



Name: Lorna Nkunda

Current Appointment: Manager, Oil and Gas Division, Newplan Limited

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Area of Research/Teaching

- Geotechnical investigations for Hydropower development
- Groundwater mapping
- Environmental Impact Assessments
- Environmental Health and Safety for Oil and Gas exploration

Biography

Lorna Nkunda is a Senior Geologist at Newplan Consulting Engineers and Planners. Currently she is the Manager for Oil and Gas Division. She received her MSc. in Project Management (Oil and Gas Specialization) from University of Liverpool, UK and a BSc. in Geology and Chemistry from Makerere University. She has 16 years of experience in the field of geology, environmental management and mineral exploration.

In the last thirteen years, she has been involved in carrying out Geotechnical investigations and Environmental Impact Assessments for a number of projects including oil and gas, hydro power plants, thermal plants and gold mine. She also has experience in geothermal exploration, water resources studies and supervision of drilling projects.

She worked as a Geologist (1996-1999) at the Department of Geological Survey and Mines department where she was responsible for carrying out geological mapping, mineral exploration as well geothermal exploration. From 2000 to 2002 she was seconded to the Directorate of Water Resource Department as a hydro geologist attached to a drilling project. She was responsible for carrying out hydrogeological investigations using Aerial photography, topographic and geological maps, geophysical investigations that included geo-electrical profiling and sounding surveys. In addition she supervised drilling, installation of boreholes as well as aquifer tests.

Later she was responsible for maintenance of national groundwater monitoring network, ensuring regular monitoring activities, inspection of the stations, quality control of data and entry into the database are carried out. She ensured evaluations of groundwater abstraction permit and drilling license applications were carried

out in time. Also she reviewed Environmental Impact Assessment reports for projects that may have impact on ground water and carried out compliance monitoring for ground water permit and drilling license holders.

In 2002 she decided to join the private sector. She was appointed as Geologist for Norplan Uganda limited, a consultancy firm responsible for conducting geotechnical investigations for numerous infrastructural projects, Environmental impact assessments, water resource studies as well as proposal writing. Notable assignments handled included a study on Water Management of Lake Victoria. The aim was to study the long-term regulation of Lake Victoria to ensure optimal and environmental sustainable utilisation of the lake for power generation and other uses.

As a registered Environmental practitioner, she has been a team member in carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment for number of proposed projects including hydropower projects, thermal plants, gold mine and petrol stations.

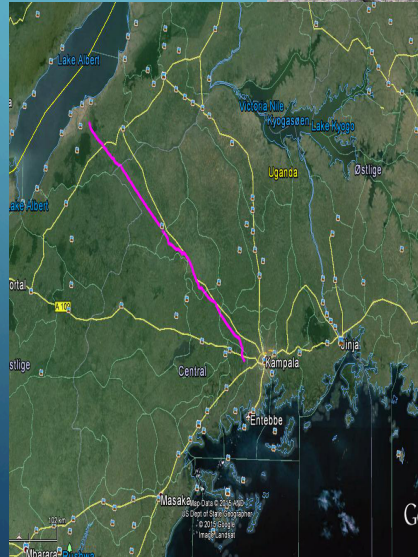
She also successfully supervised the first tunnel for a hydropower plant in Uganda. This was 170m long tunnel which was part of the headrace canal for Bugoye Hydropower Project. This involved mapping the tunnel face after each blasting round, determining the quality of rock and advising the contractor on the rock support required. Other geotechnical activities she has handled for various hydropower projects include supervising core drilling, logging to determine the quality of rock where structures like intake, power house, and cofferdam would be located, geological mapping and materials testing.

Between 2010-2014 she worked as an Environmental Advisor for Tullow Pty Limited an oil exploration company in Uganda. She then spearheaded the groundwater mapping project for Hoima and Buliisa districts where the oil fields are located. The objective was to assess and map groundwater resources and present this information on maps in order to guide efficient and cost effective groundwater resources planning and development. Maps produced included groundwater potential maps, hydro chemical characteristic maps and water quality maps. She further carried out research on the Environmental Health and Safety incidents in Oil and gas exploration in Uganda and came up with measures to reduce such incidents.

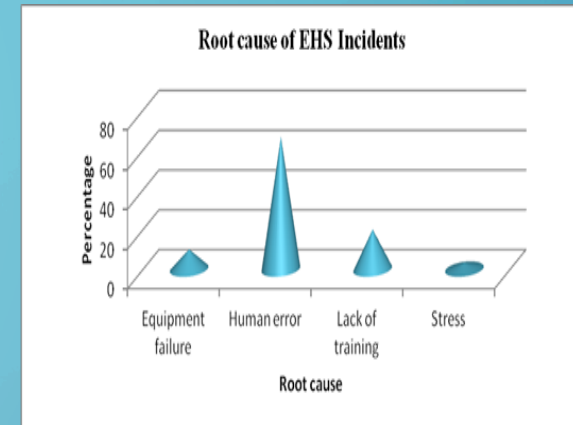
Currently she is a Manager, Oil and Gas Division at Newplan Limited responsible for management of project acquisition process in Oil and Gas, conduction of geological surveys and field studies on relevant projects as well as providing information to clients on a range of issues.

In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family. She is married and has three children. In addition she promotes cultural tourism in Uganda. Together with her husband, they have launched Bwindi Cultural Centre which provides accommodation, camping services, nature and community works, cultural activities as well as local foods. Details can be obtained at www.bwindiculturalcentre.co.ug.

LORNA NKUNDA, MANAGER OIL AND GAS DIVISION
MSC PROJECT MANAGEMENT
BSC GEOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY



RESEARCH INTERESTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



-Geotechnical investigations for hydropower projects to determine foundation properties of project structures.

-Groundwater mapping to guide efficient and cost effective groundwater resource planning and development.

-Environmental Health and Safety of Oil and Gas exploration activities.

-Environmental Impact Assessment of proposed projects.

Other Information: Married with 3 children, like travelling and meeting new people, currently promoting cultural tourism.



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