

Item 11

6.5.2 'Proportion of trans-boundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation'

Statement by Callist Tindimugaya

Our experiences during reporting on SDG 6.5.2 are as follows:

- a) The process of reporting on SDG6.5.2 was handled by a task team of 5 people in Uganda.
- b) After the draft report was prepared by the task team it was shared with the national taskforce for SDG6 in the country for their information and review
- c) The updated draft report was thereafter shared with the joint body for cooperation on the Nile (Nile Basin Initiative) for their review and input.
- d) The report was also shared with 2 of the riparian states for their review and comments
- e) Before formal submission of the report it was shared with the custodian agencies (UNECE and UNESCO) for their review and comments
- f) The above processes enabled us to have a report of fairly good quality
- g) Some challenges/lessons learned:
Identification of the area of surface waters and ground waters in our territory that are trans-boundary.
 - identification of trans-boundary surface water is straightforward
 - the identification of trans-boundary aquifers is not easy, requires some skills and investigations. The spatial extent of transboundary aquifers in Uganda has been delineated from remote sensing but have not been verified on the ground

Consideration of whole basin or sub-basins

- Uganda is part of the Nile Basin but there are smaller sub- basins of the Nile Basin that have specific cooperation agreements that Uganda is part of. Since some of the sub-basins are covered by specific agreements we decided to consider each sub-basin separately as long as they are covered by an operational arrangement.
- h) Benefits of SDG6.5.2 monitoring:
- Awareness raising about transboundary water cooperation
 - Assessment of progress of transboundary water cooperation (monitoring not being done due to lack of an indicator)
 - Helps in decision making, accountability, resource mobilization and improving transparency

