



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



# National Roadmap for Advancing Implementation of the Uganda National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS)

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Chairman SDG-Uganda





## Uganda NFSS approved and launched



- Uganda's NFSS was approved by FSC on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018
- NFSS was launched by the minister of Water and Environment Hon. Sam Cheptoris and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- NFSS became effective from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.
- A great achievement as it puts Uganda as the 1<sup>st</sup> in Africa and 8<sup>th</sup> in the world to have an NFSS.
- Our actual lead in the process should be reflected in the implementation of NFSS

## NFSS development process



- Process started in 2013.
- Highly consultative involving active participation of various key stakeholders
- Considered mandates, roles and responsibilities including both the duty bearers and rights holders.
- Guided by the FSC principles and procedures
- Led by the Standards Development Group (SDG) – Uganda
- SDG comprised forestry sector stakeholders categorized based on the 3 chambers of Environment, Social and Economic.
- SDG members were selected from the NFSS National Consultative Forum.
- It was a lengthy process with back and forth engagements with FSC



## SDG-Uganda



- Development of the NFSS was delegated to the SDG by the UFWG.
- SDG had meet all the FSC requirements and principles.
- Supported by Secretariat at Environmental Alert
- Secretariat mobilized and coordinated stakeholder participation in the process
- SDG and secretariat mobilized resources to support implementation of the agreed actions as part of the process
- SDG was comprised of the Chairman and Vice Chairman and members is 3 chambers
- Technical support provided by Havilah Company (Steve and Stephen), FSC Focal Point for Uganda (Edward Mupada) & UNBS



## Last amendments -4 Decisions



*Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Environmental Alert*

1. Indicator 2.2.9 on sexual orientation- Adapt the wording suggested by FSC
2. Indicator 6.5.2 on raising the conservation area for small holders from 5% to 10% as provided by FSC – Adopted
3. Adopting FSC format for the document – adopted
4. Approve final draft with changes and make final submission for Uganda for FSC's approval – Approved



## Thanks for the Support



1. WWF-Uganda Country Office
2. Environmental Alert and UFWG
3. Care International in Uganda
4. Global woods
5. Forest Stewardship Council
6. Uganda Timber Grower's Association
7. Havilah Company Ltd
8. Forest Sector Support Department
9. Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda
10. New Forest Company
11. Green Resources
12. SDG members & organizations they represented



# National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS) and Sustainable forest management



- NFSS augments existing forest policy and legislation for sustainable/responsible forest management
- National Forestry Policy (2001) provides for working towards sustainable forest management in Uganda.
- National Forest and Tree growing Act 2003
- National Forest Management Plan



**Policy statements provide for the following with regard to sustainable forest management and harvesting standards, criteria and indicators:**

- *Develop codes of conduct and standards, and the development of criteria and indicators that can be applied to forest certification;*
- *Develop standards of best practice for commercial plantations and disseminate these to the private sector;*
- *Improve the regulation of concessions including the development of harvesting and processing standards.*
- NFSS is already in use by forest plantation companies and UTGA - Group certification process by smallholders.





## Moving forward



- Implementation of the NFSS – basis of our meeting
- Future role of the SDG
- We hope NFSS can contribute to sustainable forest management in Uganda
- Regional considerations for certification