



THE GULU INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP

Facilitating Gulu's economic growth through sustainable solid waste and water resources management

Gulu in Northern Uganda is one of the country's fastest growing cities, with an annual population growth rate of approx. 2.8%. As the city continues to grow, so does the amount of solid waste and the degree of catchment degradation. Yet, Gulu City's young waste and natural resource management system is unable to deal with increasing pressures. Particularly, the water resources are increasingly polluted by plastic and organic waste. This is aggravated by the diminishing water holding capacity of the existing wetlands. Gulu City lies within the Albert Nile and Aswa Catchments of the Upper Nile Water Management Zone. Both catchments are characterized by high vulnerability to dry spells. Changing climate conditions of the last years have led to the drying-up of the Oytino valley dam and the associated streams, which serve as main water source for the city. The accelerating rate of wetland degradation poses an additional threat to their provisioning, regulating and supporting ecosystem services to the City's businesses and population.

STEWARDSHIP FOR A SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN GULU CITY

Natural resources stewardship means that all users of natural resources take responsibility for the shared resources nobody owns but everybody relies on. Forming partnerships, public sector, private companies and civil society work together on eye-level to ensure the sustainable management of natural resources.

The scale and complexity of natural resources-related challenges affecting Gulu means that individual action remains limited in its effectiveness. Developing long-lasting solutions to tackle environmental degradation and protect the natural resources, representing the basis for Gulu's economic development, requires joint efforts. Natural resources stewardship represents a way to tackle such challenges in the long term.

A PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN GULU CITY

The partnership unites the public sector, namely the Ministry of Water and Environment-Upper Nile Water management Zone and Gulu City Council, the private sector with National Water and Sewerage Corporation and Takataka Plastics as well as the civil society organisation Community, Empowerment, Education, Development Uganda (CEED).



Oytino dam - Gulu City's main source of water is experiencing siltation and significant dry spells



Duration	2021- ongoing
Partners	<p>Government institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) Gulu City Council (GCC) National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) <p>Private sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takataka Plastics <p>Civil Society Organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community, Empowerment, Education, Development (CEED)
Objective	To promote Gulu City's economic growth through sustainable solid waste and water resources management
Partner contributions (financial or in-kind)	EUR 4.180 in-kind contributions to partnership activities in addition to staff time and provision of meeting locations

They collaborate to promote Gulu's economic growth through sustainable solid waste and water resources management, by reducing the amount of solid waste entering the environment and securing the quality and quantity of the city's main water source.

Cities, as engines of economic growth, are also significant producers of waste and pollution contaminating natural resources. The partnership aims to demonstrate that sustainable management of waste and water can create job opportunities, attract investments into the city and improve peoples' livelihoods.

PARTNERSHIP OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS

Objectives of the partnership are:

- Reduce organic and plastic waste entering the environment through retooling of existing and establishment of new recycling hubs
- Reduce threats to both water quality and availability in Oyitino 1 and Oyitino 2 micro-catchments
- Create awareness among citizens for a sustainable management of plastic and organic waste and promote behaviour change in Gulu City
- Improve capacity of public and private sector actors to collectively address solid waste management challenges in Gulu city

Results include:

Establishment of four mechanisms, aimed at reducing waste ending up in the environment and enhancing water source protection:

- Development of an Oyitino 2 micro-catchment source protection implementation plan and a livelihood restoration plan, as well as the design of activities to be implemented
- Development of capacity needs assessment plan for selected plastic and organic waste recycling hubs

- Trainings on operational health, safety and business skills development for selected micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), as well as training for 200 waste handlers on safe and efficient waste collection
- Baseline assessment of PET plastic flows and recycling within Gulu City Council's area, based on a waste flow diagram that presents different solid waste management options.



Solid waste collection point at Gulu main market. Insufficient collection results in overflowing skip containers and pollution of the environment.

ABOUT NATURES

The partnership is part of the Natural Resources Stewardship Programme (NatuReS), a multi-donor programme commissioned by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), co-financed by the European Union (EU) and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

NatuReS has already created or safeguarded 40.000 jobs and investments worth EUR 178 million through 14 currently active partnerships. It is a continuation of the International Water Stewardship Programme (IWaSP), active from 2013-2019, and builds on its achievements. IWaSP reached more than 2.7 million people with more than 180 partners in 38 partnerships and leveraged private sector investments accounting to EUR 15 million.

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