



AFRICAN AGENCY FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

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Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: March 2019

To: March 2021

**STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR
EQUIVALENT**

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. Kitembo Asuman

President

African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID) was established to vigorously stimulate local community for social progress and economic development. It's an international NGO in Uganda Registered by the Ministry of Internal affairs under the NGO board, Uganda Government (Registration No. S.5914/3112). It has its headquarters in Fort portal Western region and operates internationally, AAID is partnering with G4 Alliance and UN Sectors doing different Global Programmes again AAID is Sends its for Representation to the three UN duty stations namely UN HQ New york, UN Geneva and UN Viena because the Organization is Accredited by UN. AAID mission is to strengthen the marginalized and needy among the community to come up with sustainable, low cost and gender responsive solution to their problems and with a vision of effectively transformed living conditions of community through information dissemination and implemented long term sustainable programs

Basing on the ten principles of SDGs African Agency for Integrated Development is mostly centered on the environment principle in that the change in the environment and climate is affecting Uganda where by a lot of insures have happened affecting the local community in the following ways due to climate change

- ✓ Water scarcity
- ✓ Hunger
- ✓ Lack of implementation of the set up policies governing environmental protection and conservation

Recognizing the risks that water and sanitation problems pose to societies and economies around the world, AAID is adopted to new policies and practices to reduce their corporate water use, improve the quality of water returned to the environment, and provide decent water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services for employees and the communities in which they operate, enlightened business leaders recognize that healthy societies and healthy markets go hand-in-hand, and, further, that achieving water and sanitation security will require the collaboration of the public sector, civil society, and the business community. African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID) has done this through construction and rehabilitation of water facilities and engaging the community to participate so as to sustain those water sources for feature use.

There are 4.9 million hectares of natural forests and woodlands in Uganda, covering 24% of the land area. 81% of this forest area is woodland, 19% tropical high forest and less than 1% under plantations. The distribution of these resources in Uganda varies greatly by region. The Northern region is dominated by woodland, while the western and central regions have both woodlands and tropical high forests. The eastern region has very few woodlands and tropical high forests. Much of the land (over 41%) is under subsistence farming. This holds 24% of national biomass, in the form of scattered trees, forest patches and agro-forestry trees included within farming systems. There is thus almost as much forest biomass on-farm as in the country's natural woodlands. Together with the existing natural forests on private land and in government reserves, these on-farm forest resources are a major focus of the National Forestry Authority

(NFA), with particular reference to decentralization and the development of farmer-driven advisory services and agro-forestry. Other land use activities take up 28% of the land area.

Drastic changes in the forest cover have taken place in Uganda during the past century. Forest Authority estimated the forest cover to have reduced from as much as 10.8 million ha (52%) in 1890, to only 5 million ha (24%) today. Forest Authority estimated the deforestation rate in Uganda to be 55,000 ha per year based on the change in the amount of bush land and woodlands from 1990 to 1995. Also AAID (2017) estimates the rate of land clearance in the range of 70,000ha to 200,000ha, indicating deforestation rates of between 0.9% and 3.15%.

Deforestation has caused a reduced supply of wood and non-wood Forestry products, reduced environmental services such as watershed and soil protection, and reduced biodiversity. There is a growing demand for forest products, and a growing shortfall in supply, based on current investment levels. Due to deforestation there are increased fuel, there fore developing agencies like African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID) has put an initiative of starting the project of mobilizing private sectors, local communities, schools, churches and government extension staff in charge of environment in western Uganda on an indigenous tree planting which will help in the transformation and climate adaptation in the region

The Goal of the on going project is to sensitize Ugandans about environmental conservation and tree planting, clean environment and to establish tree nurseries in various parts of the region that will enable the public to acquire seedlings for fruits, amenity and Agro---forestry.

The on going project will contribute to:

- Improvement of livelihood and resilience to climatic change of Ugandans through: Increasing on the number of barriers to wind, which in turn reduce soil erosion, and destruction of crops and property by wind.
- Improved livelihood through sale of wood products such as timber (round wood), peeler logs (for production of veneers used in plywood manufacture), firewood etc.
- Improved livelihood through sale of fruits like Mangoes, Oranges, etc.
- Reducing on the cost of energy for cooking through promotion of planting short rotation trees or shrubs that can provide fuel wood.
- Reduction of current pressure on protected areas such as Central Forest Reserves, Game reserves and Wetlands which are cleared for mainly fuel-wood products.
- Contributing to climate stabilization thus reducing on the negative effects of climate change that are culminating into global warming.
- Increasing the number of shade trees especially in gazette urban resting places such as green parks and recreation centers.
- Improving community knowledge and awareness of climatic change issues and supporting demonstration and adaptation practices that reduce the impact of climatic change on peoples livelihoods such as best practices in water protection and preservation, soil fertility conservation, best energy production and conservation among others.

AAID is working with government extension workers who meet members of the target community in their homes, public places, and in village council meetings, where they sensitize on the importance of growing trees. They also collect information from the target community regarding the tree varieties of interest that better suit the project's planting program and water friendly.