

NEWSLETTER

UNDP UGANDA

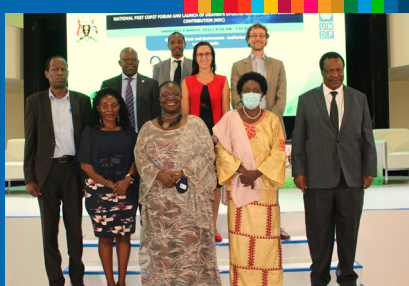


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UNDP Creates 17,000 Jobs Through its Support to Youth Innovations

INSIDE:



Uganda Raises Ambition to Deal with Greenhouse Gas Emissions in New Climate Change Plan



Makerere University Commissions Gender Equality Seal Committee with UNDP Support



Government, UNDP and Partners Discuss Options for Financing Uganda's Development

About UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the leading United Nations organization fighting to end the injustices of poverty, inequality and climate change. Working with our broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, we help nations to build integrated, lasting solutions for people and planet.

In Uganda, UNDP supports the Government to achieve sustainable development, create opportunities for empowerment, protect the environment, minimise natural and man-made disasters, build strategic partnerships and improve the quality of life for all citizens.

Our current programme offer is articulated in the UNDP Uganda Country Programme Document (2021-2025) which outlines our contribution to national development results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for the alignment of results and resources given to the programme at country level.

It focuses on six integrated programmes comprising of three Anchor programmes of Inclusive and Sustainable Growth; Nature, Climate, Energy and Resilience; and Governance and Peace Strengthening; as well as the two enablers of Digitalization, Innovation and Smart Cities, and SDG Integration and Acceleration and a Youth4Development flagship programme.



Introduction

Dear Reader,

The team from UNDP Uganda is pleased to share our latest newsletter, a collection of UNDP and partner accomplishments and milestones for the period of January – June 2023. Through this, you will gain an insight into UNDP’s work in accompanying the Government and People of Uganda to achieve transformational and sustainable development results.

Uganda has a very youthful population who must be supported and empowered to harness their full potential. In this bulletin, we explore how UNDP initiatives have created close to 17,000 jobs and supported youth innovations and enterprises to flourish.

With our global society taking urgent action to tackle the climate crisis, this edition also details UNDP interventions to conserve Uganda’s environment and biodiversity, promote sustainable tourism, and minimize the impacts of climate change for future generations. Also featured are UNDP’s efforts in creating opportunities for empowerment, exploring innovative and emerging financing options to meet Uganda’s development aspirations, strengthening health systems and building national resilience to public health emergencies, and advancing knowledge exchange through UNDP’s role as a development thought leader.

UNDP is promoting gender equality and women’s economic empowerment in Uganda. This newsletter details our partnership with Makerere University on championing gender equality within public institutions and how this initiative is already bearing fruit.

UNDP Uganda is grateful to work alongside our esteemed partners to ensure no one is left behind in our collective pursuit of sustainable development for the people of Uganda.

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UNDP Creates 17,000 Jobs Through its Support to Youth Innovations



Photo collage showcasing some of the work of the beneficiaries of the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility

The United Nations Development Programme has created approximately 16,286 job opportunities through its support to youth innovations and enterprises under the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility (Y4BF).

“We noted that approximately 16,286 job opportunities had been created for the youth by the enterprises as a result of the interventions, leading to a reduction in unemployment levels in the communities,” reads a performance assessment report by PricewaterhouseCoopers Ltd. The assessment was conducted between August and December 2022, featuring 40 enterprises supported under the initiative.

At 76% (12,339), the Information and Technology sector accounted for most of the jobs created, followed by the agriculture and agribusiness and

tourism sectors that accounted for 13% (2,155) and 9% (1,386) of the jobs created respectively. These are among the 183 business startups supported in the past three years.

Besides the jobs, the programme had other profound impacts. According to the report, these include empowerment of youth and women in entrepreneurship skills, development of online marketing platforms for various products and services, and increased access to capital for smallholder farmers through creation of savings groups and Village Savings and Loan Schemes. Others are remarkable improvements in solid waste disposal and management practices and reduction in harmful practices such as poaching and deforestation by creating alternative sources of livelihoods such as apiculture and making of commercial tourist products from stones.

There was also creation of online tour guide platforms in areas that were underserved such as Karamoja sub-region, development of alternative sources of livelihood for the community members, empowerment of women with entrepreneurial and financial literacy skills, and creation of new business partnerships.

Background

Formally launched by President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni in August 2020, the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility (Y4BF) is an initiative of UNDP and Stanbic Bank designed to tackle youth unemployment through impact-driven innovation and entrepreneurship in sectors with a high multiplier effect on creation of jobs and livelihood opportunities.

[Read more](#)

UNDP Offers Grants to 92 More Youth Led Business Startups



The founder OcTien tech Mr. Duncan Bwengye during an exhibition at UNDP office.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP's) Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility (Y4BF) has supported another set of 92 youth innovators to pilot various innovations and business models with a commercial imperative, the capacity to create jobs at larger scale and solve complex development challenges. These beneficiaries implement innovations and business models in 24 districts across the country with the majority based in the greater Kampala areas of Mukono, Wakiso, Mpigi and Kampala. This latest cohort brings the number of beneficiaries from the Y4BF since 2020 to about 10,000 youth.

To enable youth to unearth, nurture creative early-stage ideas and form start-ups and identify beneficiaries, UNDP implemented a Youth IDEathon which allowed participants to ideate, co-create and collaborate on possible solutions to real economic and social challenges – particularly in the wake of the multiple crises the country has faced since 2020. The Youth IDEathon was critical in fostering the entrepreneurial spirit in Uganda's youth. A total of 92 inspiring ideas were selected for award of grants following a highly competitive rigorous process

undertaken by a team of expert judges in various fields. The 92 start-ups have received grants and business incubation support.

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Early results

Godfrey Sengonzi, 35, is a proprietor of Sego Industries Ltd dealing in production of tiles in Wakiso district. With the support of UNDP, Sengonzi is investing in research to improve the quality of his tiles to spur demand for his products. Sengonzi has been struggling with the quality of his tiles which he believes is going to change because of the grant he received from UNDP.

Duncan Bwengye is the founder of OcTien tech – a hardware technology start up offering innovative and better

alternative technologies to improve technology adoption in urban and rural Africa says, "We are starting to see a change in the lifestyle of the people we work with as they have become more empowered and self-reliant. We are creating a more sustainable future for the communities we serve."

Bwengye adds that they have reached out to local artisans who are building local solutions such as welding machines and battery chargers, "We are seeing a significant shift in the way young people perceive technology. They are now more optimistic about their prospects and see a future in which they can make a meaningful contribution to society."

Ruth Akuo, 25, runs a company called East Beeznom located in Abia village, in Amuria district, Eastern Uganda. She is using a grant of Shs 17 million she received from UNDP to buy hives, smokers and venom collectors and other which she needed to bring her business idea to life. Akuo hopes to grow and expand and in future venture into making of syrup which will be sold to people as a food supplement and boost their immune system.



Uganda Raises Ambition to Deal with Greenhouse Gas Emissions in New Climate Change Plan



The Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga (Front, 2nd right), Hon. Sam Cheptoris (Front, 1st right) and Ms. Elsie Attafuah (Front, centre) and partners during the launch of Uganda's updated NDC

Uganda has increased its ambition to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions from 22% to 24.7% in the new climate change plan also known as the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The plan also presents the country's intention to deal with the effects of climate change and fulfill aspirations of the Paris Agreement. UNDP, through the Climate Promise initiative, supported the design of the plan.

In the updated NDC, Uganda also seeks to restore 2.5 million hectares of forest landscape, make 11 million people aware of climate change by 2030, place 152,622 hectares under irrigation, raise access to electricity to 75% of the population and have 50% of local governments with climate action plans.

The revised NDC was launched on 02 March 2023, by the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Community Affairs Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, who welcomed the COP27 resolution on nature-based solutions given its recognition of the importance of food, water bodies, and the right to a healthy environment.

"This is tantamount to global recognition of the critical aspects that are a cornerstone to Uganda's development and poverty eradication efforts," she said.

The Rt. Hon. Kadaga observed that the pledges made during COP27 fall short of the commitment by developed countries to mobilize US\$100 billion annually for developing countries to address climate change. "Uganda and many developing countries expressed dissatisfaction with the way finance is being provided, including the

large percentage coming as loans, increasing the debt burden in already debt-stressed countries."

Similarly, Hon. Sam Cheptoris, the Minister of Water and Environment, said, "Our hands are tied, and we cannot do much unless the developed world fulfills their pledge of \$100 billion per year as discussed during the COP27."

Uganda needs approximately \$28.1 billion to implement her updated NDC and out of this, Government is expected to meet 15%.

As a solution to the financing dilemma, Ms. Elsie Attafuah, the UNDP Resident Representative, called for the design of innovative climate financing mechanisms to aid mobilization of additional resources to support implementation of climate actions.

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UNDP Donates Heavy-duty Washing Machines to Strengthen Uganda's Health System



Dr. Diana Atwine, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuh and her deputy Ms. Sheila Ngatia

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has donated five heavy-duty washing machines to the Government of Uganda to strengthen health systems and build national resilience to public health emergencies. These machines will specially boost capacity for infection prevention and control in Uganda's national and regional referral hospitals; namely, Mulago

National Referral Hospital and Mbale, Mbarara, Masaka and Entebbe Regional Referral Hospitals.

The machines were received by Dr. Diana Atwine, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, at UNDP offices in Kampala on Thursday, 20 April 2023. Dr. Atwine thanked UNDP for the support, noting that the installation of the heavy-duty washing

machines will take services closer to the people and contribute to the fulfilment of health targets. "You are supporting health, you are supporting development, you are supporting life and you are contributing to our attainment of SDGs," she said.

On her part, UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Elsie Attafuh said, "The handover signals UNDP's commitment to contributing to health systems strengthening, and provision of strategic support for a more holistic approach to risk preparedness and health resilience at national level."

Ms. Attafuh also commended the Government of Uganda for the strong leadership in the health sector, noting, "The recent public health emergency disruptions have shown us how integral health is for sustainable development."

This donation is one of the many UNDP's strategic interventions geared towards health system strengthening in Uganda.

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Part of the heavy-duty washing machines that were handed over to the Government.

Makerere University Commissions Gender Equality Seal Committee with UNDP Support



Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (Seated Centre), UNDP officials and members of Makerere University's Gender Equality Seal Committee



“I am glad that Makerere University has been selected to champion the implementation of the Gender Equality Seal certification programme. Our goal should focus on attaining 50/50 gender parity across the board. I urge the team to spearhead the certification process for Makerere University to earn the gold seal, and I thank UNDP for partnering with us,”

Prof. Nawangwe said.

Makerere University has commissioned a multi-disciplinary Gender Equality Committee to oversee the implementation of the Gender Equality Seal (GES), a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) initiative that promotes gender equality and women empowerment in public institutions. This committee was commissioned by Makerere University's Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe on 06 April 2023.

In October 2022, Makerere University became the first public institution to join UNDP's GES for Public Institutions which supports public institutions to improve their approaches to gender equality and women empowerment. Speaking during the commissioning, Prof. Nawangwe said that over the years, Makerere University has embraced gender mainstreaming initiatives that GES builds on.

“I am glad that Makerere University has been selected to champion the implementation of the Gender Equality Seal certification programme. Our goal should focus on attaining 50/50 gender parity across the board. I urge the team to spearhead the certification process for Makerere University to earn the gold seal, and

I thank UNDP for partnering with us,” Prof. Nawangwe said.

During the commissioning ceremony, the committee was oriented on UNDP's gender equality seal, and their roles to enable them to understand and appreciate the task ahead of them.

Associate Prof. Sarah Ssali, the Dean, School of Women and Gender Studies and Chairperson, Makerere University's Gender Equality Seal Committee, said, “The Gender Equality Seal will help us to monitor ourselves; it is also a process that will help the university deliver on its gender gains but also to become a centre of gender excellence.”

The UNDP, through Ms. Annet Mpabulungi Wakabi the Team Leader, Governance and Peace Strengthening, commended the University for promoting gender equality and women empowerment and urged the committee to swiftly deliver on its mandate. “You are going to be the heart that ensures progress is made at the university when it comes to the different milestones that are set out in the gender equality seal programme,” she said.

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UNDP Trains Staff and Partners to Mainstream Gender in Programmes



Participants during the gender training workshop

Empowering women and achieving gender equality is an integral part of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) mandate. To this end, UNDP supports national and stakeholder efforts to address gender inequality and overcome barriers to women's empowerment. Central to this is ensuring that gender equality is integrated in all programmes and development solutions.

Under the auspices of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)-UNDP Capacity Building Project, UNDP held a training workshop on gender concepts and gender equality marker rating for integrated programming in the Nature, Climate, Energy and Resilience portfolio.

The training enhanced staff capacity of UNDP and partner organisations, to promote an integrated, coherent and gender-responsive approach in design, execution, evaluation and reporting on programme interventions.

This approach enhances improved and efficient delivery of projects, facilitates budget allocation, tracks and monitors the extent and adequacy of resources for gender equality, throughout the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

The two-day training also had sessions on gender-based violence,

sexual exploitation and harassment, targeting UNDP staff, implementing partners, contractors and service providers. Participants from government agencies, private sector and non-governmental organisations also attended.

The UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia urged participants to break the 'silo' approaches of programming, utilize the knowledge and skills acquired, and become champions of gender equality and women's empowerment in their respective organisations.

Ms. Hawa Kagoya from the Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention emphasized the importance of using gender lens in nature-climate-energy programming. "Our experience shows that, implementing gender-blind resilience projects can reinforce existing gender inequalities and unequal power relations which perpetuate male privilege and potentially increase women and girls' risk of gender-based violence," she said.

Ms. Kathryn Wilkes, Gender Advisor and PSEA Coordinator at the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office, noted that SDGs cannot be effectively advanced if gender inequalities are not addressed.

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Beneficiary voices

We are going to practice what we have learnt



“ With this training, now I know what I should consider beyond identifying how many women or men. I need to do an in-depth gender analysis and ensure that I incorporate this in my monitoring and reporting and we are going to ensure that we put these in practice. Also, I have a better understanding of the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and how to protect colleagues in our work environments and the communities where we work.

Ms Patience Nuwainembabazi

Acting Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, Uganda Wildlife Authority

We need the gender equality marker in the local governments



“ The gender equality marker is a new concept that we need to adopt in our Local Governments because our budgets are subject to review and certification for gender responsiveness, but were not very conversant with the criteria something that we have learnt from this training. This will help us improve our outputs and indicators to be able to fully integrate issues of gender equality in our work.

Mr. Alfred Ahimbisibwe

Kabale Municipal Council Senior Environment Officer

UNDP hosts NORAD visit to Uganda



NORAD and UNDP officials alongside youth partners from the private sector

A delegation from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) visited Uganda to deepen understanding of how the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) utilizes core resources to assist countries like Uganda to implement their national development priorities. Given that Norway is one of the core donors of UNDP, the delegation sought to observe how UNDP supports the Government of Uganda and locally led development in partnership with various stakeholders, the impact and results being realized, and how opportunities for scaling up development interventions are being leveraged.

The delegation visited Uganda High Court Masaka and Masaka Prison, two of several public institutions where UNDP and the Judiciary of Uganda have implemented e-justice solutions to improve access and administration of justice, enhance efficiency of the justice system, and improve accountability in the administration of law and dispensation of justice. The rollout of video conferencing systems has resulted in streamlined

court proceedings while empowering witnesses and victims of crime to give statements remotely.

The delegation also visited Bukomero Health Centre IV, one of 24 health centres across the country where energy access has been enhanced and health outcomes improved through installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. This initiative is supported by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, and World Health Organization.

The delegation engaged with a number of UNDP's youth private sector partners, as well as members of Uganda's National Youth Council, through a Youth Innovation Expo. The event showcased a broad range of innovative and sustainable products and services designed by the youth of Uganda, providing a backdrop to discuss the role of young people in driving Uganda's development agenda.

Central to the NORAD visit were bilateral engagements with the UN Country Team, led by UN Resident

Coordinator Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo, and government officials led by the Minister, Office of the Prime Minister (General Duties) and Focal Point Minister for SDGs Hon. Justine Kasule Lumumba.

Commenting on visit, Norway's Ambassador to Uganda H.E. Elin Østebø Johansen said, "The visit by the Norwegian delegation to UNDP in Uganda looked at partnerships and achievements that our support has contributed to. With our support, Norway has enabled UNDP to build strong partnerships to ensure that we leave no one behind as Uganda works to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals."

UNDP Uganda looks forward to deepening collaboration and partnership with Norway in the areas of climate action, energy transition, governance and peace, and empowerment of women, youth, refugees and vulnerable communities.

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Building Resilience to Flooding through Community Engagement



Makerere Kavule drainage

In Uganda, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is applying nature-based solutions to build resilience of landscapes and communities against the impacts of climate change, drive the country's sustainable energy transition, protect biodiversity and enhance environmental resource management. Core to building national resilience and mitigating disaster risk is working alongside the Government and people of Uganda to design solutions. In partnership with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), the UNDP Uganda Accelerator Lab held community engagement efforts with Makerere Kavule residents to design community-led solutions to the flooding challenge being experienced in this informal settlement.

Makerere Kavule is one of the areas most impacted by floods. The area is a catchment basin for water from Mulago and Makerere hills and other areas, which makes it prone to regular flooding.

Using focus group discussions with residents and leadership, the initial engagement sought to understand the effect of floods on the community, community-led solutions already in existence, proposed community solutions and to assess the willingness of the community to participate in designing flood-resilient drainage systems.

Communities testified to having been immensely affected by floods and, as a result, many lost their homes, personal items, and suffered from diseases such as cholera and malaria. The residents noted that during rainy times, many school children miss classes and flood victims experience trauma due to loss of property.

The causes

The communities further highlighted that the reluctance of leaders to enforce laws that stop individuals from constructing near the drainage systems and wetland degradation have intensified the problem of floods.

The residents also observed that the effects of floods have been exacerbated by inadequate sanitation, poor waste management and drainage systems. Residents mentioned lack of garbage collection centres, which has resulted into dumping of garbage in water streams, further exacerbating flooding.

In recent years, Uganda has experienced heavy rains during the rainy season, and sometimes during what is conventionally the dry season, in part due to the effects of climate change. This has resulted in recurrent floods that have led to destruction of properties and increased prevalence of disease. Floods endanger human life and impair economic activities. With more than 10 percent of all jobs and main roads in Kampala lying in flood-prone areas, over 170,000 people are routinely affected by floods within Uganda's capital city.

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Government, UNDP and Partners Discuss Options for Financing Uganda's Development

As Uganda Launches the Public Investment Financing Strategy



Officials from Government, United Nations, World Bank, European Union, the private sector and other partners during the launch of the Public Investment Financing Strategy

The Government of Uganda, in partnership with UNDP and the World Bank, has launched the Public Investment Financing Strategy (PIFS).

The strategy provides a framework for collaboration with the private sector in the implementation and financing of public investments and explores additional financing from domestic, external, emerging and innovative financing options to meet Uganda's development aspirations.

Speaking during the launch on 21 March 2023, Hon. Matia Kasaija the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, noted that Government has for the past 20 years mobilized resources from a narrow base of financing options comprising domestic tax revenues, concessional loans and borrowing from the domestic market in the form of Treasury bills and bonds. The strategy warns that these options are incapable of meeting the growing development aspirations and have led to, "increased borrowing at non-concessional terms, raising the risk of unaffordability because of the high interest rates."

New financing options

Citing the COVID-19 resource mobilization efforts that saw many organizations and individuals make financial contributions towards the country's COVID-19 response, the minister noted that the PIFS offers new financing options and affords all people an opportunity to contribute to the country's development agenda.

"I, therefore, urge every Ugandan, development partner, private sector player, ministry, department and agency to peruse the strategy to find your strategic fit so that you can tap into the opportunities that the Strategy provides," he said.

The strategy lists a number of financing options including pension funds, public-private partnerships, remittances, philanthropy, climate finance, international bonds, Islamic finance and crowd funding. For effective implementation, PIFS calls for establishment of the Project Preparation Fund financed by Government; establishment of the Resource Allocation Committee to provide strategic leadership to ensure

sustained adherence to the proposed alignment framework; and allocation of institutional responsibilities for each of the financing options.

The UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo called for a balance between tax holidays and exemptions to create an enabling business climate, "If the tax incentives must be maintained, they must be kept at the lowest levels and restructured to ensure transparency and fairness in their implementation."

Faced with a changing global funding landscape, the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia noted, "In this context, it is even more crucial to develop strategies like PIFS to identify innovative financing solutions, co-investment platforms like public-private partnership, enhance business environments, advance financial deepening, and increase the efficiency of public spending."

[Read more](#)

Headteachers Heed First Lady's Call to Restore Forest Cover in Schools



The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni during the launch of the Greening Schools project. Looking on is UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Ms. Sheila Ngatia.

“The reason you are here is to flag you off to go plant trees in our schools. In a few years, the seed schools must be green,” Mr. Sam Kuloba, the Commissioner for Government Secondary Education, said, urging head teachers to involve management, teachers, students, staff and other stakeholders in project activities.

Voices of school headteachers

Mr. Samuel Ainebyona, head teacher, Mayanga Seed Secondary School, Mitooma district, noted, “The planted trees will act as boundaries and help us to conserve the environment and provide shade to the learners. We have also learnt that we shall plant fruit and woodlot trees that will provide fruits to learners and firewood to the schools respectively.”

Climate change is affecting millions of people across the globe. It is affecting different sectors, ecosystems and society at large in form of floods, storms, prolonged drought and high temperatures. The education sector is not spared. School infrastructure has in some areas been destroyed, which affects learning, increases the spread of waterborne diseases and makes education objectives unattainable.

It is against this background that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) launched the “Greening Schools Project in October 2022 to create environmental awareness and stewardship among learners and other education sector stakeholders, increase tree cover in schools and promote use of energy-efficient technologies in schools.

This initiative was launched by the first lady and Minister for Education and Sports Hon. Janet Museveni in October 2022.

Forty-nine seed secondary schools and one tertiary institution have been selected as the initial cohort. This project seeks to support the greening of bare school land in 381 Seed Secondary Schools across the country through establishing boundary hedges/trees to secure school land, provide shade, firewood, fruits, and establish wood-saving stoves.

To ensure the success of the project, UNDP, MoES and the Ministry of Water and Environment oriented head teachers, deputy head teachers and principals from the first cohort to start the project's implementation.

The initiative reinforces UNDP's efforts in promoting climate-smart agriculture in schools under which UNDP, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa supported up to 20 schools in Eastern Uganda to establish Environmental Clubs and four-acre gardens in each school, which has enhanced school feeding, leading to increased completion and retention rates in schools, and reduced school dropout rates.

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Group photo of the workshop participants

Govt, UNDP Call for Concerted Efforts to Conserve Wildlife



Hon. Tom Butime (Right), Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities during the World Wildlife Day celebrations in Tororo district

Third March 2023 marked 50 years since the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. On this day, Uganda joined the rest of the world to commemorate this year's World Wildlife Day.

Under the theme, "Partnerships for wildlife conservation", the celebrations were held in Tororo district and presided over by Hon. Tom Butime, the Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, who called for the diversification of tourism products. He also urged the populace to leverage infrastructure developments such as roads to harness opportunities in the tourism sector.

UNDP support to Uganda's wildlife conservation efforts

UNDP, through its Senior Economic Advisor Mr. Thangavel Palanivel, applauded Government efforts to reduce the loss of Uganda's wildlife, including the passage of the Wildlife Act 2019 which has improved wildlife conservation; the design of the National Biodiversity Finance Plan which is guiding efforts to achieve optimal and sustainable financing for biodiversity conservation; and the National Strategy for Management of Human-Wildlife Conflicts which is contributing to harmonious co-existence with wildlife.

UNDP has strengthened the capacity of the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) to effectively undertake research, prevent poaching and encroachment, and monitor protected areas.

We also collaborated with the Italian government, the Catholic Church and UNESCO to conserve biodiversity and wildlife in the Mount Moroto central forest reserve, promoting nature-based solutions in Karamoja sub-region.

Restoring wetlands and associated catchments

Recently, the UNDP Uganda Accelerator Lab and the National Forestry Authority co-created a real-time data visualization platform to track changes in forest cover and inform the design of the most appropriate interventions. This platform will increase understanding of human and wildlife migration patterns, track urban development and inform forest management and urban planning.

UNDP is also collaborating with government to restore degraded biodiversity areas. Some 38,941 hectares of degraded wetlands have been restored in the last four years, and 6,655 hectares of degraded catchment have been rehabilitated.

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Govt, EU and UNDP's Development Minerals Programme Impacts Lives of Karamoja Women Miners



Moroto-Loptuk mining site

Uganda is undergoing a construction boom thanks to infrastructural and other industrialization developments that have spurred new and increased demand for development minerals comprising of minerals and materials that are mined, processed, manufactured and used domestically in industries such as construction, manufacturing, infrastructure and agriculture. These include sand, clay, limestone, gypsum, salt, stone aggregate, kaolin and gravel, dimension stones like marble and granite, and semi-precious stones like garnet and tourmaline. The prevalence of development minerals in Uganda is high, and the industry generates about \$350 million annually, directly supporting 390,000 Ugandans, 44 percent of whom are women.

This attests to the potential of the development minerals' sector to create jobs, stimulate innovation, investment and infrastructure development. Yet the activities associated with the extraction and processing of development minerals can lead to environmental degradation, displacements,

inequality and conflict if not well managed.

The Government of Uganda has put in place policy and legal provisions, and a strategy targeting the artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) sector, to harness the opportunities.

UNDP has partnered the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, and others to support the training of artisanal small-scale mining enterprises (ASMEs) in 25 districts in business management and financial literacy.

In Karamoja sub-region alone, UNDP has trained over 30 women miners on business management. An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, this programme is a collaboration of the European Union and UNDP and seeks to profile and improve the management of development minerals.

Voices of beneficiaries

Since its inception in 2018, the programme has supported ASMEs to enhance productivity, create jobs, increase income and establish

environmental and social safeguards in and around mining areas.

Two women miners – Miriam Aisu and Lucy Nakiru – from Loptuk sub-county in Moroto district are among the project beneficiaries.

“I am delighted to report that this initiative gave me the skills and confidence to negotiate with customers. As a result, I now run a pastry shop across the street. While working at the mine, I also learned how to be healthier and safer” – Miriam Aisu, Treasurer of the Mount Moroto Women Development Mineral Association.

“I made the decision to start a mining operation since it was straightforward for me to get started and because I observed that many wealthy inhabitants of our area were seeking hardcore and aggregate stones to construct their houses. I am grateful to UNDP for their assistance which has given me the confidence to launch future businesses, utilizing this one as a launchpad” – Lucy Nakiru.

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Advancing Thought Leadership Through Evidence Generation



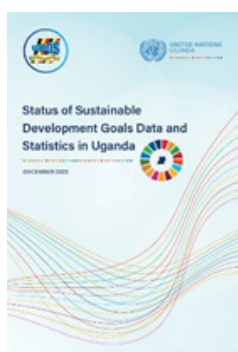
2022 in Retrospect: Building Connections to Transform Lives

In 2022, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) remained steadfast in its commitment to support the Government to address the development needs of the people of Uganda. The UNDP Uganda: A Year in Retrospect 2022 compilation highlights some of our key achievements in the past year.

From championing youth initiatives and digital transformation solutions, supporting Government response to public health emergencies like the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in Uganda, to fostering the Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus and delivery, to increasing renewable

energy access in social institutions, we achieved a lot. We have the Government of Uganda, and our staff and development partners to thank, for their commitment and support made our successes and outcomes in 2022 possible.

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Report on the Status of Sustainable Goals Data and Statistics in Uganda

Uganda aspires to achieve development goals laid out in the Uganda Vision 2040 and its attendant development plans. The country also has an obligation to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals and contribute to other global agendas such as the Africa Agenda 2063 and the East African Community Vision 2050.

These aspirations and obligations have significantly increased the demand for

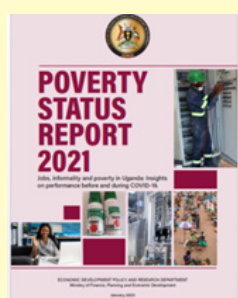
timely, high-quality and disaggregated data to enable effective planning, budgeting, monitoring and reporting on development results.

As part of efforts to generate evidence regarding the landscape of current data and statistics, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uganda led the UN System support to review the status of SDG-related data and statistics to inform stakeholder decision-making. The United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP) provided technical leadership to this process.

This report presents the status of SDG data and statistics in terms of data availability and existing and potential data sources; data and statistics use; capacity requirements for the National Statistical System; and the coordination, mainstreaming and financing of SDG-related data and statistics.

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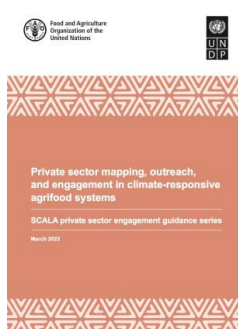
Poverty Status Report 2021

The Poverty Status Report 2021 explores Uganda's structural transformation agenda, which is hinged on transforming the livelihoods of households from low to high-productivity activities

and sectors, while minimizing vulnerabilities to poverty at the same time. This is in tandem with various international development frameworks such as the global 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, to which Uganda is a signatory.

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SCALA Guidance Brief: Private sector mapping, outreach and engagement in climate-responsive agrifood systems

This guidance note illustrates three broad intervention areas for engaging the private sector in spurring innovation and investment for transformative climate action in the agriculture and land use sectors.

These interventions are crucial to addressing barriers to private sector engagement in climate action such as a perceived gap in the alignment of public and private sector objectives, a limited understanding of climate risks and business

opportunities, insufficient incentives, and lack of opportunities and investable ideas that are of adequate scale which offer risk-adjusted returns for their investment.

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UN Common Country Analysis 2022 Update

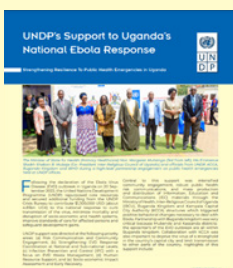
The initial United Nations Common Country Analysis (CCA) was first prepared in 2020 based on an extensive desk review and analysis of relevant documents and data from various national and international sources. The purpose of the CCA was to inform the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) on the preparation of the United Nations Sustainable

Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025. Since 2020, several issues have impacted the development landscape in Uganda.

Thus, the CCA is updated annually with technical support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The present report was updated between September and December 2022, and

analyses the progress, gaps and challenges that impact Uganda's achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also identifies opportunities that could be leveraged to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Uganda.

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UNDP's Support to the National Ebola Response in Uganda

Following the declaration of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in Uganda on 20 September 2022, UNDP repurposed core resources and secured additional funding from the UNDP Crisis Bureau to contribute US\$1,300,000 (about UGX 4.85 billion) to the national response to curb transmission of the virus, minimize mortality and disruption of

socio-economic and health systems, improve standards of care for affected persons and safeguard development gains.

UNDP support was directed at the following priority areas: (a) Risk Communication and Community Engagement; (b) Strengthening EVD Response Coordination at National and Sub-national Levels;

(c) Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) with a focus on EVD Waste Management; (d) Human Resource Support; and (e) Socio-economic Impact Assessment and Early Recovery.

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EVENTS

The Uganda Annual Sustainable Development (SDG) Conference 2023

Theme: Promoting Inclusive National and Continental Actions for Accelerated Delivery on the SDGs and Agenda 2063

Date: June 22-23, 2023

Venue: Kampala Serena Conference Centre

Round Table on Advancing Uganda's Socioeconomic Transformation: Lessons from Africa and Beyond

Date: Tuesday 27 June 2023

Venue: Makerere University, Rotary Peace Centre, CTF-1

2023 Human Development Report (HDR) Africa Regional Consultation

Date: Monday, 26 June 2023

Venue: Makerere University, College of Business and Management Sciences (COBAMS)-Conference Hall

Youth and Innovation Expo

Theme: Fostering Innovations for Uganda's Transformational Development

Date: September 14-15, 2023

Venue: Makerere University's Freedom Square.

Pictorial





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