



THE NILE BASIN DISCOURSE (NBD)

ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



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**Nile Basin Discourse (NBD)
Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

1.0 Acronyms

ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
CIWA	Cooperation in International Waters in Africa
CPAs	Certified Public Accountants
CREATES	Climate Resilient Eastern African Transboundary Water Management for Environmental Sustainability
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EARS	East Africa Radio Service
ENTRO	Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions
FFEWS	Flash Flood Early Warning System
FS	Financial Statements
GAAPs	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation)
GWPEA	Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa
IESBA	International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants
IFRs	Interim Financial Reports
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ISA	International Standard on Auditing
ISM	Implementation Support Mission
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LVBC	Lake Victoria Basin Commission
LVBWB	Lake Victoria Basin Water Board
LVRAC	Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MiCT	Media in Cooperation and Transition
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTR	Mid Term Review
NBD	Nile Basin Discourse
NBI	Nile Basin Initiative
NCCR	Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience
NEL-SAP CU	Nile Equatorial Subsidiary Action Program Coordination Unit
NEL-TAC	Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee
NDFs	National Nile Discourse Forums
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
Nile-Sec	Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
NTSEs	National Technical Support Experts
PAYE	Pay as You Earn
RETF	Recipient Executed Trust Fund
SOEs	Statements of Expenditure
TACs	Technical Advisory Committees
ToRs	Terms of Reference
TNDF	Tanzania Nile Discourse Forum
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP-DHI	United Nations Environment Programme-Danish Hydraulic Institute
WB	World Bank
US\$	United States Dollar
UGX	Uganda Shillings
WMO	World Meteorological Organization



2.0 Organization Information

2.1 Board of Directors

No.	Name of NDF	Name	Title
1	Rwanda Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Verdiane Nyiramana	NBD Chairperson
2	South Sudan Nile Discourse Forum	Rev. Peter Mawa Sabastian Lasu	Vice Chairperson
3	Uganda Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Agnes Gyaviira Namusiitwa	Treasurer
4	Kenya Nile Discourse Forum	Mr. Joseph Peter Ngome	Secretary General
5	Burundi Nile Discourse Forum	Mr. Gerard Nizigiyimana	Board Member
6	DRC Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Therese Kakule Katungu	Board Member
7	Egypt Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Ghada Ahmadein	Board Member
8	Ethopia Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Aynalem Ashebir	Board Member
9	Sudan Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Nazik Dafalla	Board Member
10	Tanzania Nile Discourse Forum	Mr. Christian Byamungu	Board Member

Co-opted Members

No.	Name of NDF	Name	Title
1	Egypt Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Mai Elshafei	Cluster 1 Representative
2	Uganda Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Faith Namansa Balaba	Cluster 2 Representative
3	Rwanda Nile Discourse Forum	Ms. Jeanne d'Arc Baranyizigiye	Cluster 3 Representative

Executive Committee

No.	Name	Title
1	Ms. Verdiane Nyiramana	Chairperson
2	Rev. Peter Sabastian Mawa Lasu	Vice Chairperson
3	Mr. Joseph Peter Ngome	Secretary General
4	Ms. Agnes Gyaviira Namusiitwa	Treasurer

NBD Secretariat Staff

No.	Name	Title
1	Eng. Sylvester Anthony Matemu	Regional Manager
2	Ayewnew Tessera Fenta	Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
3	Herbert Wairugala	Regional Finance and Administration Officer
4	Jennifer Kurubeija	Regional Program Administrator
5	Mathias Nyanzi	Regional ICT and Social Media Officer

2.2 Bankers

Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited
Entebbe Branch
P.O. Box 7131
Kampala, Uganda

2.4 Independent Auditors

Bawunha & Badebye,
Certified Public Accountants,
Plot 3992/4 Ntinda – Naalya Rd,
Opposite Salz Hotel,
Third Floor, Suite 3D,
P. O. Box 9752,
Kampala- Uganda



3.0 Director's Report

3.1 Background

The Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) is a regional network representing over 600 Civil Society Organization (CSOs) from the Nile Basin region. Established in 2003, NBD serves as an independent voice of grassroots communities, with the principal objective of enhancing civil society participation in the Nile Basin Initiative's (NBI) development projects, programs and policy dialogues. NBD facilitates engagement of communities, across ten countries along the Nile, with local and national governments, as well as intergovernmental organizations, thereby informing and enriching programs & policies at national and trans-boundary levels.

Members of NBD are local and national CSOs/NGOs that work and advocate on a range of issues relevant to Nile cooperation, including water resource management, climate security, environmental conservation, agriculture, energy, gender equity and equality, livelihoods, poverty reduction, and other related fields. These organizations form chapters at national level, known as National Nile Discourse Forums (NDFs), established in each of the Nile riparian states, which include: Burundi, D.R. Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Collectively, these NDFs constitute the NBD Network, which is coordinated by a Regional Secretariat based in Entebbe, Uganda.

The NBD engages its members in regional and national dialogues on critical transboundary issues such as water resource management, environmental conservation, climate resilience, agriculture, energy, gender equity, livelihoods improvement, and poverty alleviation. Through these engagements, the NBD contributes to informed policymaking and enhanced cooperation within the Nile Basin.

3.2 Key Initiatives

The Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) received US\$750,000 (Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand USD) from the Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA); a Trust Fund administered by the World Bank (WB) under the project titled: "Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience (NCCR) (P172848)." The NBD commenced implementation of the NCCR project in 2022 with the aim of strengthening stakeholder engagement to improve cooperation on and understanding of water resource management, specifically focusing on flood and drought risk mitigation and leveraging platform for cooperation as the two thematic areas. Additionally, the project addressed two crosscutting issues: gender and communicating benefits of cooperation and risks of non-cooperation.

Following a Mid-Term Review (MTR) conducted in May 2023, it was determined that the initial grant of US\$750,000 would be fully utilized by August 2023. As a result, the WB and NBI Centres agreed to provide a supplementary allocation of funds to NBD amounting to US\$466,000. This sum was sourced from different entities: US\$ 250,000.00 from Nile Sec, US\$ 150,000.00 from ENTRO, and US\$ 66,000.00 from NELSAP-CU.

The details of the commitments of Nile Sec and NELSAP-CU are clearly documented in the Mid-Term Review (MTR) Aide Memoire, while ENTRO's contribution was communicated through an email from its Executive Director. The Nile Sec has already remitted USD 112,500 to NBD. The funds received from NELSAP-CU facilitated implementation of community mobilization and consultation activities in Water Quality (WQ) hotspot areas in the Riparian states.



In line with its mandate, NBD also submitted a concept note and budget proposal to ENTRO for two activities focused on community engagement in flash flood-prone areas. The goal is to collect real-time data on flood events, assess their impacts before, during and after floods, and document existing community preparedness and mitigation strategies. ENTRO agreed to fund these initiatives as part of its broader climate resilience agenda. The findings would then be used to improve on the development of the Flash Flood Early Warning System (FFEWS).

3.2.1 NCCR Project Thematic Areas and NBD’s role

The Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience (NCCR) is a five-Year (2021-2025) project that aims to improve mechanisms for cooperation on water resources management and development in the Nile Basin. The project is jointly implemented by the Nile-Sec, ENTRO, NELSAP-CU, LVBC, and NBD.

3.2.2 Project Components and Thematic Areas:

The project has 5 components, 5 Thematic Areas, and 2 cross cutting issues.

Project Components:

Project components and Implementing Project	Project Thematic Areas	Cross cutting issues
Component1: Advancing Nile Basin-wide Cooperation (Nile-Sec)	Thematic Area 1: Platform for cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender ▪ Communicating benefits of cooperation and risks of non-cooperation
Component2: Improving Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Equatorial Lakes (NELSAP)	Thematic Area 2: Flood and drought risk mitigation	
Component3: Improving Mechanisms for Cooperation In the eastern Nile (ENTRO)	Thematic Area 3: Dam safety capacity building	
Component4: Water Quality in the Lake Victoria sub-basin (LVBC)	Thematic Area 4: Innovative information services for climate-resilient investment planning	
Component5: Strengthening stakeholder engagement in the Nile Basin (NBD)	Thematic Area 5: Water quality investment planning and prioritization	

3.2.3 NBD’s Role in the NCCR Project

NBD is responsible for Component 5 (Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement in the Nile Basin) across Thematic Areas 1 and 2 as well as addressing cross cutting issues such as gender in the NCCR and communicating benefits of cooperation and risks of non-cooperation.



3.2.4 Key achievements under these thematic areas in the year 2024

a) Thematic Area 1: Platform for Cooperation:

Key achievements under this thematic area:

Under this thematic area, NBD leveraged existing platforms to facilitate inclusive stakeholder dialogue for communicating benefits of cooperation and risks of non-cooperation. Specifically, NBD leveraged the Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM), the Nile Technical Advisory Committee (Nile-TAC) meetings, and Annual Nile Day 2024 to contribute to dialogue towards supporting inclusive decision-making on key water management challenges of the Nile Basin by sharing civil society perspectives, approaches and experience

NBD at the 18th Regional Nile Day 2024: NBD joined NBI and other stakeholders to commemorate the Regional Nile Day and NBI @ 25 Celebrations in Bujumbura – Burundi. NBD mobilized 141 participants including: Board members, the NBD Secretariat Staff, Burundi NDF members and school children.

NBD participated in the marching of approximately 3kms towards the event venue at Donatus Conference Centre. Participants were provided with NBD branded Polo T-shirts, scarfs, caps and bags which gave color to the celebration and visibility to NBD.

NBD delivered a statement congratulating NBI upon reaching the 25th anniversary; and highlighted NBD's time-tested partnership with NBI for the last 21 years; the alignment of the missions of the two organisations; insight on NBD's Strategy 2023 – 2027 and how it aligns well with NBI's Strategy 2017 – 2027; the different projects on which the two organisations have worked together; and reaffirming NBD's commitment to supporting the Nile Cooperation.

NBD awarded souvenirs to dignitaries at the NBI@25 commemorative event; participated in an open-air exhibition where NBD streamed video documentaries including NBD's Good-Will message to NBI@25, and distributed Souvenirs such as Pens, Lapel pins, note books, document folders, and bags.

NBD participated in the donor's strategic dialogue that took place following the Nile day 2024 celebrations in Bujumbura, Republic of Burundi.

The NBD Board Meeting-21st February 2024: The NBD Board held various meetings to provide strategic direction, guidance, and supervision to the Organization and its performance. Most of the Board meetings were virtual as there was limited resource to hold physical meetings. However, the NBD Board held its 26th physical meeting on the 21st February 2024 that provided strategic and policy guidance for the success of the NCCR Project. The Board in its deliberations amended the NBD Strategy 2023-2027, and the NBD Finance and Administration Manual. The Board also approved NBD Annual Progress report 2023. The Board proposed that amendments to the NBD constitution shall be presented to the next General Assembly (GA) meeting scheduled for November 2024; and this shall be done after all the policy documents are amended by the Board ahead of the GA.



NBD at the 7th WB Implementation Support Mission (ISM): The 7th ISM for NCCR project took place between 25th and 28th March 2024. The objective of the mission was to follow-up on the progress of activities agreed during the 6th ISM in November 2023 and to provide support to the implementing agencies to ensure timely and quality delivery of the project. This mission reviewed the technical, procurement, financial management, environmental and social risk management, M&E aspects of the project, and the progress made towards enhancing inter-agency coordination.

NBD presented its progress update from October 2023 – March 2024, and was accorded a Satisfactory Rating. NBD and the NBI Centres defined a set of additional activities which NBD agreed to execute using the committed funds. NBD also presented its plan for the next 6 months (April – September 2024) and a proposal for the new project.

During the 7th ISM, NBD submitted a Project Concept Note to the Bank for review. The Bank and NBD scoped the activities that would be financed in the new Recipient Executed Trust Fund (RETF).

NBD at the Uganda Water and Environment Week 2024: The NBD Regional Manager Eng. Sylvester A. Matemu participated in the 7th Uganda Water and Environment Week under the theme "Rethinking collective action and innovative solutions to water, environment, and climate change crisis in Uganda." Participating at a panel, he highlighted on the following issues that resonate with the theme of the event: (i) Innovative approaches and solutions to protect the lives, livelihoods, and property of communities in Uganda from the vagaries of climate change, (ii) the role of technology in addressing water, environment, and climate change challenges, (iii) opportunities and challenges in scaling-up investments in climate change mitigation and adaptation to increase the resilience of communities, ecosystems, and infrastructure.

NBD shared experiences of Civil Society engagement in the Nile Basin Development processes at the INCOMATI River Basin Commission's Multi Stakeholder Platforms (MSP) Development Workshop that took place from 5th – 7th March, 2024 in Maputo - Mozambique. NBD was represented by the Regional Manager Eng. Sylvester A. Matemu who made a presentation on NBD's experience and achievements in the Nile Basin region for the past 23 years.

NBD scaled up the internship programme from cluster 1 countries of Egypt, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Sudan to Cluster 2 countries of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, and brought on board 3 Female interns who have been interacting with local communities in the discussions and best practice sharing on the challenges and mitigation measures for flood and drought risks. The interns are playing a key role in bringing local insights, especially from Women and youth on how they perceive climate change, impacts and indigenous coping mechanisms; enabling local communities to share knowledge and best practices on flood and drought risk mitigations.

The interns are holders of Bachelor's Degree in the areas relevant to NBD's mandate. Ms. Susan Edith Asira, an intern from Kenya, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Management from Kisii University and a certificate in Nature-Based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience; Ms. Martha Isaac Mashauri, an intern from Tanzania, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Development Studies from the University of Dar es Salaam; and Ms. Betty Nakalema, an intern from Uganda, holds a Bachelor's degree in Development Studies from Makerere University.



The NBD signed internship engagement contracts with the 3 interns on August 1st, 2024. The interns were placed within the Offices of the respective NDFs in the 3 countries, and have embarked on the activities of engaging with local communities, relevant local government authorities, and civil society organizations. Their engagement contributed to enhancing NBD's community outreach programmes and fostering a collaborative environment among stakeholders (government, civil society and communities). It also contributed to enhancing the learning scope of the interns themselves on how Civil Society, grassroots communities, and governments collaborate on natural resources management.

NBD Leveraged the NBI Governance Meetings which took place on the 1st and 2nd July 2024 in Kampala, Uganda. The NBD Regional Manager and the NBD Board Chairperson participated in the 41st NEL-TAC and the 65th Nile-TAC meetings at Speke Resort, Munyonyo, Kampala. NBD made presentations on the long-standing partnership between NBD and NBI that also extends to the NBI centers, ENTRO and NELSAP. The presentation mainly highlighted the NBD-NBI/NELSAP joint achievements over the years, with particular reference to the achievements made during the NCCR project in the areas of drought and flood data collection that involved citizens across the Nile basin countries.

Leveraging the 8th ISM of the WB: NBD participated in the CIWA/WB 8th ISM for the NCCR Project (P172848) from October 21-24, 2024, which was held in Entebbe, Uganda. The objective of the mission was to follow-up on the progress of activities agreed during the 7th ISM that was carried out in March 2024 and to provide support to the implementing agencies to ensure timely and quality delivery of the project.

b) Thematic Area 2: Flood and Drought Thematic area:

Key achievements under this Thematic Area:

Under this thematic area, NBD mobilized stakeholders to contribute ideas on the application of existing Flood and Drought Early Warning Systems towards improving information communication for enhanced service delivery to communities on hydro meteorological hazard preparedness in the Nile Basin.

NBD mobilized flood-prone communities in Juba - South Sudan for a two-days (19th – 20th January 2024) training on awareness raising and capacity building to mitigate flood risks where 20 community members (50% women) from flood affected areas of Akobo, Pibor, Nasir, and Malakal towns participated. NBD supported ENTRO in mobilizing communities for the training, and facilitated the training, including language interpretation to the trainees.

NBD leveraged the inception workshop on Drought Early Warning System (Nile DEWS) organized by ENTRO which took place from 29th -30th January 2024 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

NBD and ENTRO agreed on the importance of collecting secondary data from selected drought-prone districts of the Nile Basin countries to contribute towards validating the functionality of the Nile-DEWS once it is developed and deployed. NBD thus collected secondary data on the impact of droughts on agricultural activities in the Nile basin countries, and submitted the reports to ENTRO with key findings which will be used to validate the functionality of the Nile-DEWS by March 2025.

NBD leveraged the Flash-Flood Early Warning System dissemination strategy workshop that was organized by NELSAP – CU from 18th – 22nd March 2024 in Entebbe. NBD underlined the importance of developing a strategy that effectively communicates the early warning information to the end users/communities.



NBD leveraged an Inception Workshop on "Support in Establishing Flood Community Awareness and Preparedness", organized by ENTRO from 4th - 5th April, 2024, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 2 staff from NBD Secretariat, and 2 from Sudan Nile Discourse Forum (SNDF) attended the inception workshop.

At the inception workshop, NBD emphasized the need for supporting flood prone communities in terms of creating awareness and enhancing their preparedness against flood hazards which are threatening their lives and livelihoods.

NBD contributed to the discussions at Country consultations and field visits on the identification of flood risk mitigation investment options in Ethiopia from 21st – 24th April 2024.

NBD Secretariat and the Ethiopia Nile Discourse Forum (Eth-NDF) representatives participated in the country consultation and field visits. After consultations and field visits, it was agreed that flood risk mitigation interventions are critically needed to rescue the lives, and livelihoods of communities and protect the hard gained development infrastructure of the country from flood disasters.

NBD contributed to the Stakeholder consultation and field visits to water quality hotspots in Ethiopia from 21st – 25th April 2024.

NBD made a presentation on its experiences in working with communities towards promoting Nile cooperation, and providing a safe space for dialogue to build trust and confidence among Nile stakeholders. The presentation emphasized NBD's significant contributions to organizing basin communities for promoting multi-stakeholder transboundary water governance in the Nile basin.

NBD contributed to the Country consultation and field visit on the identification of flood risk mitigation investment options in Rwanda (29th April – 3rd May, 2024). NBD supported NELSAP -CU in mobilizing flood-prone communities for consultations and field visits in selected Flash-Flood Prone Areas as part of the process for the Identification of Investment Options for Improved Flood and Disaster Management in the Nile Basin Countries. These included meetings held with Rwanda government officials at different levels to identify priority sites for the investment plan, and obtain information on past and existing interventions to avoid duplicating efforts.

NBD, in collaboration with ENTRO, conducted a training workshop to enhance awareness and preparedness of communities on flood risk mitigation in Gambella City, Ethiopia (7th – 11th May 2024).

The 5-days training was attended by a total of 28 participants, of which 14 (50%) were Female; 21 participants were drawn from flood affected communities, and 7 Government representatives were from: City Council, Water & Energy Bureau, Lowland and Irrigation, Environment and Climate Change, Disaster and Risk Commission, and Education Bureau.

The training was successful; among other things, it achieved the following:

- It created an avenue for communities to discuss and understand the importance of awareness and preparedness before, during, and after flood occurrence.
- It created consensus among community leaders and government representatives on the importance of improving the capacities of the local community and local government for effective and timely preparedness and response to flood risks.



- It helped communities identify how, when, and where to get timely information on flood early warning.
- The training assisted the participants to clearly explore the challenges and mitigation measures to manage flood risks.
- The training assisted participants to develop a community-based flood management strategy/plan supported with hazard and asset maps.

NBD contributed to the Country consultation and field visit on the identification of flood risk management investment options in Kenya from 20th - 24th May, 2024. NBD supported NELSAP -CU in facilitating field visits to the flood-prone areas to collect data and information required.

NBD also contributed to discussions at the meeting held with the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation-Kenya that discussed key roles played in the pro-active flood early warning and response to flash floods.

NBD facilitated field visits and Community consultations at various selected sites including: Kapuodhe area along Nyamasaria river and dyke, at Tura in Nyando ACC'S office; at Ayweo, in Nyakach, Nyakwere and at Ombaka; Nyatike included Nyora primary school, and Angugo area; and Osodo beach, Nyadho Kobala sub-location villages and along the Sondu-Miriu River at Rachuonyo.

NBD contributed to the country consultation and facilitated field visit for the identification of flood risk mitigation investment options in Uganda from 28th - 31st May 2024. NBD participated in the country consultations and mobilized communities for consultations on flood risk management and investment options along River Nyamwamba in Kasese.

At the country consultation held with Government Agencies at the Ministry of Water and Environment (MoWE) headquarters, NBD reiterated its commitment and readiness to mobilize communities near River Nyamwamba to participate in the consultation meetings.

NBD facilitated consultations and Focus Group Discussions with Community Representatives at Bulembia Division headquarters, Kilembe Sub- County. NELSAP-CU and the consultants interacted with flood affected communities to understand the causes of floods, its impacts, community preparedness on flood occurrence, emergency support, and the proposed sustainable solutions to the flash floods. A total of 43 ***participants (14 Female, 29 Male)*** participated in the meeting.

Community training in Malakal: NBD, in collaboration with ENTRO, conducted a training workshop on awareness and preparedness of flood affected communities in Malakal City-Upper Nile State, South Sudan (11th – 14th June 2024). The training was preceded by briefing meetings with:

(i) Hon. Peter Mahal Dhieu Akat, the Under Secretary for the Ministry of Water Resources, Republic of South Sudan. NBD briefed him on the planned activity and sought the government's support and permission to implement the activity.

(ii) The Acting Director General (Ag. DG) at the Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment of Upper Nile State. NBD briefed the Ag. DG about the purpose of the training and requested him to officiate the opening of the training.



(iii) The Governor of Upper Nile State, H.E. James Odhok Oyai at his office in Malakal. NBD briefed him on the purpose of the training. The Governor welcomed the initiative and also pledged support. Thereafter, a press conference was held and aired on SSBC National TV.

A total of **44 participants (54.5% women)** who participated in the workshop came from eight (8) villages in and around Malakal.

The 4-days workshop on awareness and preparedness of communities achieved the following: *Created a platform for communities to discuss and understand the importance of awareness and preparedness before, during, and after flood occurrence; created consensus among community leaders and government representatives on the importance of improving the capacities of the local community and local government for effective and timely preparedness and response to flood risks; helped communities to understand how, when, and where to obtain timely information on flood early warning; and assisted participants to develop a flood management strategy and plan which would be implemented in collaboration with the government and NGOs.*

On return from Malakal, **NBD held a debriefing meeting** with the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation - South Sudan, and met Eng. Thomas Jang, the Acting Permanent Secretary, and also Director of Water Resources Management and Principal Nile-TAC/NEL-TAC. He was joined by Mr. Philip John Akol Deng, Nile-TAC and Director for infrastructure development in the Ministry. The debriefing was about the training deliberations, field observations, training achievements, and recommendations from communities. The Acting Permanent Secretary appreciated the outcomes of the workshop, and promised that the government will act on the outcomes of the workshop by involving the Ministry of Education, Health, and Infrastructure to jointly plan and deliver the required services to the flood affected communities.

NBD leveraged the Country Consultation and Field Visits in Tanzania: Ahead of country consultation and field visits, NBD paid a courtesy call to the Tanzania Nile Discourse Forum (TNDF) Office on the 16th July 2024. The NBD held fruitful discussions with the TNDF Chairperson and staff. TNDF is hosted by one of its members, Governance LINKS Tanzania, which signifies a great collaborative spirit among NBD network members.

Country Consultation and Field visit to flood prone communities: On the 17th July 2024, NELSAP and NBD met and discussed with key government officials, including the Lake Victoria Basin Water Board (LVBWB). The discussions enlightened the team on the existing investment opportunities for improved flood risk management in Tanzania.

On the 18th July 2024, the team visited a site at Nyashishi River, which causes floods to Buhongwa and Lwanhima wards in Nyamagana District. The team met with Buhongwa and Lwanhima community members at Lwanhima ward offices. Community mobilisation in the Nyashishi River Basin took place in Lwanhima and Buhongwa, the downstream wards which receive severe floods compared to other wards affected by the river. A total of **16 participants (7 Men and 9 women)** attended the field visits and discussions.

NBD leveraged a Regional Workshop on Validating Support in Establishing Flood Community awareness and preparedness, organized by ENTRO from October 31st – November 1st 2024 - at Bishoftu, Ethiopia. NBD participated at the workshop and contributed to the discussions, especially with regard to the importance of supporting flood prone communities in terms of awareness creation and capacity building to enhance their preparedness. NBD was recognized and appreciated for the capacity building trainings on flood prone community awareness creation and preparedness conducted in Gambella, Ethiopia, and Malakal, South Sudan.



NBD leveraged the WQ Workshops in South Sudan and Rwanda: The in-country consultation processes were conducted in South Sudan and Rwanda to discuss on the assessment of potential Water Quality interventions based on the report for track 2 WQ hotspot areas. Track 2 hotspot Links the water quality database with Multi Criteria Analysis in a full process.

Leveraging Regional Workshop on Validating the Functionality of the Flash Flood Early Warning System (FFEWS). NBD leveraged the Third Regional Workshop for the Flood and Drought Working Group organized by NELSAP-CU to discuss dissemination tools, validate the functionality of the FFEWS, and train the technical working group and national experts on the information dissemination and management of the system. The training workshop was held from 11th – 12th November 2024, in Nairobi-Kenya, and attracted over 50 delegates from all the Nile Basin countries including the Nile -TAC members took part. The training workshop also intended to handover the FFEWS to the countries, and strategize its sustainability after the end of the NCCR Project.

Leveraging the Joint Regional Working Group Workshop on Hydrology and Dam Safety. NBD participated in the Second Regional Expert Working Group on Hydrology and Dam Safety, organized by NBI and ENTRO with support from GIZ (2nd – 6th December 2024), in Kampala, Uganda.

Technical experts and Nile-TAC members from all the Nile Basin countries, representatives of World Meteorological Organization (WMO), IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), ENTRO, NBD, and GIZ participated in the workshop.

c) Communication and Gender Key achievements under this area

Communication: Under this crosscutting theme, NBD used various platforms and forums to advocate for emerging issues related to benefits of cooperation and risks of non-cooperation. NBD packaged its messages through knowledge products such as Promotional Banners, Annual Reports, FAQs Leaflets, Statements, and the NCCR Project briefs

NBD developed and utilized various communication materials/tools from January – June 2024, including the following:

Publications: NBD published brochures (English/French), Frequently Asked Questions leaflets (English/French), NBD's contribution to the Nile Cooperation - NBI@25 brochures (English), and the annual reports.

Video Clips: NBD prepared several video documentaries including NBD's Good-Will message to NBI@25 which were showcased to the public in the exhibition area.

Roll-up Banners: NBD published banners with messages relating to NBD's engagements such as: climate actions, transboundary community engagement platforms on NBI projects, women and youth empowerment in water decision making, and mentoring the young generation in environmental conservation.

In an effort to further promote the NBD brand, souvenirs such as pens, lapel pins, notebooks, document folders, and bags were also prepared and distributed during various events including the Regional Nile Day 2024.



Gender aspect of the NCCR project: Under this crosscutting theme, NBD strengthened National and Regional Nile Women Networks, as new platforms to interact with NBD and NBI programmes to contribute towards realizing the usability of flood and drought early warning systems.

NBD conducted awareness raising and capacity building trainings to National Nile Women Network members in the 9 countries, namely: Burundi, D. R. Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

The training workshops built on 2022 achievements where, NBD established grassroots Women Networks in the 10 Nile Basin Countries to enable them play key roles in sustainable and effective uptake of the NCCR project outcomes, especially in the Flood and Drought thematic area, towards enhancing flood and drought information dissemination in the Nile Basin region.

The main objective of the trainings, therefore, was to create awareness and build capacities of the members of the National Nile Women's Networks on Climate Resilient Social Entrepreneurial Pathways for overcoming poverty and sustaining functionality of the Networks through generating income, and at the same time, protecting the environment with the ultimate goal of creating climate resilient communities in their respective localities.

The two-days training workshops benefited a total of **275 participants (88% women)**, and achieved the following results: (i) enhanced participants' understanding on the NCCR Project and its development objective; (ii) helped the trainees gain awareness on the complex link between women and water resources/environment as women are the primary users of water; (iii) familiarized the trainees with the existing entrepreneurial projects in their respective countries to benchmark the priority actions; (iv) enlightened the trainees to be able to identify and prioritize a series of social entrepreneurial activities for their actions; and (v) provided the trainees with an opportunity to prepare action plans on social entrepreneurial activities.

Gender training workshop: NBD leveraged the gender training workshop that was hosted by NBI from 6th -7th August 2024.

During the two days training, participants learnt about key concepts such as: gender; gender mainstreaming in water and environment; gender analysis as a tool for gender mainstreaming; gender, water access and control; water, gender-based violence and harassment; gender and climate change, and monitoring and evaluation for gender equity and equality.

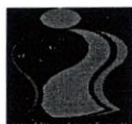
The training was interactive and participatory, involving presentations, group discussions, and group presentations.

Participants concluded the training by developing an action plan to be implemented by each organization (NBD and NBI).

d. Cross cutting: External auditing

NBD contracted Bawunha & Badebye CPAs to carry out the auditing exercise for FY 2023. On 7th May 2024, a scoping and planning meeting was held between NBD and the auditors to outline the audit scope, establish timelines, and discuss the key areas of focus for the upcoming audit.

The auditors commenced the audit field work on 22nd May 2024 and conducted a thorough examination of NBD's financial records, internal controls, and compliance with relevant accounting standards and regulations.



The draft audited accounts were reviewed by NBD to verify the audit findings, and make final adjustments as needed. An exit meeting was held between NBD Board and Auditors and endorsed the findings. The final audited financial statements with an unqualified opinion were signed on 28th June 2024, and submitted to the World Bank through the NBI, marking the conclusion of the audit process.

e. Crosscutting: Partnerships Towards Resource Mobilization

NBD embarked on various partnership initiatives with strategic organizations in an effort to mobilize resources. These include the following:

- (i) **Partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP):** NBD initiated conversations with UNDP to explore areas of collaboration between the two institutions, particularly on resource mobilization. The conversation resulted in the development of draft concept note "Roots of Resilience: Improving Community Livelihoods in Mabamba bay of Uganda," and discussions are underway.
- (ii) **Partnership with AKVO Foundation:** NBD initiated collaborative efforts with AKVO - a software development foundation specializing in building and operating data collection and visualization systems to support sustainable development focusing on: water, climate, and agriculture. NBD and AKVO signed an MoU on 6th March 2024 which is aimed at developing proposals for joint fundraising.
- (iii) **Partnership with GIZ:** NBD approached GIZ for joint project development and implementation, and developed a concept note on "mapping key CSO actors and their approach in Plastic pollution monitoring in the Nile basin." As a result, NBD signed a vendor agreement with GIZ and implemented the project.
- (iv) **Partnership with NELSAP-CU:** NBD, in collaboration with NELSAP – CU, submitted two proposals to AfDB, and if successful, NBD will benefit **USD 2million**. In addition, NBD is earmarked to mobilize and sensitize community involvement in the Grid Interconnection Project between Uganda and South Sudan with funding from the AfDB. NBD has prepared and submitted activities and budget amounting to **US\$1,062,350.00**
- (v) **Partnership with ASARECA:** NBD initiated a partnership process with the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (**ASARECA**) and agreed to engage in joint resource mobilization; NBD and ASARECA proposed to sign an MoU to affirm the areas of collaboration between the two institutions.
- (vi) **Partnership with Government of Uganda:** NBD engaged the Ministry of Water Resources and Environment/Nile-TAC Chairperson and discussed among other issues to strengthen the working relationship between NBD and the Ministry.

Similarly, NBD engaged the Water Resources Institute of Uganda in Entebbe, and discussed issues relating to collaboration between NBD and the Institute.



- (vii) **Partnership with IUCN:** NBD participated in the Climate Resilient Eastern African Transboundary Water Management for Environmental Sustainability (CREATES) programme Appraisal Mission, in May 2024, in Entebbe. This proposed project will be funded by the Danish government and to be jointly implemented by IUCN, GWPEA, UNEP-DHI in selected basins (Sio-Malaba-Malakisi, Mara, Turkana, and Juba-Shebelle River Basins). NBD showcased its experience and capacity to deliver programmes of this magnitude, and appealed to the Appraisal mission to include NBD in the project. NBD is making follow-ups as one of its efforts for resource mobilization.
- (viii) **Partnership with GWP-EA:** NBD signed an MOU with GWP-EA on 27th May 2024. The MoU will enable NBD to collaborate with GWP-EA in multi-stakeholder dialogues for policy influencing on sustainable water resources and climate resilience in the region human, institutional capacity building and awareness raising on sustainable and integrated water resources management, and development and implementation of joint programmes/projects.
- (ix) **Partnership with LVRLAC:** NBD signed an MoU with Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC) on the 19th June 2024. The MoU will enable the two organizations to engage in mutual cooperation and synergies towards joint project development and resource mobilization.
- (x) **Partnership with LVBC:** LVBC paid a courtesy visit to the NBD Office to discuss issues of strengthening partnership between the two organizations beyond the NCCR project; and this shall be formalised through an MoU.
- (xi) **Partnership with MiCT:** NBD co-facilitated the journalists' training workshop on monitoring plastic pollution in the Nile Basin: The Role of Citizen Science. The training was held from 16th – 20th September 2024, Entebbe, Uganda. Over 30 journalists from the 10 Nile basin countries attended the training workshop.

Having signed a vendor agreement with GIZ, NBD became a partner to co-organize the training along with MiCT (Media in Cooperation and Transition), GIZ, NBI Secretariat, and EARS (East Africa Radio Service).

3.2.5 Challenges

NBD registered the achievements stipulated above despite many challenges, critical of which are limitations of human and financial resources.

3.2.6 Lessons Learnt

Resource limitation and dependence on one donor has affected NBD's activities. NBD's strength and mandate is regular community mobilization, awareness raising, and training across the Nile Basin countries. This entails regular stakeholder engagement platforms and forums, and continuous dissemination of accurate information regarding project implementation, results, and any emerging issues which require adequate resource. NBD has therefore been exploring additional sources of funding to diversify its resource basket, including a possibility of annual subscription and membership fees from the NDFs.



3.2.7 Conclusion

NBD's collaboration and partnership with the NBI centres is now more advanced than ever before. This has contributed to the smooth implementation of activities planned under the funds committed by the NBI centres.

NBD has also created a network of partners and collaborators as demonstrated by MoUs signed with AKVO, GWP-EA, and LVRLAC; and dialogues initiated with GIZ, UNDP, LVBC, ASARECA, and MiCT. This networking is expected to open up new opportunities for joint resource mobilization.

Regional Manager

17 / 1 / 7 /2025



4.0 Objectives of the Audit

The objective of the audit of the Financial Statements (FSs) was to enable the auditor to express a professional opinion on the financial results of NBD at the end of the year and on funds received and expenditures incurred for the year ended 31 December, 2024.

The books of accounts provided the basis for preparation of the FSs by the Nile Basin Discourse and are established to reflect the financial transactions in respect of the company. The implementing agency maintains adequate internal controls and supporting documentation for transactions

5.0 Scope of the Audit

The audit of the company was carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) promulgated by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), and included such tests and auditing procedures as the auditor considered necessary under the circumstances.

Special attention was paid to whether;

- a) The World Bank and GIZ financing was used in accordance with the conditions of the relevant grant agreements, with due attention to economy and efficiency, and only for the purposes for which the financing was provided;
- b) The goods, works and services financed were procured in accordance with the relevant financing agreement including but not limited to specific provisions of the World Bank Procurement Regulations for Borrowers under Investment Project Financing", dated July 1, 2016;
- c) All necessary supporting documents, records, and accounts were maintained in respect to all company and/or project activities, including expenditures reported using Statements of Expenditure (SOEs) or Unaudited Interim Financial Reports (IFRs) methods of reporting;
- d) Designated accounts were maintained in accordance with the provisions of the grant agreements and funds disbursed out of the accounts were used only for the purpose intended in the financing agreements;
- e) National laws and regulations were complied with, and that the financial and accounting procedures approved for the company (e.g. operational manual, financial procedures manual, etc.) were followed and used;
- f) Financial performance of the company is satisfactory;
- g) Assets procured from company funds, exist and there is verifiable ownership by the implementing agency or beneficiaries in line with the financing agreement;
- h) Ineligible expenditures included in withdrawal applications are identified and reimbursed to the designated accounts;
- i) Funds were disbursed to other implementing agencies outside NBD, and representative samples included in the audit;



In complying with International Standards on Auditing, particular attention was paid to the following matters:

- Fraud and Corruption: Consider the risks of material misstatements in the financial statements due to fraud as required by ISA 240:
- We identified and assessed risks (of material misstatement of the financial statements) due to fraud, obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the assessed risks; and responded appropriately to identified or suspected fraud;
- Laws and Regulations: In designing and performing audit procedures, evaluating and reporting the results, consider that noncompliance by the implementing agency with laws and regulations may materially affect the financial statements as required by ISA 250: Consideration of Laws and Regulations in an Audit of Financial Statements;
- Governance: Communicate audit matters of governance interest arising from the audit of financial statements with those charged with governance of NBD as required by International Standard on Auditing 260: Communication of Audit Matters with those Charged with Governance.
- Risks: In order to reduce audit risk to an acceptable low level, determine the overall responses to assessed risks at the financial statement level, and design and perform further audit procedures to respond to assessed risks at the assertion level as required by International Standard on Auditing 330: The Auditor's Procedures in response to assessed risks.



6.0 Statement of Director's Responsibilities

The Uganda Companies Act, 2012 requires Directors to prepare company financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organization as at the end of the financial year and of its operating results for that year. Directors are also required to ensure the company keeps proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial results of the company. Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company.

Directors are ultimately responsible for the internal control. Standards and systems of internal control are designed and implemented by company management to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of the company financial statements and to adequately safeguard, verify and maintain accountability of the company's assets. Appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgments and estimates, are applied on a consistent and going concern basis. These systems and controls include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties.

Directors accept responsibility for the company financial statements, which have been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgments and estimates, in conformity with the accounting policies set out on page 26-27.

Directors are of the opinion that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the financial affairs of the company and of its operating results. Directors further accept responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records, which may be relied upon in the preparation of financial statements, as well as adequate systems of internal financial control.

Nothing has come to the attention of the Directors to indicate that any breakdown in the functioning of these controls, resulting in material loss to the company has occurred during the year.

Directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the company financial statements.

The company financial statements which appear on pages 22 to 30 were approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by

The Company Financial Statements were approved by Board on 17 / 7 /2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Board Chairperson

Board Treasurer

Regional Manager



7.0 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE DIRECTORS OF NILE BASIN DISCOURSE

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

We have audited the financial statements of Nile Basin Discourse, set out on pages 22 to 30, for the year ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements comprise of the statement of financial position, the statement of income and expenditure for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial affairs of the Nile Basin Discourse as at 31 December 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 12 (a) to the accompanying Company Financial Statements and comply in all material respects with the requirements of the financing agreements.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and Guidelines issued by the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organisation in accordance with the *International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code)* together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Uganda, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the company financial statements. Key audit matters are selected from the matters communicated with Management but are not intended to represent all matters that were discussed with them. Our audit procedures relating to these matters were designed in the context of our audit of the company financial statements as a whole. We have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate in our report.

Other Information

Company management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises; the schedule of other operating expenditure and any other reports including the annual report but excludes the company financial statements and our auditor's opinion.

Our opinion on the company financial statements does not cover the other information and we don't express any form of assurance and conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that

Partners: CPA Fred Bawunha FCCA
CPA Dan Badebye FCCA
CPA Ronald Akankwasa FCCA

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we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the company financial statements in accordance Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAPs) and NBD accounting policies on modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 12 (a) and the requirements of the financing agreements, and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of company financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the company financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the company financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these company financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also carry out the following procedures:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the company financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the company management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the company financial statements, including the disclosures and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the company or activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.



- Communicate with those charged with governance among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that the auditor identified during the audit.
- Provide the company management with a statement that we have compiled with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and where applicable, related safeguards.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by Companies Act 2012, we report to you, based on our audit, that:

- 1) We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- 2) In our opinion, the Organization has kept proper books of accounts, as far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- 3) The Organisation’s statement of financial position and statement of income and expenditure agree with the books of account.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor’s report is CPA Fred Bawunha-P0150.

Bawunha & Badebye

**Bawunha & Badebye
Certified Public Accountants
Kampala**

Date 18/7/2025

Fred Bawunha

**CPA Fred Bawunha
Engagement Partner**





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8.0 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Particulars	Notes	31-December-2024 US\$	31-December-2023 US\$
INCOME			
Donor funding	13.1	7,777	294,709
Other income	13.2	79,927	671
		87,704	295,379
EXPENDITURE			
Program costs	13.3	63,444	106,855
Personnel costs	13.4	45,612	171,130
Administrative costs	13.5	41,880	50,256
		150,936	328,240
DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		(63,232)	(32,861)

The Company Financial Statements were approved by Board on 17 / 07 /2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Board Chairperson

Board Treasurer

Regional Manager



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9.0 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Particulars	Notes	31-December-2024 US\$	31-December-2023 US\$
ASSETS			
Non-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and Equipment		-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and hand	13.6	10,431	68,244
Receivables and prepayments	13.7	-	2,230
		10,431	70,474
TOTAL ASSETS		10,431	70,474
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES			
Reserves	10.0	(12,082)	51,150
		(12,082)	51,150
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	13.8	16,333	19,324
Deferred income	13.9	6,180	-
		22,513	19,324
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		10,431	70,474

The Company Financial Statements were approved by Board on 17 / 07 /2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Board Chairperson

Board Treasurer

Regional Manager



10.0 Statement of Changes in Reserves

Particulars	Reserves US\$
As at 01 January 2023	84,012
Deficit for the year	(32,861)
As at 31 December 2023	51,150
As at 01 January 2024	51,150
Deficit for the year	(63,232)
As at 31 December 2024	(12,082)



11.0 Statement of Cashflows

Particulars	31-December-2024 US\$
CASHFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Surplus for the period	(63,232)
Adjustments for:	
Depreciation charge	-
Operating surplus before working capital changes	(63,232)
Decrease in receivables and prepayments	2,230
(Decrease) in payables	(2,989)
Increase in deferred income	6,180
Operating surplus after working capital changes	5,421
Net cash generated from operating activities	(57,811)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents for the period	(57,811)
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 January	68,244
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	10,431



12.0 Notes to the Financial Statements

12.1 Significant Accounting Policies

The principle accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the company financial statements are set out as below:

a) Basis of Preparation

The company financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAPs) and NBD accounting policies on modified cash basis of accounting.

b) Receipts

Donor funds are recognised as income in the company financial statements in the year in which they are received. Interest income, if applicable, on bank deposits is recognised as and when it is credited to the company's bank account.

c) Expenditure

Expenses are recognized in the company financial statements in the year in which they are incurred.

d) Prepayments and Accruals

Prepayments and accruals are recognized as assets and liabilities respectively at the end of the financial year for reporting purposes. At the close of company year, prepayments are expensed and funds for outstanding obligations are transferred to an escrow account;

e) Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are expensed in full in the year of acquisition/purchase. A fixed asset register is maintained as a monitoring tool for the assets. Fixed assets purchased and held at year end are not recognized in the Statement of Financial Position.

f) Foreign Currency Transactions and Translations

The base currency for the program is US Dollars. Transactions denominated in other currencies are translated into US Dollars at the rates ruling on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities held at year-end which are expressed in other currencies are translated into US Dollar at rates ruling at that date. The resulting differences (if any) are dealt with in the statement of income and expenditure.

Exchange rates used were as follows:

	Currency	Average	Closing
1US\$	UGX	3,763	3,670



g) Staff gratuity

Staff gratuity is 6% of the employee's monthly salary contributed by the organization and is payable when the company either closes or under any other circumstances that result in the cessation of the contract before the company's scheduled end date. The amount is accrued on a monthly basis and is recognized as an expense when paid.

h) Post-employment benefits

Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) and its employees contribute to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), a statutory defined saving scheme registered under the NSSF Act. Staff contribute 5% and the organization contributes 10% of the gross salary paid to each staff. The organization's contributions to the scheme are charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure in the year to which they relate.

i) Current tax

The organization is a not-for-profit organization and therefore falls within the definition of exempt category under The Uganda Income Tax Act Part 1 Section 2 (bb). NBD has not yet been issued with a written ruling by the Commissioner stating that it is an exempt organization. No tax provision or liability has been incorporated in the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

j) Comparatives

Where necessary comparative figures are adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in the current year



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13. NOTES TO THE COMPANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 13.1: Donor funding

Particulars	31-December-2024 US\$	31-December-2023 US\$
Funds received	7,777	294,709
Total	7,777	294,709

Note 13.2: Other Income

Particulars	31-December-2024 US\$	31-December-2023 US\$
Foreign Exchange Gain	792	671
Other income from IPs; NBI	69,135	-
Other income from IPs; ENTRO	10,000	-
Total	79,927	671

Note 13.3: Program costs

Particulars	31-December-2024 US\$	31-December-2023 US\$
<u>Flood and Drought Risk Mitigation</u>		
Basin-wide identification meetings of flood-prone communities	-	27,366
Sub total	-	27,366
<u>Platform for cooperation</u>		
Participating and providing expertise in NCCR-related steering committee meetings	-	1,200
Piloting internship program to contribute to results of the implementation of the NCCR project	6,000	6,490
World water week 2023	-	7,761
Participation at NBDF and Nile Media Award	-	8,361
Sub total	6,000	23,812
<u>Cross-cutting Actions</u>		
Communicating benefits of cooperation and risks of non-cooperation and participating in regional Nile day 2023	-	529
Holding a regional meeting towards creating a regional women's network	-	19,148
Capacity building for women networks	31,370	-
Retaining the NTSEs for 2023 (for 8 months)	-	36,000
Nile DEWS secondary data validation	22,074	-
Sub total	53,444	55,676
<u>Map CSOs/NGOs-Plastic Pollution</u>		
Facilitation-map CSOs/NGOs-plastic pollution	4,000	-
Sub total	4,000	-
Total	63,444	106,855



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Note 13.4: Personnel costs

Particulars	31-December-2024	31-December-2023
	US\$	US\$
Operations and support staff	25,506	109,209
Program staff	20,106	61,921
Total	45,612	171,130

Note 13.5: Administration costs

Particulars	31-December-2024	31-December-2023
	US\$	US\$
External Audit Services	7,000	-
Rent, utilities and relatable costs	18,076.64	11,440.72
Office consumables	3,148.60	710.27
Communication	3,933.56	11,910.79
Travel and travel-related costs	7,099.99	15,690.31
Equipment supplies and software maintenance	428.77	2,521.29
Bank charges	1,417.21	3,116.62
Other core costs (excluding external audit)	771.79	4,790.60
Forex losses (includes invoice rounding off)	3.45	75.06
Total	41,880	50,256

Note 13.6: Cash and bank balances

Particulars	31-December-2024	31-December-2023
	US\$	US\$
US\$ account	10,203	67,015
UGX account	228	1,229
Total	10,431	68,244

Note 13.7: Receivables and prepayments

Particulars	31-December-2024	31-December-2023
	US\$	US\$
Work advances	-	182
Prepaid Expenses	-	2,048
Total	-	2,230



Note 13.8: Payables and accruals

Particulars	31-December-2024	31-December-2023
	US\$	US\$
NSSF Payable	-	1,894
PAYE Payable	-	3,968
Provident Payable	6,764	3,768
Other Creditors	9,570	9,695
Total	16,333	19,324

Note 13.9: Deferred income

Particulars	31-December-2024	31-December-2023
	US\$	US\$
Unearned revenue	6,180	-
Total	6,180	-



14. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE SPECIAL ACCOUNT OPERATIONS

The Board of Directors
 Nile Basin Discourse (NBD)
 Plot 2, Cemetery Lane, Entebbe
 P.O. Box 185 Entebbe, Uganda

We have audited the Statement of Special Account Reconciliation of Nile Basin Discourse for the year ended 31 December, 2024.

Directors' responsibility for the financial statements

The Board of NBD is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the special account statement on the basis of cash deposits and withdrawals for the purpose of complying with the grant Agreements and for such internal controls as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility for the financial statements

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Special Account Statement, based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the special account statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the Special Account Statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the company financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the company's preparation and fair presentation of the company financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the company's internal control. An audit includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the receipts were properly accounted for and withdrawals were made for the purposes of the company in accordance with the grant agreements. The Statement of Special Account reconciliation No.15 page 32 below and; notes thereon fairly present in all material respects the account operations for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with the basis of accounting policies described under note 10 (a) of this report.

Bawunha & Badebye

Bawunha & Badebye
Certified Public Accountants
Kampala

Date 18/7/2025

[Signature]

CPA Fred Bawunha
Engagement Partner

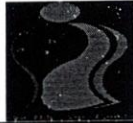




Nile Basin Discourse (NBD)
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For the year ended 31 December 2024

15.0 STATEMENT OF SPECIAL ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

Particulars	2024	2024	2024
	US\$	UGX	Total US\$
Opening cash book balance as at 1 January, 2024- NCCR	67,015	1,229	68,244
Add:			
Total Replenishments by World Bank (through NBI & other IPs)	85,315	-	85,315
Total Replenishments by GIZ	7,777	-	7,777
Transfers to UGX bank account	(16,300)	16,300	-
Funds available during the year under review	143,807	17,529	76,586
Less:			
Expenditures paid from DA Account	47,916	23,854	71,798
Funds for capacity building for women networks	31,370	-	31,370
Funds to the secretariat (rent, audit 2023 & zoom subscription)	19,691	-	19,691
Funds to implement Nile DEWS activity	22,074	-	22,074
Funds for the internship program	6,000	-	6,000
Total payments during the year	127,051	23,854	150,905
Closing cash and bank balance as at 31 December, 2024	16,756	(6,325)	10,431



16.0 AUDITOR'S REPORT ON MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE WITH AGREEMENT TERMS AND APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The audit was guided by the checklist presented under (i) - (viii) to review compliance with the key Terms of Reference for the audit. Audit instructions on the checklist and audit findings are presented below. Audit instructions are bolded whilst audit conclusions and our response is inserted immediately after each instruction in italics.

- i) Determine that all funds have been used in accordance with conditions of the relevant funding agreements.**

According to our audit tests, there is nothing to indicate that funds received in the year ended 31 December 2024 were not used in accordance with the relevant financing agreement provisions.

- ii) Determine whether goods and services financed have been procured in accordance with relevant financing agreement provisions.**

Based on our work done, there is nothing to indicate that goods and services financed were not procured in accordance with the World Bank Procurement Guidelines, among others.

- iii) Determine that all necessary supporting documents, records and accounts have been kept in respect of all company expenditures.**

We reviewed all financial reports and the respective supporting documents and based on the results of our tests, there is nothing to indicate that supporting documents, records and accounts have not been kept in respect of all company expenditures.

- iv) Determine whether the designated account(s) has been maintained in accordance with the provisions of the relevant financing agreement(s) and funds disbursed out of the account were used only for the purpose intended in the financing agreement (s).**

Based on the results of our tests, there is nothing to indicate that the designated accounts have not been maintained in accordance with the provisions of the relevant grant financing agreement (s) and funds disbursed out of the accounts were not used solely for the purpose intended in the grant agreement.

- v) Identify, evaluate and report on the company's internal control structure.**

We carried out tests of controls to review the internal control structure of the company. Based on the results of our tests, there is nothing to indicate that the internal control structure is not effectively working except for the issues highlighted in our Management Letter.

- vi) Determine whether NBD company management complied in all material respects with agreement terms and applicable laws and regulations.**

Based on our work done, there is nothing to indicate that NBD did not comply with the agreement(s) terms and applicable laws and regulations except for the issues highlighted in our management letter.



vii) Determine the eligibility and correctness of the financial transactions during the year at the end of 31 December, 2024.

Based on the audit tests performed, there is nothing to indicate that the financial transactions during the year are ineligible and incorrect.