamu County North	Luwero District		15-May-08								
Byanyima Nathan	NRM	Bukanga County	Isingiro District					22-May-07	22-May-07				
Byarugaba Grace Isingoma	NRM	Woman Representative	Isingiro District					27-Jul-07	27-Jul-07				
Byenkya Nyakaisiki Beatrice	NRM	Woman Representative	Hoima District										
Chekamondo Rukiya Kulany	NRM	Woman Representative	Kapchorwa District										

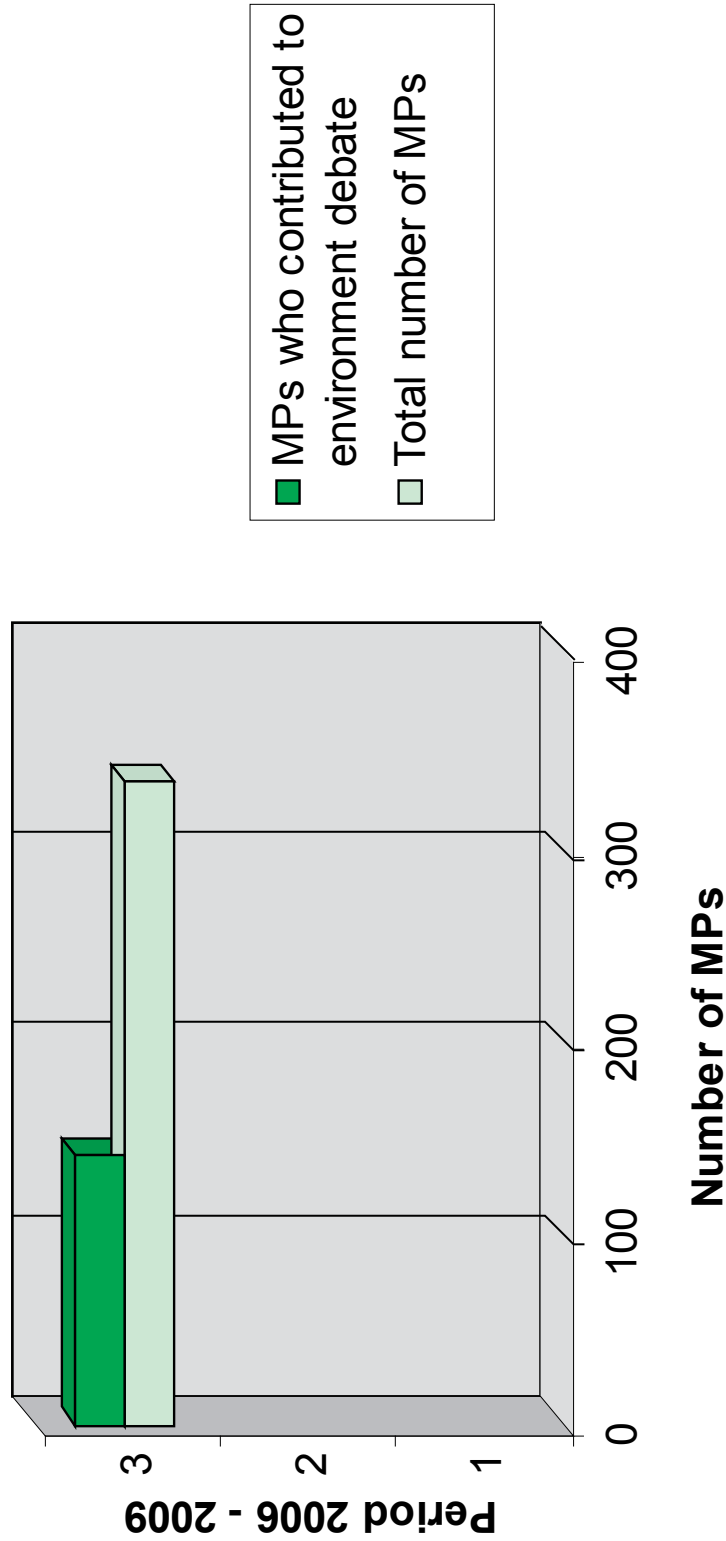
D'Ujanga Giw Simon	NRM	Okoro County	Nebbi District										13-Aug-08	
Dombo Lumala Emmanuel	NRM	Bunyole County	Butaleja District	15 May 08 / 12 May 09	31-Aug-06									
Ebong David	INDEP	Maruzi County	Apac District	18-May-09	25-Sep-08								7 Aug 08 / 18 May 09	18-May-09
Ecweru Musa Francis	NRM	Amuria County	Amuria District										19-Sep-07	
Ejua Simon	NRM	Vurra County	Arua District											
Ekanya Geoffrey	FDC	Tororo County	Tororo District	29 Mar 07 / 20 Aug 09	29 Nov 06 / 27 Feb 07 / 18 May 09 / 24 Aug 09									29 Nov 06 / 24 Aug 09
Ekemu Charles Willy	FDC	Soroti Municipality	Soroti District		25-Sep-08									
Ekwau Ibi Florence	FDC	Woman Representative	Kaberamaido District				05-Feb-08							
Emigu Julius Peter	FDC	Kaberamaido County	Kaberamaido District											
Epetait Francis	FDC	Ngora County	Kumi District	29-Mar-07										
Eriyo Jesca	NRM	Woman Representative	Adjumani District	25-Sep-08	31-Aug 06 / 25 Sept 08 / 18 May 09		06-Feb-08						21 aug 07 / 25 Sept 08	31 Aug 06 / 28 Aug 07 / 5 Sept 07
Euku Simon Ross	UPC	Kalaki County	Kaberamaido District											
Fungaroo Kaps Hassan	FDC	Obongi County	Moyo District											
Gudo'i Yahaya	NRM	Bungokho County North	Mbale District											
Guma Gumisiriza David	NRM	Ibanda County North	Ibanda District	29-Mar-07										
Hashaka Kabahweza Florence	NRM	Woman Representative	Kamwenge District											

Hyuha Samali Dorothy	NRM	Woman Representative	Butaleja District											
Igeme Nathan Nabeta	NRM	Jinja Municipality East	Jinja District											
Iriama Rose	INDEP	Woman Representative	Nakapiripirit District											
Jachan-Omach Mandir Fred	NRM	Jonam County	Nebbi District		22-Mar-06									19 Sep 06 / 26 Mar 09
Kaahwa Erisa Ammoti	NRM	Buruuli County	Masindi District		05-Jul-06									19 Sep 06 / 26 Mar 09
Kabakumba Labwoni Masiko Princess	NRM	Bujenje County	Masindi District											
Kabanda Sabano Pherry	NRM	Woman Representative	Budaka District											
Kabuusu Moses Wagaba	INDEP	Kyamuswa County	Kalangala District											
Kaddumukasa Ssozi Jerome	INDEP	Mityana County South	Mityana District		06-Feb-08									
Kaddunabbi Lubega Ibrahim.	NRM	Butambala County	Mpigi District		11-Nov-08	11-Nov-08								01-Oct-07
Kafabusa Werikhe Michael	NRM	Bungokho County South	Mbale District											
Kagimu Kiwanuka		EX-OFFICIO												
Kajara Aston Peterson	NRM	Mwenge County South	Kyenjojo District											
Kajeke Wilfred	FDC	Mbale Municipality	Mbale District											
Kajura Henry	Ex-officio				25-Sep-08									25 Sep 08 / 18 Nov 08
Kakoba Onyango	NRM	Buikwe County North	Mukono District											24-Jun-08
Kakooza James	NRM	Kabula County	Lyantonde District			15-May-08								12 Aug 08 / 25 Sep 08

Kaliba Steven	NRM	Fort Portal Municipality	Kabarole District	25-Sep-08									
Kamanda Bataringaya Cos	NRM	Bwamba County	Bundibugyo District										
Kamba Saleh M.W.	NRM	Kibuku County	Pallisa District										
Kamuntu Ephraim	NRM	Sheema County South	Bushenyi District									18-May-09	
Kamya Beti Olive Namisango Turwomwe	FDC	Rubaga Division North	Kampala District		06-Feb-08	04-Apr-07	13-Dec-07						
Kasaija Stephen Kagwera	NRM	Burahya County	Kabarole District	22-Aug-08	25-Sep-08								
Kasaija Matia	NRM	Buyanja County	Kibaale District										
Kasamba Mathias	NRM	Kakuuto County	Rakai District										
Kashaija Robert	NRM	YOUTH			04-Jul-06								
Kasigwa Harry	FDC	Jinja Municipality West	Jinja District				31-Aug-06						
Kasirivu Atwooki Kyamanywa		EX-OFFICIO											
Kasozi Joseph Muyomba	NRM	YOUTH		25-Sep-08									
Kasule Lumumba Justine	NRM	Woman Representative	Bugiri District										
Kasule Robert Sebunya	NRM	Kyadondo County North	Wakiso District										
Kategaya Eriya		EX-OFFICIO											
Katende Gordon Sematiko	NRM	Mityana County North	Mityana District	25-Sep-08	25-Sep-08		25-Jul-07						
Katirima Manoni Phinehas		UPDF											
Katongole Badhul	NRM	Kyaka County	Kyenjojo District										
Katuntu Abdu	FDC	Bugweri County	Iganga District										

Musumba Isaac Isanga	NRM	Buzaaya County	Kamuli District	29 Mar 07 / 20 Aug 07 / 22 Aug 07	13 Sept 07 / 20 Aug 08	13-Sep-07	4 Apr 07 / 25 Sep 07 / 20 Aug 09	29 Mar 07 / 22 Aug 07 / 13 Sep 07 / 20 Aug 08	20 Aug 08 / 20 Aug 09
Mutagamba Maria Lubega Emily	NRM	Woman Representative	Rakai District						
Mutuluzza Peter Claver Barnabas	NRM	Mawokota County North	Mpigi District						
Muwulize Norman Ibrahim	INDEP	Buikwe County West	Mukono District	25-Sep-08					
Muwuma Milton Kalulu	NRM	Kigulu County South	Iganga District		28 Aug 06 / 29 May 07 / 25 Sep 08				
Mwebaza Sarah	NRM	Samia-Bugwe County North	Busia District						
Mwesige Adolf Kasaija	NRM	Bunyangabu County	Kabarole District						
Mwesigye Ruhindi Hope	NRM	Woman Representative	Kabale District						
Najjemba Rosemary Muyinda	NRM	Gomba County	Mpigi District						23-Aug-06
Najjuma Faridah Kasasa	NRM	Woman Representative	Mubende District						
Nakadama Isanga Lukia	NRM	Woman Representative	Mayuge District						
Nakawuki Suzan Matovu	FDC	Busiuro County East	Wakiso District						
Nakwang Christine Tubbo	NRM	Woman Representative	Kaabong District						
Nalubega Mariam Patience	INDEP	YOUTH			18-May-09				
Nalugo Sekiziyu Mary Margaret	NRM	Woman Representative	Mukono District						
Nalule Safa Juuko	NRM	PWD							
Namara Grace K.	INDEP	Woman Representative	Lyantonde District						

Graphical presentation of MP's participation in debating Environment issues



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