



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



The NFSS: Key Provisions, applications and opportunities

Presented at the National Dialogue to
develop Road map for Implementation of the
NFSS

By
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Objectives of the presentation



- To enhance understanding of the applicability of the standard from a Public policy point of view
- To inform the meeting of the enabling PLR provisions for certification

Background



- Uganda loses approx. 122,000h a of forests annually.
- Key driver is opening up land for agricultural expansion among others.
- SPRs over the last decade have sown that one of the Key challenges we face in management of our estate is weak forest governance & poorly managed estates.
- The 10 Principles in the NFSS provide for requirements to meet and ensure good governance as well as best practices in forest management.



Key Provisions-PLR Framework



- **National Forestry Policy, 2001**
 - ✓ Policy Statement 1-4 of the Uganda Forestry Policy (2001) provides for the development of criteria and indicators that can be applied to forest certification.
- **National Forestry and tree planting act, 2003**
 - ✓ Part II, Section 28, on FMP and related provisions for management of the forest estate
- **National Forestry and Tree Planting Regulations, 2016**
 - ✓ Regulation 4,5 &6 of Part II, provides for P&C for SFM
 - ✓ Regulation 112 to 114 strengthens the need for certification including certification of seed and other germplasm



Key provisions-NFSS



- The NFSS is an adaptation of the FSC International Generic Indicators, the FSC Principles and Criteria (P&Cs) for Forest Stewardship and provides an internationally recognized standard for responsible forest management (RFM), and are applicable to all forest operations seeking FSC certification in Uganda.
- The National Standard therefore aims at domesticating the Generic P&Cs by formulating indicators that are relevant to Uganda
- PCI&V in the NFSS

Applications



- To provide a yardstick for RFM in Uganda. For instance, in the recently revised Performance Contract that NFA olds with Government, the NFSS can be applied to check for compliance.
- To serve as a tool of forest management through which Responsible Bodies e.g NFA, DLGs, & CF Managers as well as registered PFOs.
- To serve as the Standard to be used by FSC accredited Certification Bodies (CBs) to evaluate forest management practices at forest management unit (FMU) level for purposes of FSC forest certification in Uganda

Opportunities



- Existing forestry projects like SPGS, REDD+ & FIEFOC 2 can immediately utilize these standards to enhance RFM for the beneficiary farmers.
- The on going Forestry Policy review process can strengthen the need for utilization of the standard as well as certification.
- REDD+ Strategy development and its related framework documents provide an opportunity i.e Feedback & Redress Mechanism
- On going FLEGT Programme in collaboration with FAO & related initiatives i.e Zanzibar Declaration.
- Majority of Small holders, with UTGA as one of THE Umbrella bodies provide an opportunity for Group Certification



THANK YOU
&
GOD BLESS YOU