



The Republic of Uganda

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES

STREAMLINING OF WATER FOR PRODUCTION AND VALUE ADDITION IN THE BUDGET FOR FY 2019-20

**BY THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES**

MAY 2019

Rt. Hon. Speaker,

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A: WATER FOR PRODUCTION

The National Irrigation Policy clearly guides on the roles of Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) as far as public sector mandates for provision of water for agriculture production is concerned, and we are all aware that MWE is generally responsible for bulk water supply and MAAIF is responsible for on-farm water provision.

1.2 Key Definitions of the Roles of MAAIF and MWE in the National Irrigation Policy

Off-farm: refers to development of hydraulic infrastructure and associated engineering works comprising of water abstraction and conveyance to farm gates.

On-farm: refers to development of hydraulic infrastructure, associated engineering works and irrigation accessories comprising of conveyance from farm gates to farmers' fields and water use management.

The National Irrigation Policy (2018) further breaks down the mandate, roles and responsibilities of both ministries in line with the above cabinet decisions and water policy.

- MAAIF is responsible for Planning and development of micro and small scale irrigation systems (up to 100 Ha)
- The Policy provides a shared responsibility between MAAIF and MWE for planning and development of Medium and large scale (MAAIF responsible for on-farm infrastructure development, Operation and Maintenance , water utilization and sustainable irrigation scheme management; while MWE is responsible for off-farm infrastructure development and bulk water transfer)

The detailed roles and responsibilities of Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and its Agencies under the National Irrigation Policy (2018) are shown below:

1. To undertake the planning and development of micro and small scale irrigation systems
2. To undertake the planning and development of on-farm irrigation infrastructure and implementation of on-farm activities

for medium and large scale schemes to ensure effective utilization of water for irrigation and best agronomic practices ;

3. support the operation and maintenance of on-farm irrigation infrastructures;
4. provide agricultural technical guidance, education and training of extension workers, artisans, irrigation agronomists, irrigation engineers and farmers, backstopping to districts and other stakeholders;
5. To support the establishment and guide farmer groups and producer associations in value chains and agribusiness through PPPs. MAAIF will also work with the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives to support cooperative societies in the management of their resources especially in the disposal and acquisition of fixed assets.
6. To promote marketing, trade, value addition of products and cooperatives principles in irrigated agriculture;
7. To coordinate actors involved in agricultural production, agricultural water management, value chain and marketing;

8. To spearhead research and development (R&D) for irrigation systems;
9. To demonstrate and promote irrigation technologies that are efficient, cost effective and affordable systems.
10. To build the capacity of stakeholders involved in irrigation project implementation in the field of project study, designs, construction and operation and management of irrigation systems.
11. To. To carry out Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Planning (RAP) for all areas planned for irrigation development.
12. To oversee implementation of national irrigation policy including access to strategic inputs and demonstration materials, monitoring, evaluation and compliance to standards;
13. To development of national guidelines for farmers and agricultural water users associations

14. In consultation with District Local governments and MWE shall Institute performance and management contracts with the appropriate institutions / farmer organizations at local/scheme level for sustainable management of irrigation schemes.

All the above functions can only be successful if MWE adequately provides bulk water supply to the jointly identified and agreed farming communities.

1.3 Funding and Capacity building of the two institutions

Honorable members; it is a fact that for the last 10 years or so, the budget for water for Agricultural production in the MAAIF has been far below that of the Ministry of Water and Environment.

The big difference in resource allocation for water has had a direct effect on the human capacity development of the Engineers, staff retention and key achievements of the 2 Ministries.

The institution with much more financial resources (MWE) definitely attracts and retains better competent staff and undertakes more

projects; compared to the one with meager financial resources (MAAIF); but that does not remove the mandate of MAAIF and also creates a gap in service delivery because the irrigation technologies are supposed to be delivered and adopted by farmers through the national agriculture extension system; which is a mandate of MAAIF. The roles and mandates of the two ministries are therefore complementary.

1.4 Building the Human Capacity in Irrigation

Since the approval of the National Irrigation Policy, the Ministry has fast tracked the recruitment of technical engineering staff (39 engineering staff at MAAIF headquarters). In addition, 12 engineers have been recruited on contract under the various Ministry projects.

The Ministry has also so far recruited 46 Engineers in the local governments to support Agriculture Extension Services; and the recruitment process is still ongoing.

MAAIF has therefore built the capacity to undertake our mandate of provision of water for agriculture production and shall continue building capacity if we are given more financial resources.

1.5 Major planned MAAIF activities in FY 2019/20

In the next Financial Year 2019/20, MAAIF has 2 main activities under Water for Agriculture Production. We shall continue construction and de-silting of valley tanks among our identified model and nucleus farmers mainly in the cattle corridor districts. This activity is roughly UGX 19 billion and is not enough.

The Ministry will construct solar powered irrigation schemes with capacity to cover at least 5 hectares. This will be part of our extension system focus on the Nucleus farmers particularly engaged in coffee and horticulture; and other important value chains in accordance with the Agriculture Zoning Strategy. The schemes will be used for demonstration and the farmers will be required to sign MOUs with MAAIF to ensure the irrigation schemes are accessible to other farmers and will also undertake to work with the extension workers to train farmers in good agronomy. The ministry has a budget of UGX: 34 billion for this activity. This is still low funding and without these funds all our engineers and extension officers will be deemed redundant as far as promoting irrigation is concerned.

1.6 Recent Ministry achievements in the area of water for irrigation

Despite the merger resources in the area of Irrigation; MAAIF has been able to achieve the following;

- 1) Completed Feasibility studies and engineering designs for 3 irrigation schemes of Sironko-Acomai irrigation Scheme in Bukedea and Bulambuli Districts, Atari Irrigation scheme in Kween/Bulambuli District; and Namatala Irrigation Scheme in Budaka/ Mbale/ Butaleja District with support from JICA.
- 2) The Ministry completed construction of 50 small scale irrigation demonstrations and water harvesting sites in selected districts under the 9 ZARDIs.
- 3) We have constructed and rehabilitated 238; valley tanks as of December 2018 in the cattle corridor districts country wide; and cumulatively, we have constructed over 1,200 on farm valley tanks in the last 4 (four) years ; we have a problem of desilted valley tanks but this is going to be addressed.
- 4) The Ministry jointly with MWE are undertaking construction of Six (6) irrigation schemes of Doho II; Mubuku II; Wadelai; Torchi; Ngenge and Rwengaju.

2.0 Implementation of the Irrigation Policy

MAAIF is formulating the Irrigation Master Plan in conjunction with Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE). There has however been some delays in this process but it is being fast tracked. The Master

Plan that this will provide an implementation framework for the National Irrigation policy.

MAAIF has a good working relationship at technical and policy level with MWE; because we recognize the different but complementary special skills of the technical staff in both Ministries; We also recognize that we are providing irrigation services to less than 5% of Uganda's total irrigatable area. Therefore, the combined efforts of the two institutions are required to improve this situation.

B: AGRO- INDUSTRIALIZATION (PIMA)

The Ministry embraced the budget strategy of promoting agro-industrialisation and this is depicted in prioritization of this in the allocation of sector resources across the seven votes (agencies) that constitute the agriculture sector.

We should note, however, that most of the Agro-processing/industrialization activities in the sector are undertaken by the various semi-autonomous agencies, namely NAADS, NARO, UCDA, DDA and CDO. The mainstream Ministry only plays a coordination role. The Ministry also works with Uganda Development Corporation to finance Key value addition projects by the private sector. Also, most issues on industrialization at policy level are undertaken by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Summary of funds for agro industrialization in 2019/20

Purchase of specialized agro machinery & equipment under NAADS	Planned Quantities	Budget Estimates (UGX billions)
Provision of appropriate household irrigation systems for water for production	22	2.17
Provision of tractors and matching implements for agricultural mechanization	47	4
Provision of Value addition- fruit processing equipment (small scale and Medium scale) for Mango, Citrus and Pineapples for establishment fruit processing facilities	6	32.3
Provision of Value Addition - Small scale to medium scale Grain Milling equipment to manage post-harvest losses	13	1.5
Value Addition - Large scale Grain Milling equipment (Maize, Rice, oil) to manage post-harvest losses	3	4.5
Provision of Value Addition - Milk coolers & matching generators	20	4.0
Establishment of Community Grain stores	4	2.0
Technical design, inspection, verification & other related 'software' activities		0.74
<i>Sub Total NAADS</i>		<i>51.22</i>

MAAIF recognizes that fact that in order to effectively achieve agro industrialization, the farmers should be able to produce adequate volumes and quality products (raw materials); and this is not a function of MAAIF alone.

The Hon. Minister MFPED in his letter of 6th May 2019 guided that the interventions identified PIMA cut across various sectors including Agriculture, water, tourism, industry and Local Governments; The Hon. MFPED's guidance was that in order to avoid duplication and

ensure effectiveness, that the activities of this PIMA be integrated into the strategic plans and budgets of these sectors and funded within the respective sector ceilings. We would will then have a coordinating forum ensure that the different MDAs do not deviate from the PIMA agenda. This is what we are pursuing in implementation of the budget of FY 2019/20.

Thank you