**Project name:** Innovative and Gender sensitive Nature-based Solutions for Resilience and Green Jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>To reduce the impacts of climate change and poverty on communities within the Rwenzori Landscape through NbS</th>
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| **Outcomes** | **Outcome 1:** Communities have secured improved ecosystem resilience to climate change in targeted areas  
**Outcome 2:** More women and youth are in green jobs and benefitting from diversified nature-based livelihoods  
**Outcome 3:** Sustainable finance for nature-based enterprises and green jobs is secured |
| **Geographical location** | **Rwenzori Landscape (RL):** Districts: Kasese, Kaborole, Bunyangabo, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo and Rubirizi |
| **Budget** | DKK 7 million |
| **Main Partners** | **Donor:** D  
**Consortia partner:** Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA), WWF DK  
**Main local partners:** WWF Uganda Country Office (UCO), Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), key local CSO hubs, District Timber Growers Associations and The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (TUNADO). |
| **SDG alignment** | SDG 1: End poverty; SDG 3: Ensure health and well-being for all; SDG 4: Inclusive and equitable quality education; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG 12: Responsible consumption and Production; SDG 13: Climate Action; SDG 15: Life on land; SDG 17: Partnership for the goals |
| **Start date and duration** | 1 January 2021 - 31 December 2024 (48 months) |
Project Description

The overall objective of this project is to create and scale green jobs by applying a Nature based Solutions (NbS) approach at a landscape level to harness nature’s immense potential to provide for communities’ well-being, hereby enhancing their resilience to climate change.

WWF applies the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) definition of NbS as “actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, which address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits” (Cohen-Shacham et al., 2016). NbS brings together established integrative ecosystem-based approaches to adapt to and mitigate the impacts from climate change. For WWF, NbS for climate change are applied as ecosystem conservation, management and/or restoration interventions intentionally planned to deliver measurable positive climate adaptation and/or mitigation impacts, that have direct positive implications for human development and biodiversity. NbS is applied to achieve multiple societal co-benefits, enhancing a multitude of ecosystem goods and services, adding to people’s livelihoods, food and water security, and risk reduction etc., thus improving socio-cultural conditions of communities.

Project focus

The project will focus on jobs within restoration and in sectors that reduce pressure on important natural resources for climate resilience, e.g. within the timber value chain; charcoal, bamboo and honey industries. The project will adopt community driven NbS for climate change adaptation and mitigation in key ecosystems such as forests for water towers and areas of vegetation. It will raise awareness and capacitate the communities more prone to climate changes and in this way increase the individual and community level resilience. It will also use an innovative approach to incentivizing community management of natural resources and support the communities in restoration efforts. The project will engage with private sector actors in valuing and financing the ecosystem services. This will yield multiple benefits, including reduced climate risk, improved food security and livelihood as well as reducing the most severe environmental impacts of climate related disasters, such as flooding, landslides and drought, and the subsequent long-term impact of climate change.

The project Area

The project area is within the Rwenzori Landscape, cuts across the six districts of Kasese, Kaborole, Bunyangabo, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo and Rubirizi. The area holds immense natural and socio-economic value – wealth of ecosystem services, such as water resources, carbon storage, forest resources, and regulation of the hydrological cycle, that generate benefits locally, nationally, and globally. The Rwenzori Mountains are the main source of water across the GVL – providing water to over 2 million people and supplying irrigation schemes, hydropower stations and domestic water supplies. The project area is dominated by a population which is...
highly climate fragile, combined with high levels of poverty (between 15 and 30% of the rural population) and is placing increasing pressure on natural resources.

**Project Stakeholders**

- **Civil society stakeholders** include community-based groups such as community savings groups, agroforestry associations, community leaders in parishes and sub counties, timber traders, timber growers’ associations, water users, women and youth groups. This to achieve targets of improved ecosystem resilience and increased opportunities for diversified livelihoods and green jobs.

- **Governmental institutions** include district level governments from all 6 districts of the project area, and other local governments in order to mobilize target groups, plan and coordinate interventions. The project will work with duty bearers including e.g. NFA.

- **Public vocational training institutes** such as Kicwamba, Kahaya, Nyamitanga and Katwe Polytechnic Institutes will be used to provide specialized vocational skills to marginalized groups.

- **The private sector** will ensure access to markets and innovative solutions to sustainable robustness.

**The change we want to see**

This project presents huge potentials with a gender sensitive and innovative NbS approach, to:

i. Increasing landscape, ecosystem and community level resilience and sustainability, with improved knowledge, skilling and management practices,

ii. Access, for particularly women and youth, to improved livelihoods, decent green jobs and enterprise creation within strengthened product value chains and linkages to robust markets, as well as long-term perspectives and opportunities for

iii. Increased, scalable sustainable finance mechanisms, with positive multiplier effects on capacity and economy.