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MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY**



**SAFETY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONCERNS AROUND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INSTALLATIONS IN
UGANDA**

**By Waiswa Ayazika Arnold
Director, Environmental monitoring and
Compliance, NEMA**



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Outline of the presentation

- **Introduction**
- **The major environmental and social issues related to the telecom sector**
 - **Legal provisions**
 - **Proposals for improvement and recommendation**



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● **INTRODUCTION**

- **The Telecommunication sector has been one of the fastest in the country**
- **the major concerns came in with the entry of the industry by Warid Telecommunication (which was bought by Airtel) in mid 2005;**
- **Previously the telecommunication towers were located in isolated places away from communities such Hills and mountains, Forest Reserves and specific areas designated for such installation;**

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MAJOR CONCERNS RELATED TO THE TELECOMMUNICATION INSTALLATION

- **communities have continuously raised concerns related to impacts of radiation from the antennae's**
- **Noise and vibration from Generators the absence of electricity**
- **Interference with the aesthetics of the surroundings;**
- **Issues related to land ownership**
- **Potential collapse of the telecommunication installation**

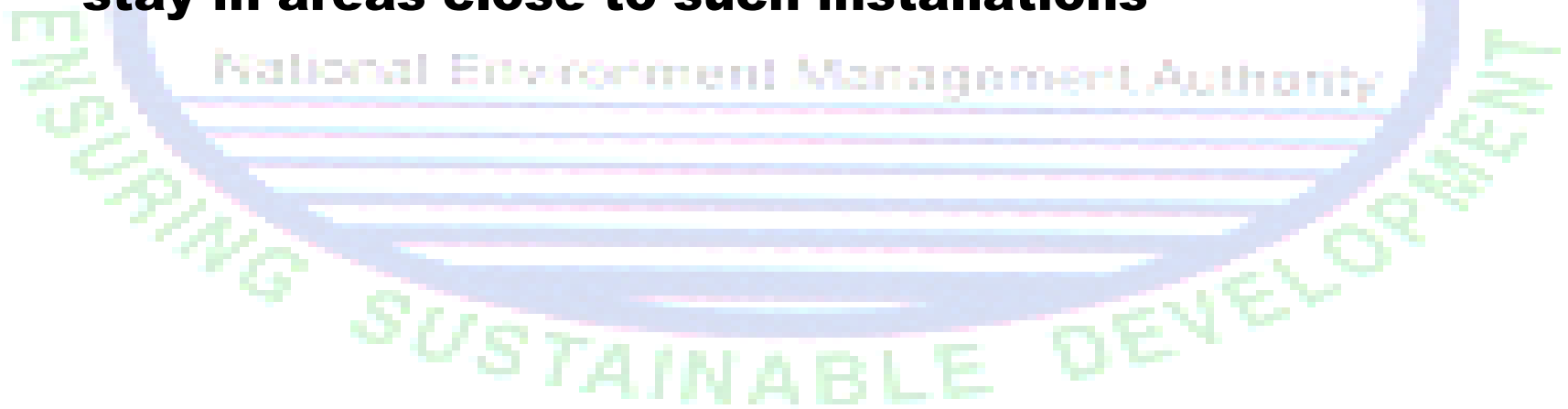


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MAJOR CONCERNS RELATED TO THE TELECOMMUNICATION INSTALLATION

- **devaluation of properties as many tenants don't want to stay in areas close to such installations**





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LEGAL FRAMEWORK REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF THE TELECOM SECTOR

- **The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda guarantees a right and clean environment for all the citizens of the Republic of Uganda**
- **The Fifth Schedule of the National Environment Act No. 5 of 2019 makes mandatory for Environment and social impact assessments to be carried out before such installations are put in place;**

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LEGAL FRAMEWORK REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF THE TELECOM SECTOR

- **The National Environment Management Authority is Agency responsible for Monitoring, Supervision, Regulations, Coordination of all aspects in Environment in Uganda**
- **its also a requirement for Environmental Audits to carried out as provided for under the National Environment (Audit) Regulations, 2020'**

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LEGAL FRAMEWORK REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF THE TELECOM SECTOR

- **its also requirement for regular monitoring by NEMA, UCC and the Local Authorities where these installations are located;**

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PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN REGULATION OF THE SECTOR

- **Sharing of Masts by the various telecom companies;**
- **New innovations where mast are constructed and blend well with the environment. ATC has already constructed a few of them in certain residential areas;**
- **Continuous awareness creation and engagement of communities during environment and social impact studies and environmental audits among others;**



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PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN REGULATION OF THE SECTOR

- **developing specific guidelines for carrying environment and social impact assessments for the sector**
- **A Strategic Environment and Social Assessment is carried out for the Telecom Sector**

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ASANTE SANA

National Environment Management Authority

ENSURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT