

2022

IN RETROSPECT



# BUILDING CONNECTIONS TO TRANSFORM LIVES



Cover images: Mountaineers climbing Mountain Rwenzori in Western Uganda, one of the leading tourism destinations in Uganda. UNDP Uganda sponsored the expedition with partners Uganda Tourism Board and Tooro Kingdom.





## About UNDP Uganda

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the United Nations' lead agency on international development. We support countries and communities as they work to eradicate poverty, implement the Paris Agreement on climate change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Working with a broad network of experts and partners in over 170 countries, UNDP helps nations to build integrated and lasting solutions for people and the planet.

UNDP in Uganda is dedicated to supporting the Government to achieve sustainable development, create opportunities for empowerment, protect the environment, minimize natural and man-made disasters, build strategic partnerships, and improve the quality of life for all citizens, as set out in UNDP Uganda's Country Programme Document 2021-2025.

In 2022, UNDP delivered transformative development solutions through its country programme offer for 2021-2025 premised on partnerships and cooperation. UNDP also accelerated sustainable solutions toward addressing poverty, inequality, climate change and fostering partnerships in this 2020-2030 Decade of Action, working in close collaboration with the Government and people of Uganda amid the challenges and opportunities presented by both COVID-19 and Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreaks.

UNDP has played its integrator role in the UN system by offering a platform for stakeholder consultations while developing the Government of Uganda's Third National Development Plan (NDP III). UNDP has also ensured the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025 is aligned with Uganda's development agenda and positions the UNDP Country Office and broader United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to deliver as one on Uganda's Vision 2040 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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# List of Acronyms

<b>AFCFTA</b>	African Continental Free Trade Area	<b>NECOC</b>	National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre
<b>CCA</b>	Common Country Assessment	<b>NFA</b>	National Forestry Authority
<b>COMESA</b>	Common Markets for Eastern and Southern Africa	<b>NPA</b>	National Planning Authority
<b>COVID-19</b>	Novel Coronavirus Disease	<b>OHCHR</b>	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>CPD</b>	Country Programme Document	<b>PSFU</b>	Private Sector Foundation Uganda
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization	<b>RCO</b>	Resident Coordinator's Office
<b>DCIC</b>	Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control	<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>DRM</b>	Disaster Risk Management	<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
<b>EC</b>	Electoral Commission	<b>SIED</b>	Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Development
<b>ELSA</b>	Essential Life Support Area	<b>SLM</b>	Sustainable Land Management
<b>ENR</b>	Environment Natural Resources	<b>SME</b>	Small and Medium Enterprise
<b>ERA</b>	Electricity Regulatory Authority	<b>SOP</b>	Standard Operating Procedure
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>SRHR</b>	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
<b>EVD</b>	Ebola Virus Disease	<b>SSC</b>	South-South Cooperation
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-Based Violence	<b>UBOS</b>	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund	<b>UGVS</b>	Uganda Graduate Volunteer Scheme
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>UHRC</b>	Uganda Human Rights Commission
<b>GES</b>	Gender Equality Seal	<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas	<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Country Team
<b>HP</b>	Harmful Practices	<b>UNDAF</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology	<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>IGG</b>	Inclusive Green Growth	<b>UNDS</b>	United Nations Development System
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration	<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>IRCU</b>	Inter-Religious Council of Uganda	<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>JLOS</b>	Justice, Law and Order Sector	<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>KOICA</b>	Korea International Cooperation Agency	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>LASNET</b>	Legal Aid Service Providers Network	<b>UNSDCF</b>	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
<b>MGLSD</b>	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development	<b>UTB</b>	Uganda Tourism Board
<b>MSME</b>	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise	<b>VAC</b>	Violence Against Children
<b>MTWA</b>	Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities	<b>VAWG</b>	Violence Against Women and Girls
<b>NEMA</b>	National Environment Management Authority	<b>WEE</b>	Women Economic Empowerment
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contribution	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>NDP</b>	National Development Plan	<b>WSR</b>	Women Situation Room
<b>NDPIII</b>	Third National Development Plan		



## Message from the UNDP Resident Representative

At the heels of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Ebola outbreak in Uganda and all the shocks we witnessed in Uganda last year, 2022 is now behind us. As we look to the New Year, we take a moment to appreciate the opportunities and challenges the year presented and how we can learn from them for a brighter 2023.

I am pleased to present this booklet, *'UNDP Uganda: A Year in Retrospect 2022'* where you will find highlights of our key achievements in the past year.

In 2022, we remained steadfast in our commitment to support the Government of Uganda to address the development needs of the People of Uganda. We championed youth initiatives and digital transformation solutions, supported response to health emergencies like Ebola in Uganda and contributed to the Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus delivery through cash-for-work for refugees and host communities, increased renewable energy access in social institutions, supported the development of the climate change frameworks specifically the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for Uganda, peace dialogues and baseline assessments.

In our catalytic role, we brought people together to share ideas and build networks; we empowered the Government of Uganda to contribute to

the "Africa We Want Agenda" to Foster Export Trade, Business-To-Business Exchanges and Connections. We have advanced our sustainable energy plan and championed energy access, environmental protection and awareness initiatives; forged new partnerships with the private sector, banks, foundations, academic institutions, civil society, traditional and cultural leaders, and global development partners; strengthened partnerships with our existing partners, empowered the young people of Uganda; strengthened the capacity of people especially the marginalized and vulnerable groups like women to participate in and benefit from governance and development at all levels. The South-to-South exchange on best practices was also fostered in areas such as access and administration of justice, gender equality and women empowerment, cross-border peace and development, among others.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all UNDP staff and partners; your commitment and support made our successes and outcomes in 2022 possible.

As Uganda progresses on implementing the targets of the third National Development Plan (NDPIII) and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, I am confident that the work completed, capacities propelled and networks built with UNDP support have continued to drive achievement of Uganda's development agenda.

I reiterate UNDP's commitment, as part of the wider United Nations family, to deliver as one on Uganda's Vision 2040 and to continue our support to the Government of Uganda and the People of Uganda in accelerating Uganda's development revolution.

**Ms. Elsie G. Attafuah**  
Resident Representative, UNDP Uganda

# Key Achievements



# 1 A Catalyst for Sustainable Development Through Policy and Advocacy



**PHOTO:** Ms. Mary Robinson, Chair of the Elders and former President of Ireland, Vanessa Nakate, a Ugandan Climate Change Activist on a tour of the UNDP wetland restoration project. ©UNDP Uganda

In 2022, our work was guided by UNDP's **Country Programme Document (CPD)** for the period 2021-2025, which is aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2021-2025 as well as the third National Development Plan (NDPIII) that fully integrates the 17 SDGs.

**01** UNDP provided integrated policy and programming support to Government to adequately respond to and recover from the negative impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of the war in Ukraine and the Ebola outbreak.



**PHOTO:** UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuah launches the 2021/22 Human Development Report alongside Minister for SDGs Rt. Hon. Kasule Lumumba and Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe. ©UNDP Uganda



**02** We supported integrated policy and programming for accelerated implementation of NDP III and SDGs in Uganda through fostering integrated development planning; improved alignment between plans and budgets; and improved monitoring and reporting in line with national, regional and international frameworks. For example, UNDP provided technical and financial support towards the NDP III MTR and the reprioritization of PIAPs. As a result, the revised PIAPs are in place and used by the Government to inform the budgeting process for FY2023/24.

**03** In addition, UNDP enhanced development financing efforts by supporting the development of the Integrated National Financing Framework. Under this framework, the Government was funded to develop a Public Investment Financing Strategy (PIFS), which, together with the existing Domestic Revenue Mobilization Strategy, is being used to mobilize innovative financing for SDGs and NDP III implementation.



**PHOTO:** UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuah launches the Poverty Status Report 2021 alongside the UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo and the Minister of State for Finance Planning and Economic Development Hon. Henry Musasizi. ©UNDP Uganda



**PHOTO:** UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuah launches the Multidimensional Poverty Index Report 2022 in partnership with the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS). ©UNDP Uganda

## 2 Delivering as a One United Nations



PHOTO: Young people promoting the Sustainable Development Goals. ©UNDP Uganda

UNDP worked with the UN family in Uganda to provide development assistance in a more coordinated way at the country level through the 'Delivering as One' Initiative under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator.

**01** We partnered with other UN agencies to support the Government in **conducting a Mid-term review of the NDP III; producing a Public Investment Financing Strategy**; improving monitoring, reporting and localization of SDGs through the production of the 2021 SDGs Progress Report and organizing the first-ever National Sustainable Development Goals Conference in 2022.

**02** UNDP supported the Government in conducting a strategic analysis of food systems to enhance the development of the Uganda food systems transformation roadmap and implementation plan. UNDP/FAO and other UN agencies-WFP, IFAD, and UNICEF participated in this collaboration.

In collaboration with FAO, UNDP supported the Government to ensure effective **participation in climate change negotiations**. Joint support was provided to organize the Pre COP27



**PHOTO:** UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia alongside members of the UN Country Team (UNCT). ©UNDP Uganda

workshop that aimed to improve the capacity of negotiators to participate effectively in climate change negotiations. In addition, this support resulted in the development of the COP27 National position paper.

**03** UNDP partnered with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other UN agencies to support the Government of Uganda to quickly respond and mitigate the effects of shocks such as floods and the Ebola outbreak in the country. Uganda was declared Ebola-free in December 2022, thanks to partner efforts and the Government of Uganda's leadership.

**04** In a joint EU-UN partnership, the **Spotlight Initiative** was implemented to eliminate violence against women and girls. Of the seven pillar under the initiative, **UNDP led pillar two on strengthening institutions**. The other pillars of the initiative were led by other UN Agencies being legislative and policy frameworks, preventive and social norm change, quality services, data availability and capacity, and strengthening of the women's movement. Out of 24 countries, Uganda was recognized for best performance in delivering on the initiative.

**05** Additionally, UN Agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNWomen, UNHCR and UNRCO) **partnered with EU to implement the Gender for Development (G4D) programme** focusing on increased access to Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and reduce incidences of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in schools and communities.

**06** At the UN Country Team level, UNDP **supported the UNSDCF Strategic Priority Group's leadership in implementing UNSDCF and Joint Work Plans** by providing quality assurance and technical leadership focusing on aligning with national development priorities. For example, UNDP is the technical lead in developing the UN Joint Programme on data and statistics.

**07** UNDP has supported the Government of Uganda to **effectively participate in international negotiations on environment and climate change**. These include participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties COP27 that took place on 6-18 November 2022 in Sharm el-Sheikh. In collaboration with FAO, UNDP **supported the national preparatory meetings for COP27** that aimed to improve the capacity of negotiators to effectively participate in climate change negotiations and develop a national COP27 position paper for Uganda. In addition, UNDP supported the Government of Uganda to organize the **NDC Award Ceremony and several side events at COP27** which included the event on showcasing Uganda's nature-based solutions for enhancing climate action.



# 3 Advancing the Climate Action Agenda in Uganda

**PHOTO:** The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, watering a plant at the launch of the Nehemiah Initiative, Greening Schools Project in Kapchorwa. ©UNDP Uganda

**01** UNDP in collaboration with UNFCCC supported the organization of regional and international climate change dialogues specifically the Africa Climate Week that took place on 29th August to 2nd September in Libreville, Gabon. UNDP supported participation of the Ugandan delegation to the African climate week and supported to organize the Africa Regional event on integrated Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV) for climate action and the carbon pricing which aimed to increase the capacity of government representatives on monitoring, reporting and tracking of climate actions and NDC targets.

**02** UNDP has supported the Government's Ministry of Water and Environment to revise and increase the ambition of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to reduce GHG emissions by 24.7% by 2030, from

22% in the first generation NDC of 2015. In addition, Uganda has set a net zero-emission target by 2050 through a long-term Climate Change Strategy (LTS). Key sectors including Agriculture Forestry and Land Use (AFOLU), transport, energy, waste and Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) sectors have been prioritized to achieve Uganda's mitigation target. The implementation of Uganda NDC is harnessed with the development of Uganda's Climate Change Act 2021. Uganda is one of the few countries that has developed a Climate Change Act. UNDP has supported the government to develop the climate change Act that gives force of a law in Uganda to provide for climate response measures, enhance the Country's participation in climate change mechanisms, measurement of emissions, reporting and verification of climate information.



**PHOTO:** UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia commits to restoring and protecting Uganda's wetlands during World Wetlands Day. ©UNDP Uganda

**03** A costed **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation and resource mobilization plan** was developed. The plan is a guiding framework for the country to implement and mobilize resources for climate action. Five concept notes were developed to support resource mobilization for NDC implementation in areas including; improving rangeland and mountain ecosystem-based adaptation; climate change governance; post-harvest handling and management; strengthening climate resilient infrastructure, forestry and energy efficiency.

**04** UNDP has worked collaboratively with the **Ministry of Water and Environment's Climate Change Department** to conduct capacity development on provisions and implications of **Article 6 of the Paris Agreement**. A training was conducted for the Uganda national task force on carbon markets enhance the capacity of representatives of key ministries, departments and agencies to identify and implement carbon finance projects. In addition, support is being provided to develop the framework and guidelines for carbon market mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Uganda's involvement in the international carbon market is expected to unlock the opportunities to



**PHOTO:** UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuah makes remarks at the Transboundary Watercourses Workshop. ©UNDP Uganda



PHOTO: Panel participants at the National Workshop related to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes: Uganda's accession process in Entebbe, Uganda. ©UNDP Uganda

attract the private sector to invest in the NDC mitigation programmes and exchange the potential mitigation outcomes through bilateral cooperation with participating countries.

05 In collaboration with the National Forestry Authority (NFA) and National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), UNDP has supported in setting up a Natural Resource Information System (NARIS) to enable monitoring of forest degradation and afforestation with intention to add more components to enhance monitoring of other environmental resources such as wetlands.

06 In 2022, we mobilized 4,640,000 million dollars in the form of climate finance from different partners. This includes 540,000 USD from the Climate Promise Initiative to support the implementation of Uganda's

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), 1.9 million USD from the Austrian Development Agency to scale up interventions on wetland restoration, 550,000 USD to scale up activities on biodiversity conservation, 1,000,000 million USD support towards climate resilient infrastructure, 150,000 USD to enhance transparency, accountability and integrity in environmental resource management.

07 UNDP has supported the Government of Uganda in restoring degraded wetlands. This has increased the land area covered by wetlands from 8.9% in 2015 to 11% in 2022. Restoration of wetlands and agro-based landscapes is one of the ways of applying nature-based solutions in building the resilience of landscapes and communities against the impacts of climate change.



PHOTO: UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafua joins the launch of the 'Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate' at COP27 alongside Hon. Ruth Nankabirwa. ©UNDP Uganda

08 In collaboration with FAO, UNDP conducted a **system-level assessment to generate climate-risk-informed evidence** - to catalyze transformative climate action at the sub-national level in Uganda's cattle corridor through the translation of the 2021 NDC and 2018 National Adaptation Plan for the Agriculture sector (NAP Ag) into district-level development plans. "Transformative climate actions involve integrated adaptation and mitigation measures that enable smallholders and pastoralists to prepare for, cope with, adapt to and recover from the adverse impacts of climate change.

09 In August 2022, we supported the Government of Uganda in preparing the **National Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) Implementation Strategy** to facilitate the identification of key value addition and trade opportunities and constraints, measures and capacities required for the country to take full advantage of national, regional and global markets within the context of AfCFTA - a free trade area encompassing most of Africa.

# 4 Supporting Government of Uganda to Foster Export Trade, Business-To-Business Exchanges and Connections



PHOTO: Workers dry coffee beans in the sun in preparation for export. ©Uganda Coffee Development Authority

01 In partnership with several **Business Membership Organizations**, including the Federation of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (FSME), Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA), Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UNCCI) and Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU), we strengthened the competitiveness and export trade readiness of over 1,000 SMEs through training in areas of financial literacy, governance of business groups, market analysis tools and business formalization and growth. As a result, 80% of beneficiaries were businesses owned and operated by youth and women.



PHOTO: H.E. Lulama Mary-Theresa Xingwana, High Commissioner of South Africa to Uganda speaks during the AfCFTA Workshop organized by UNDP.

©UNDP Uganda



02 UNDP, in partnership with **Presidential Advisory Committee on Exports and Industrial Development (PACEID)** and the **Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU)**, facilitated the export ready Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to access to niche markets in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Rwanda, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States of America. As a result, over 300 business-to-business deals worth USD 8.3 million were finalized to facilitate trade between Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in value-added agriproducts.

03 UNDP also partnered with the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives to develop a **trade and market intelligence** web portal (<https://digitalskillsforsme.com/>) and a self-paced e-learning platform to enhance Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) digital literacy.



PHOTO: Youth private sector partners participate in the AfCFTA Workshop organized by UNDP. ©UNDP Uganda

# 5 Supporting the Government of Uganda in Tackling National Emergencies and Building Resilient Communities to Shocks and Disasters



PHOTO: Mudslides proved devastating along Mbale-Nkokonjeru Road in Eastern Uganda. ©Uganda National Roads Authority

In 2022, **Uganda faced many shocks and disasters** - from the effects of climate change which manifested in the form of drought and floods (e.g., in July 2022, heavy rainfall in the Eastern region of Uganda caused floods, flash floods, river overflow and landslides, resulting in casualties and damage to property); rising cost-of-living as a result of skyrocketing food and fuel costs exacerbated by the war in Ukraine; rising food/energy insecurity; declining domestic revenues and increasing debt levels; Ebola outbreak; not forgetting that the economy is still trying to climb out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**01** UNDP supported Government in turning these challenges into opportunities, especially harnessing those that surfaced because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine war, which remained a high priority for UNDP. From supporting digital innovations, revitalizing the tourism sector and preparing Uganda enterprises (including those owned

by women and youth) to harness opportunities arising from the African Free Continental Trade Area (AfCFTA) to strengthening new and existing partnerships in pursuit of Uganda's development aspirations.

02 As a result, our support under the resilience portfolio contributed to a reduction in economic loss from natural hazards as a proportion of GDP from 7% in 2000 to 0.7 in 2022. Utilization of the early warning system, adoption of a disaster assessment tool kit, development of a Multi-Sector Capacity Development Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, and support to the District Emergency Coordination and Operation Centres (DECOC) to activate and install technical coordination, communication and disaster surveillance equipment and capacity building training were fundamental in the use of early warning information.



PHOTO: UNDP and partners hand out Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) advocacy materials during a high-level partner engagement on public health emergencies. ©UNDP Uganda



PHOTO: UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafua and multi-sector partners collaborated in responding to Uganda's Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak. ©UNDP Uganda

# 6 Fostering Innovation and Digital Solutions



PHOTO: Franc Kamugyisha CEO of Ecoplastile, one of UNDP Uganda's grantees of the Youth 4 Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship facility. ©UNDP Uganda

UNDP championed Uganda's digital efforts through e-justice initiatives, e-commerce, and e-agriculture initiatives and the Digitalization, Innovation and Smart Cities(DISC) Programme 2021-2025.

**01 Access and administration** of justice was enhanced including a reduction in case backlog, through installations of Video Conferencing Systems for: i) Masaka Court and Masaka Prison; ii) Mubende Court and Kaweeri Prison and Mbale Court and Mbale Prison.

**02 E-commerce for informal market vendors:** UNDP partnered with Jumia to connect informal market vendors to consumers through e-commerce. Over 3,500 market vendors from seven markets across Kampala (Nakasero, Nakawa, Wandegaya, Bugoloobi, Kalerwe, Naalya and Kibuye) have now been selling their produce online since mid-2020 which has seen the daily turnover more than double, over 300,000 unique products sold online, and over 900 youths skilled and employed as market agents and pickers. During 2022, this process has been consolidated and is being scaled up to Jinja City and Entebbe Municipality.



**PHOTO:** UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafua and Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe launch a partnership between UNDP and Makerere University. ©UNDP Uganda

**03** In 2022, UNDP Uganda continued its support to tech and non-tech start-ups through our **Youth4Business (Y4B) Entrepreneurship Facility** which was established in 2020. The facility has supported over 50 beneficiaries including 14 different tech-startups that developed digital solutions addressing various development challenges. Some of the grantees include:

**Quest Digital Finance Limited** has developed **Akellobanker** - a data-driven mobile and web-based digital platform that enables low-income earners including farmers, Youth, women, and disabled persons to access mechanized Agricultural services, improved seed and medical services on credit.

**The Medical Concierge Group (TMCG)**, a digital health and telemedicine company, is piloting a telemedicine centered medical service delivery ecosystem for tourists countrywide, including 24/7 teleconsultation services via voice, text or video, mobile laboratory sample pick-up and on demand delivery of medicine and other pharmaceuticals.

# 7 Championing Uganda's Tourism and Culture



**PHOTO:** The mountaineering team led by King of Tooro, Omukama Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV, at the summit of the Rwenzori Mountains in a 10-day Royal Expedition to Margherita peak. ©UNDP Uganda

**01** To market Uganda as a leading mountaineering tourism experience destination, UNDP, Uganda Tourism Board, and Tooro Kingdom documented **King Oyo Kabamba Nyimba Iguru IV's experience summiting the Margharita Peak of Rwenzori Mountain**. The official film trailer, which has thus far received over 6,000 views online, promotes mountaineering tourism in Uganda whilst amplifying the conversation on the need for action to tackle biodiversity loss on the mountain ranges.

**02** UNDP, Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), and the private sector co-created and piloted the **Rwenzori marathon** – a sports tourism product curated to expand the Rwenzori region's tourism product offering, drive down poverty, create new opportunities for the youth and women and spur decisive climate action. The inaugural marathon, graced by thousands of domestic and international tourists, broadened the meaningful participation of the local community in the tourism value chain as MSEs supplied goods and services to the fully booked accommodation facilities in Kasese.



**PHOTO:** His Majesty Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV, King of Tooro Kingdom in Uganda, raises the UNDP flag at Margherita Peak in the Rwenzori Mountains. ©UNDP Uganda

03 UNDP supported the Government in preparing the **Regulatory Impact Assessment of the Tourism Bill 2022** to inform decisions by the Cabinet of Uganda on the proposed amendment to the Tourism Act 2008. In addition, UNDP also fostered dialogues for development discourse on the imperatives needed to drive recovery further and drive the resilience agenda of the tourism industry. The dialogues brought together Government, Private Sector, Academia and key stakeholders to coalesce around a shared vision for a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient tourism industry sector.



**PHOTO:** UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuaah and Uganda Tourism Board CEO Ms. Lilly Ajarova participate in the Rwenzori Marathon 2022. ©UNDP Uganda

# 8 Promoting Gender Equality and Human Rights



PHOTO: UNDP Staff celebrating International Women's Day 2022 at the UNDP Country Office. ©UNDP Uganda

**01** In 2022, UNDP promoted initiatives to **eliminate violence against women and girls** through the Spotlight Initiative, including capacity building of over 2,000 public officials to mainstream GBV response in planning.

**02** UNDP support introduced the **first-ever e-course for public officials at the Civil Service College of Uganda**. Three pre and in-service training institutions integrated GBV planning and budgeting in academic programmes at Master, Diploma and certificate levels. The training institutions are the Uganda Management Institute (UMI), Nsamizi Institute for Social Development (NTISD) and Civil Service College of Uganda(CSCU).

**03** By promoting the **Gender Equality Seal** for the private sector, 90 companies are implementing policies and practices to promote gender equality in the workplace. Makerere University became the first institution to voluntarily register for the global Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions.





**PHOTO:** Beneficiaries in Obongi District provided livelihood support through the Uganda Host and Refugee Community Empowerment Project. [@UNDP Uganda](#)

**04** In partnership with UN Resident Coordinator, a reception centre in Terego and GBV shelter in Amudat were constructed to provide survivors with safe spaces. Other Initiatives included HIV prevention and response, Pulse Lab led Gender Perceptions Dashboard to monitor public perceptions on GBV, and IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix tracked cross-border movements to prevent Trafficking in persons in Amudat and Tororo borders. The initiatives supported 72 government and 80 non-government institutions to address values and practices that promote human rights, equality, and non-discrimination.

**05** To enhance livelihoods, Civil Society Organizations skilled 662 GBV survivors in Tororo, Kasese and Kampala districts in business enterprises; 316 (275F:41M) beneficiaries received additional start-ups; 140 women-led businesses and 221 female survivors accessed grants; 3 women associations in Amudat received maize milling machines; 6 women-led associations in Kasese, Kitgum, Amudat and Tororo received stone-crushers and 945 (530F:415M) artisanal miners skilled in value addition.

# 9 Promoting Democracy, Peace, and Governance



PHOTO: Ms. Annet Mpabulungi from UNDP Uganda greeting His Majesty Asantehene Otumfuo Nana Osei Tutu II of Ghana at the Manhyia palace in Ghana. ©UNDP Uganda

01 To increase the **proportion of voter turnout by elective category and electoral levels**, UNDP, in partnership with UN WOMEN and the Women Situation Room, supports preparatory activities for the Women’s Council and Committee Elections (WCCEs). A three-day advocacy and sensitization dialogue on the need for women’s participation in the election, electoral procedures and the role of women councils were conducted. The dialogue mobilized 62 women from the women’s leagues of 8 political parties in Uganda. Further, eight stakeholder dialogues on peace and governance were conducted by eminent women and continued to offer a space for engagement in the electoral cycle.



PHOTO: Judiciary Uganda delegates participate in a South-South Exchange and Learning Visit to Ghana. ©UNDP Uganda

- 02 Ahead of the anticipated WCEs, in partnership with OHCHR, capacity was built for human rights protection and promotion. In this regard, **high-level training for senior UPDF personnel was conducted on international human rights standards and law enforcement** in the contest of elections.
- 03 Further, a Trainer of trainer training (ToT) for 28 officials of the Uganda Police Force (UPF) and Criminal Intelligence Division (CID) was supported on human rights and law enforcement.
- 04 In partnership with Uganda Human Rights Commission and UN Family (UN RCO, OHCHR and UN WOMEN), **UNDP supported a one-day peace dialogue that brought together over 300 Government officials, political leaders, cultural and religious leaders, academia, development partners and women leaders.** The dialogue focused on Uganda's efforts to achieve the goals set in the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 16 and SDG 5, on providing access to justice for all through inclusive institutions and peaceful coexistence among all Ugandans.
- 05 In collaboration with the Ministry of Karamoja Affairs and select non-state actors, **UNDP supported cross-border peace initiatives and partnerships between Uganda and Kenya.**
- 06 To facilitate access to justice, **2,367 survivors accessed legal aid** in Kasese, Tororo, Kitgum, Kyegegwa, and Kampala. This was through Mobile Legal Aid Clinics that reached 1,399 beneficiaries; Legal aid mobile call centre reached 100 clients with 51% cases resolved; Legal Aid Open Days advanced 1,921. Additionally, 18 Local Council Courts (19F;71M) were skilled in handling GBV cases. This improved case management and documentation improved GBV referral pathways and adjudication of matters.



**PHOTO:** The Judiciary Uganda delegation led by Hon. Deputy Chief Justice Richard Buteera and supported by UNDP Uganda and UNDP Ghana on a mission to Ghana as a means of exchanging best practices, strengthening the administration of justice, and promoting the rule of law as enablers of national development. ©UNDP Uganda

# 10

## Empowering Vulnerable Communities – Refugees and Host Communities



PHOTO: Some of the refugee beneficiaries in Obongi District were provided with livelihood support through the Uganda Host and Refugee Community Empowerment Project. ©UNDP Uganda

01 Uganda is currently the host of the largest refugee population in Africa, at 1,495,688 refugees as of December 2022. In support of Uganda's Refugee Act 2006, the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, and the UN approach to responding to the humanitarian-development-peace linkages, UNDP worked with several partners, including the

Government of Uganda, donors, and select NGOs like World Vision, Save the Children in Uganda, Volunteer Effort for Development Concern, Center for Domestic Violence Prevention St. Martin Comboni Missionaries and Community Road Empowerment to respond to the refugees and host community needs.



**PHOTO:** UNDP and KOICA colleagues with beneficiaries of the joint Uganda Host and Refugee Community Empowerment Project. ©UNDP Uganda

02 Through the **Uganda Host and Refugee Community Empowerment Project**, 10,137 beneficiaries were reached through temporary employment and Cash for Work modality; 133.2 km of community access roads were opened, and 462.8 acres of trees were planted in host and refugee communities.

03 Likewise, the **Building Resilient Refugee and Host Communities Project**, provided livelihood support to 1,490 beneficiaries. As groups, 395 refugees and host communities benefitted from cash for work for Community Access Road Opening and Woodlot Planting, 1,196 energy-saving stoves were constructed and solarization support was provided to local communities.



**PHOTO:** One of the beneficiaries provided with livelihood support trying on her designs. ©UNDP Uganda

# 11

## Harnessing Uganda's Youth Potential



PHOTO: The main conference hall of the YouthConnekt Africa Summit 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda. ©UNDP Uganda



PHOTO: Youth participants from across Africa at the Youth Connekt Summit in Kigali Rwanda in October 2022. The YouthConnekt Africa summit was organized in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). ©UNDP Uganda



PHOTO: UNDP youth partner and Charge Ko CEO Mr. Geoffrey Mutabazi at Youth Day 2022 celebrations in Gulu. ©UNDP Uganda



PHOTO: UNDP youth partner Textfad produces textile products from recycled banana fibers. ©UNDP Uganda

01 In 2022, UNDP engaged with the youth under our **Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility** to promote impact-driven businesses and engage enterprises in tackling youth unemployment. We provided grants of up to USD 4,000 each in the sectors of agriculture and agribusiness, tourism, mining, renewable energy, manufacturing, ICTs, creative arts, construction and health.

02 In October 2022, UNDP Uganda participated in the 2022 **YouthConnekt Summit** in Kigali. The UNDP Deputy Resident Representative - Ms. Sheila Ngatia, and Hon. Mateke Nyirabashitsi, Minister of State for Youth and Children Affairs, led the team of 42 members who were Youth for Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility grantees, youth leaders, student innovators from Kabale University, UNDP and government staff. The youth showcased their products and innovations during the market exhibitions and made contacts for future business engagements with private sector partners from other countries.

## 12

## Promoting Renewable Energy Access



PHOTO: Solar PV installation at Rukunyu Health Centre IV in Kamwenge district. ©UNDP Uganda

01 UNDP supported the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development in installing **solar photo voltaic systems in 24 health centre IVs across the country**. This has resulted in ensuring improved health delivery to about 7 million people, particularly women and children, who failed to access quality maternal health services due to unreliable energy, particularly in rural health centres. As a result of reliable energy access in these facilities, safe delivery for mothers, including cesarean sections, is now performed anytime, refrigerators storing vaccines and blood are now functional 24 hours, sickle cell clinics have been established, and availability of functional incubators that are run on stable energy supply has reduced infant mortality rate.

02 UNDP conducted market assessment on financial aggregation for scaling up investment in small-scale renewable energy assets. This was used to draft an Action Plan for promoting financial aggregation for scaling up investment in distributed renewable energy assets.

03 UNDP is implementing an integrated Waste Management and Biogas Production project through which **technical support for installing biogas power plants is provided**, which has contributed to the generation of 0.4MW for Kakira Sugar Works Ltd and National Water and Sewerage Corporation. This has contributed to greenhouse gas emission reduction of 12,200 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq/yr. In addition, city waste management ordinances have been developed





**PHOTO:** UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia and Minister of Energy and Mineral Development Hon. Dr. Ruth Nankabirwa launch the Biomass-to-Electricity Pilot Project. ©UNDP Uganda

to encourage waste-to-energy initiatives and integrated waste management. Furthermore, waste flow characterization was supported in 4 cities to understand the energy generation potentials of waste in the municipalities, and a multi-stakeholder waste management platform was established.

04 UNDP, in collaboration with the Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA) and Mulago Hospital, piloted a project on shifting from biomass to electric cooking at the Mwana-Mugimu Children Nutrition Rehabilitation Center. The project has resulted in restructuring the cooking tariff in the national tariff structure, encouraging many people to use electric pressure cookers.

# 13 Building New Partnerships Whilst Strengthening Existing Ones



PHOTO: The First Lady and Minister of Sports, Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, greeting the UNDP Resident Representative, Ms. Elsie Attafuah, at State House. ©UNDP Uganda

UNDP facilitated sharing of experiences, best practices and brokered new partnerships for several government institutions, the private sector, donors, cultural institutions and with other countries.

**01** UNDP continued to partner with Government in implementation of all its programmes. Using National Execution and direct implementation modalities, UNDP partnered with national institutions (MDAs and Local Governments) in the implementation of its programmes and projects.

PHOTO: UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia and Minister of State for Youth and Children Affairs Hon. Sarah Mateke at the YouthConnekt Africa Summit 2022. ©UNDP Uganda





PHOTO: UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuaah alongside UNDP Regional Director Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa at COP27. ©UNDP Uganda

**02 Private Sector:** UNDP leveraged partnerships with crucial private sector actors such as financial institutions like Stanbic Bank, with whom we partnered on the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility as well as BRAC Uganda Bank and the European Union Investment Bank (EIB) to develop financing instruments that involve the private sector to support the electrification of social institutions through guarantees and credit enhancement solutions that reduce investment costs and guarantee renewable energy investments.

**03** UNDP worked alongside the Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UNCCI), Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA), the Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU), and the Federation of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (FSME) to ensure Uganda's private sector can fully take advantage of

opportunities presented by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA).

**04 Bi-lateral Donors:** We further deepened our relationships with European donors. With funding contribution from several bilateral donors like Norway, Austria, Denmark, Iceland and Sweden, UNDP in partnership with the UN family (UN RCO, UN WOMEN, UNESCO, OHCHR) continued to support the enhancement of Uganda's electoral cycle such as the preparedness for the Women Council and Committee Elections (WCCE). Additionally, funds were secured from EU to support the Joint UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls and a successor Gender for Development programme.



**PHOTO:** The Makerere University Vice Chancellor, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (Left) and the UNDP Resident Representative for Uganda, Ms. Elsie Attafuah (Right), signed MoU to set up a state-of-the-art Innovation Hub at Makerere on 20th September at Makerere University. ©UNDP Uganda

- 05** We continued our partnership with Sweden through the UNDP and SIDA Agreement on building institutional capacity for resilience across government, collaborating with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC).
- 06** We continued our partnership with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) through the Uganda Host and Refugee Community Empowerment Project, which supports the improved economic empowerment of refugees and host communities in Adjumani, Lamwo and Obongo Districts.
- 07** Our partnership with the Government of Japan under the Building Resilient Refugee and Host Communities Project also enhanced community resilience for gender-responsive livelihoods and sustainable environmental management.
- 08 Foundations:** UNDP partnered with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to enhance the effectiveness of the National Emergency Operation and Coordination Centre (NECOC) to manage disaster risks, including pandemics, effectively. This focused on expanding capacity for COVID-19 testing and increasing border surveillance in Kampala City, high-risk cross-border points, and transportation corridors; Strengthening national coordination capacities for emergency response and recovery with a robust Knowledge Management System for the NECOC and; Establishing a Think Tank to curate vital information from the emergency response and coordination ecosystem.



**PHOTO:** UNDP Uganda Resident Representative, Ms. Elsie Attafuaah and Hon. Minister of State, Minister of State for Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, David Bahaati at the launch of the 'MSME Forum of Uganda. ©UNDP Uganda

**09 Cultural and Religious Institutions:** To support the recovery of Uganda's tourism sector, we partnered with Tooro Kingdom and many other multi-sector stakeholders and delivered the Ekyooto Ha Mpango cultural tourism festival and continue to explore opportunities to diversify Uganda's tourism product, stimulate the recovery of the tourism sector, and build resilience through livelihood interventions. We partnered with the Buganda Kingdom and the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda to boost risk communication and community engagement in the National Response to the Ebola Virus Disease. Additionally, in partnership with the Nabagereka Development foundation we launched the "obuntubulamu handbook" as a practical tool for promoting integrity, transparency, justice, civic engagement, and proactive leadership.

**10 Civil Society:** Through several initiatives like the joint EU-UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls UNDP continued to partner with CSOs to reach the vulnerable populations including women and girls. The CSOs included Joy for Children, Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU), Karamoja Women Umbrella Organization (KAWUO), Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), International Justice Mission (IJM), Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) and COSMESS Uganda.



PHOTO: UNDP Staff with UNDP Regional Director Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa at Speke Resort Munyonyo ©UNDP Uganda

## Appreciation

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All our transformative results wouldn't have been possible without the support of our treasured partners. UNDP appreciates the Government of Uganda and all our esteemed partners for the continued partnership and looks forward to a future of renewed confidence and collaboration. Together we can accelerate Uganda's journey to sustainable development.

PHOTO: UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuaah makes remarks in Fort Portal following His Majesty King Oyo's successful summit of the Margherita Peak. ©UNDP Uganda





## Conclusion

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UNDP enters the year 2023 stronger and with greater resolve and determination to continue supporting Uganda's development agenda. UNDP invites you to join us in looking forward to 2023 – a year of renewed promise, hope and accelerated action as we race towards the deadline for the decade of action and attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in 2030.



**PHOTO:** Youth from across the continent march during the YouthConnekt Africa Summit 2022.  
©UNDP Uganda



Photo: Mountaineers ascend the Margherita Glacier toward Margherita Peak, the highest point in Uganda.

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