



GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT
Directorate of Water Development

ESTABLISHMENT, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF
DISTRICT WATER AND SANITATION COMMITTEES

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(DWD)

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ESTABLISHMENT, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF DISTRICT WATER AND SANITATION COMMITTEES (DWSC)

1. Background

Government gives high priority to improved water and sanitation services to the poor. Indeed the provision of safe water and proper sanitation is one of the key actions that are intended to increase the quality of life of the poor (PEAP Pillar 4). It is because of this that the government has increased the GOU budget allocated to water supply and sanitation from 1.7% of budget in FY 98/99 to 3.4% in FY 2000/01. Government has adapted a decentralized management of the Rural Water and Sanitation provision and services to the local governments. Government is providing funds directly to districts as District Water and Sanitation development grant, w.e f FY 2000/01. Central government task is now to facilitate and mentor the local governments to undertake the service delivery.

Water and sanitation activities are multi-Sectoral in nature. A good example is the provision of sanitation services, a number of government ministries at the center, and departments at the District level play key roles and are actively involved in the implementation of sector activities. There is however, lack of efficient co-ordination and collaboration of water and sanitation programmes at local governments' level, including interaction between different departments and the interaction between staff at district and lower levels and with the private sector, non-governmental organisations, communities and households

If sector goals and objectives are to be attained, there is need for strengthening the coordination of all actors in the sector. It is upon this background that the Joint GoU/Donor sector review held in September 2001 recommended the formation of various sector coordination committees at different levels of implementation. The DWSC is one of the agreed on committee.

2. Objectives:

- i) To ensure efficient and effective co-ordination, planning, monitoring and implementation of the Water and Sanitation Sector in the District.

- ii) **To coordinate the implementation of water supply and sanitation in view of policies and strategies ensuring equal distribution of water and sanitation services with special emphasis on serving the poorer and less-served areas of the District.**
- iii) **To support the communities in developing and sustaining the water resources to a sustainable level to secure and provide water of adequate quantity and quality for all social and economic needs with the full participation of all stakeholders in the management of the water resources in line with Government policies.**

3 COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

The District Water and Sanitation Committees (DWSC) comprise the following members:

- LC5 chairperson or Chief Administrative Officer (Chairperson)
- Secretary of District Sectoral Committee responsible for (Water)
- Secretary of District Sectoral Committee responsible for (Women)
- Town Clerk (outside the NWSC stations)
- District Engineer,
- District Water Officer DWO(Secretary),
- District Director of Health Services(DDHS)
- Community Development Officer(CDO)
- District Production Officer(DPO)
- District Education Officer(DEO)
- NGO and CBO representatives.

4 SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Functions of the DWSC include, but not limited to;

- Co-ordinate the water and sanitation planning and development
- Oversee implementation of sector activities
- Approve the workplans and budget ,annual and quarterly
- Review quarterly progress reports, before they are submitted to the central Government.
- Carryout quarterly sector specific and overall sector monitoring,
- Hold quarterly meetings and Minutes to the meetings should be copied to PS-MWLE, PS-MFPED, PS-MOLG, PS- MOH, PS-MOES, and PS-MGLSD.