



OFFICE OF
THE PRIME
MINISTER

Uganda Performance on the SDGs

Key Highlights

Presented at the Regional
SDG Forum By

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Introduction



SDGs were adopted in 2015 by the **United Nations (UN) Member States**



The goals aim to end **poverty, protect the planet, ensure human prosperity and peace**, and strengthen partnerships, with the three underlying core dimensions of growth, inclusiveness, and environmental sustainability.



The 17 SDGs demand for transformation of the **financial, economic and political systems** of UN Member States' governance structures that guarantee the human rights of all.



Since the declaration of the decade of action in 2020 by the UN Secretary-General, Uganda has made commendable progress in SDG coordination, implementation, monitoring and reporting.



Uganda's Institutional Framework

The report indicates that progress has remained uneven and that COVID-19 has slowed down the gains made on some of the SDGs.

However, with coordinated efforts there is still hope that Uganda will make a remarkable progress.

During this reporting period, there has been development of the new SDGs roadmap (2021-2025), which provides catalytic and strategic interventions for acceleration of SDGs implementation.

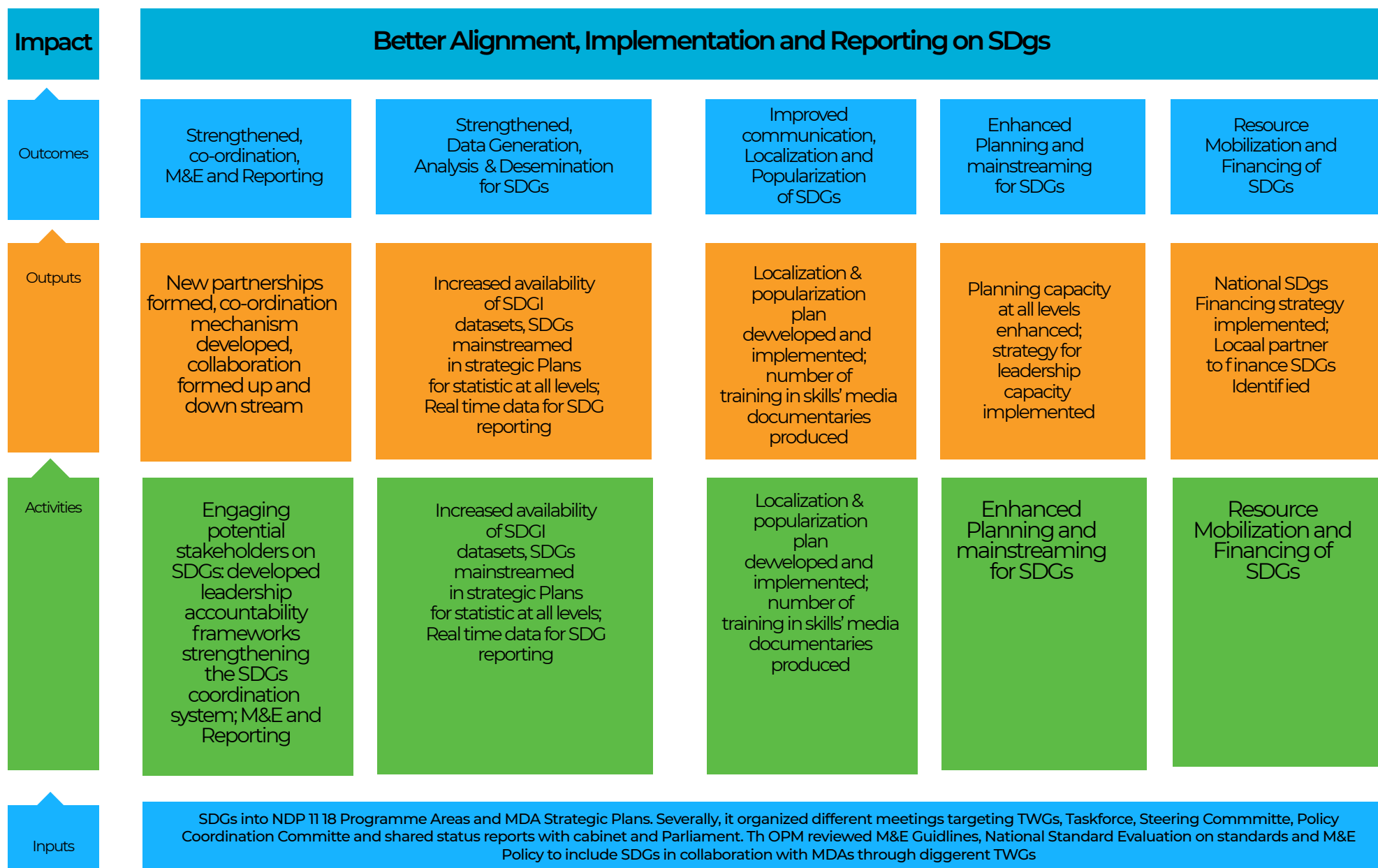
The national SDGs coordination framework has been implemented and the SDG Technical Working Groups continue to support different thematic areas of SDGs through the Government established structures.

Under the leadership of the Office of the Prime Minister, the Government has strengthened partnerships with the development partners and non-state actors



The SDG Roadmap

Figure 1: Theory of Change for Uganda's Road Map



Global Ranking of Uganda

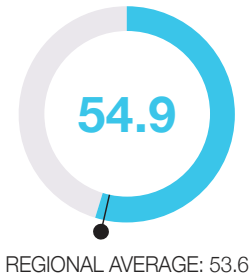
OVERALL PERFORMANCE

COUNTRY RANKING

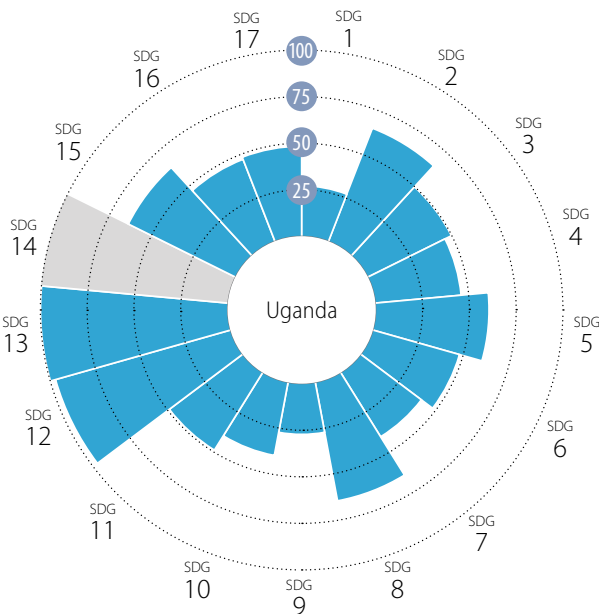
UGANDA

136/163

COUNTRY SCORE



AVERAGE PERFORMANCE BY SDG



SDG DASHBOARDS AND TRENDS



■ Major challenges ■ Significant challenges ■ Challenges remain ■ SDG achieved ■ Information unavailable
↓ Decreasing → Stagnating ↗ Moderately improving ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ● Information unavailable

Note: The full title of each SDG is available here: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Source: Sachs et al. (2019)



SDG Transformations

The Global SDG Report 2022 has proposed six transformations that underscore the recognition that all 17 SDGs can be achieved through six major societal transformations, focused on:



Education and skills

Health and well-being,

Clean energy and industry

Sustainable land use

Sustainable cities

Digital technologies

All are guided by the twin principles to **“leave no one behind”** and **“ensure circularity and decoupling”**

The six Transformations provide an action agenda for government ministries, businesses, and civil society.

Uganda will be examining how to take advantage of the **6 transformations above.**



Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Currently, there are about 3.5 million persons living below the food poverty line

33.8%

of the population in rural places are living in poverty

19.8%

of the population in urban places are living in poverty

In 2019/20

the poverty rates declined

76%

of the households lived in dwellings with iron sheet roofs compared to 75 percent in 2016/17,

while

23%

had thatched roofs in 2019/20 as compared to 24 percent in 2016/17

Proportion of households that used canister wick lamps for lighting declined from 66% in 2012/13 to

28%

in 2016/17 compared to

2020/21 14%

which is largely attributed to increased access to and use of grid electricity (22%) and solar energy (18%) from 11 percent in 2016.

access to safe water improved from

68% In 2013

to **79%** In 2020

Eastern region 89.9%

Northern region 82.7%

Central region 76.6%

Western region 64.7%



COVID pandemic to a great extent disrupted Uganda's poverty reduction path. The pandemic increased the severity of poverty especially in the rural areas where the proportion of the poor population increased from 20.6 percent to 26.9 percent before and after covid-19 pandemic. The shift in the urban areas was rather flat.

Goal 1: Government Interventions on

In order to reduce further the poverty levels,
GoU is scaling up efforts through:



Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Between 2016 & 2020.

The proportion of food poor persons increased by 2 percent from 37% to

39%

As at 2019/20.

Rural urban
47% 22%

Rural households were twice as more likely to be food poor than the urban households

Between 2016 & 2020.

The Eastern and Northern regions consistently had the highest number of food poor households within

5/10 households considered food poor between

Sub-regions of Bukedi, Karamoja and Acholi

had the highest proportion of food poor households with Acholi having the sharpest increase in food poverty by

29%



According to UNHS 2020, food poverty remains highest

Karamoja region **70%**

Bukedi sub-regions **58%**

Ankole region **14%**



Government recognises that investment in agriculture sector is paramount in reducing food poverty

However, the agriculture and production sectors are still affected by lack of standardization, counterfeit products and high costs of production that hinder investments.

Alongside this, food insecurity is worsened by poor storage facilities at household levels and a strategy of having in place national food reserves will be an important intervention.

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Maternal mortality rate

has gradually reduced

2016

336

maternal deaths per 100,000 births

2020

99

maternal deaths per 100,000 births



The HIV burden in the country at the end of 2019 was estimated at approximately

1.46 million

– adults and children living with HIV.

Young adults 15–24 years accounted for

41 %

new HIV infections



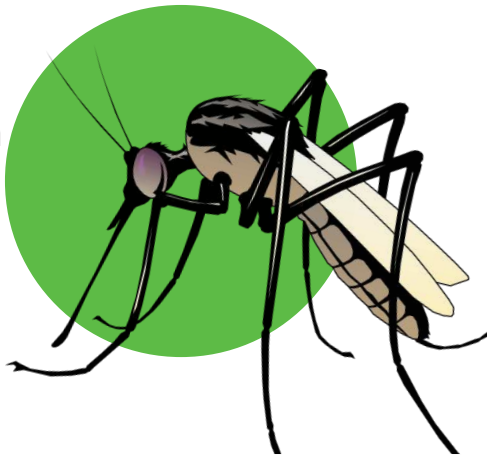
The Malaria Incidence per 1000 population rose to

340

in 2019 from

242

in 2018.



There was a notable increase in total immunizations

2019/20

1,864,074

2020/21

2,394,195

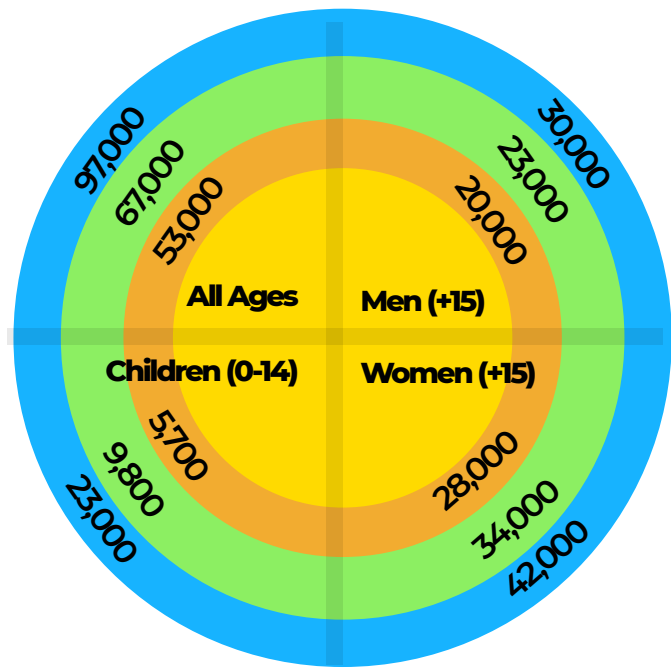


Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

The number of new HIV infections reduced to

53,000

in 2019 compared to 2010

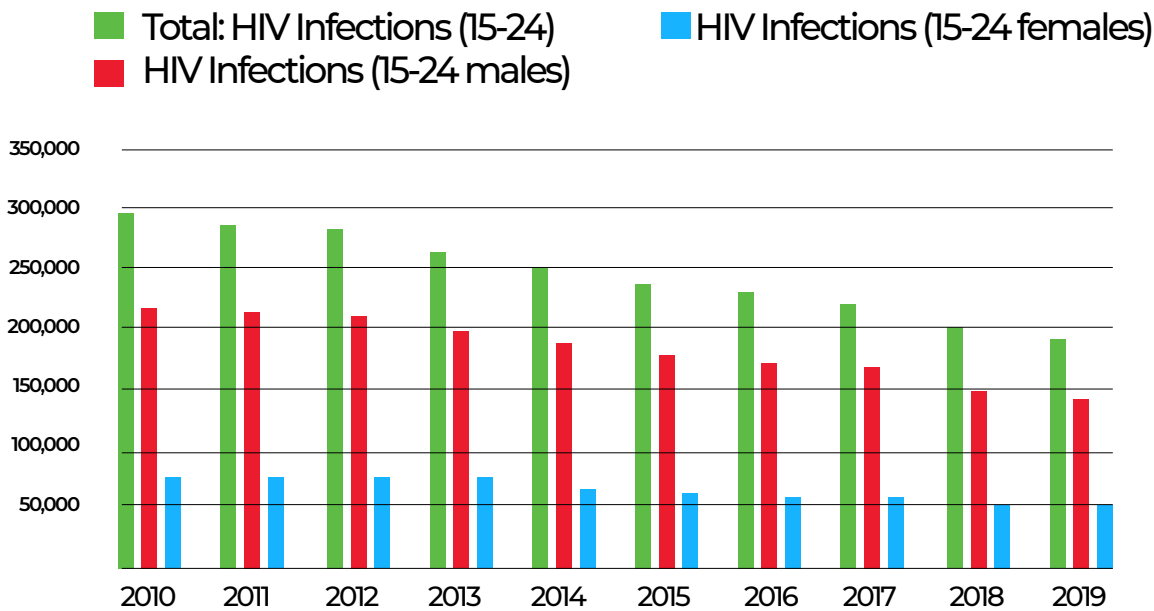


2010 2015 2019

Source: Ministry of Health 1990-2020



Number of new HIV infections - Young people (15-24 years)



Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

The proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines increased from

11.5 %
in 2016

35.8 %
in 2020



The Health worker (doctors, nurses & midwives) population ratio in the public sector improved slightly from

1.87/1,000

population in 2019 to

1.92/1,000

population in 2020



For Covid vaccination, as of **29 June 2021**,

99.1 %

(955,158/964,000) doses of AstraZeneca vaccine received in the country had been utilized, with a 1.7 percent wastage rate.

Overall, the stock of qualified health professionals available for employment in the health sector increased from

107,284 in FY 2018/2019

to **114,740** in FY 2019/2020

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Proficiency levels in reading and in mathematics, for P3 reduced from

50% in 2018/19 to

49.9%

in 2019/20,

while

of P6 increased from

53%

in 2018/19 to

43.1%

in 2019/20



On the other hand, the average proficiency in numeracy for P3 was

55.2%

above the NDP III target of 40 percent,

while

P6 was

50.9%

P6 was 50.9 percent in FY 2019/20 against the NDP III target of 79 percent.



In 2020, while there was an **increase in percentages of both male and female completing P.7 (62 and 72 respectively)**, there was a **reduction in S.4 in 2020 at 32 percent for both males and females**, which could have been attributed to the Covid 19 pandemic

Comparison of Completion Rates



2016

Primary Education
(Primary Seven)

Completion Rate

Male: 59.7%

Female: 63.4%



2020

Primary Education
(Primary Seven)

Completion Rate

Male: 59.7%

Female: 63.4%



Lower Secondary Education
(Senior Four)

Completion Rate

Male: 39.6%

Female: 36.0%



Lower Secondary Education
(Senior Four)

Completion Rate

Male: 39.6%

Female: 36.0%

Goal 4: Government initiatives

The government invested heavily in the education sector over the NDP I and NDP II periods.

Consequently,

92%

of parishes had a government-aided primary school, and 71% of all sub-counties had a government-aided secondary school.

All four regions of the country also had at least one public university.

In addition, the government promoted the participation of the private sector in the provision of education.

Skills development has also been facilitated by the refurbishment and establishment of technical and vocational institutions, especially at the district level.



By end of 2021, 42% of districts had at least one government-aided vocational institution providing skills development

Goal 5

Government has implemented programmes focused on eliminating sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices of child marriage and female genital mutilation.

In 2021 physical and sexual violence

42.3%

women with a disability

33.9%

women without disabilities.



The 15–19-year age group

experienced the highest levels of both physical and sexual violence at

41.3%.



The COVID-19 pandemic

is reported to have exacerbated the incidence of sexual violence.



Goal 5

Women's representation in parliament has been increasing over the years.
2016 general elections

157 seats
were won by women
compared to

174 seats
in the 2021 general elections

The number of women
in cabinet increased from

28 in 2016
to 35 in 2021.



At the local government level, the country is yet to attain gender parity in political representation. The executive committees at the district level, which are in charge of decision-making, are still dominated by men.

To increase women's incomes, the government has made an effort to support women entrepreneurs by boosting their start-up capital and providing on-job skilling through interventions such as: Youth Livelihood Programme, Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme, and 'Emyooga', among others.

However, many women rely on agriculture or informal trade for their livelihood, both of which have been adversely affected by the lockdowns resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



As of 2020/2020.

79%

of households had access to improved drinking water sources, although this was below the NDP III target of

83%

for 2020/21.



91%

of the households in urban areas had access to improved water sources compared to

75%

of households in rural areas.



There has been increased access to handwashing with soap, in part, mainly as a result of advocacy protection campaigns against COVID-19.

For example, access to handwashing with soap at the household level increased by two percentage points from

36% in FY 2018/2019

to **38%** in FY 2019/2020 in rural areas

compared to

61.1%

from 40% in urban areas, which was above the NDP III target of **36%** in 2020.



The government needs to increase funding

to the water sector and strengthen monitoring of the utilisation of the water and sanitation grants in the local governments, including sub-counties.

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



The percentage of households with access to electricity was

56.7%

higher than the NDP III target of 30% by 2021.

Uganda's installed generation capacity was

1,252.4

megawatts, still below the

1,884 megawatt NDP III target for 2020/21



While there is increased power generation, **the challenge remains with transmission, distribution** and cost to further improve access and utilisation.

Electricity access and utilisation now stand at

28%,

while the unit cost for ordinary consumers is

USD 8.3 cents,

which is still expensive for most Ugandans



The proportion of the population that relied primarily on clean fuels and technology stood at only 0.6% (0.2% females and 2.1% males) in 2020, way below the 11% NDP III target for 2020/2021.

There was low access to modern and efficient energy sources and services such as solar home systems, liquefied petroleum gas, biogas and improved stoves for lighting, heating, and clean cooking.

The government is enhancing efforts to expand the rural electrification programme and encourage electricity consumption with a target of bringing down the cost of electricity to US 5 cents per unit once all major generation, transmission, and distribution projects are completed.

In addition, the government has also leveraged partnerships with civil society and private sector partners to attract investment in the manufacture and use of improved stoves, such as the rocket-lorena stoves, for households and institutions.

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

The revised gross domestic product (GDP) estimates for 2020/21 indicate that the economy grew by

3.4% ↑
in 2021 from 3% in 2020.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing sector activities grew by

3.8% ↑

in 2020/21, which is 1% point lower than the previous year's growth

The service sector grew by

2.7% ↑

in 2020/21, 0.2% higher than the previous year's growth



Employment, the majority of Ugandans are employed in the informal sector, mainly in agriculture. The overall unemployment rate was

8.8% in 2019/20,

higher than the 8.5% NDP III target 2020/21.

The unemployment rate was higher in the rural (9.1%) than urban areas (8.2%) in 2019/20.



While there is impressive economic growth, the slow pace of structural transformation, high levels of unemployment and high informality of the economy constrain efforts to accelerate progress.

The slow progress of high-impact sectors hindered the economy from optimising gains in productivity, job creation, poverty reduction and structural change.

High levels of informal employment increase vulnerability to shocks such as the COVID-19 as earnings are less secure, and occupational health and safety and working conditions are unregulated.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation



- 1 The proportion of the rural population living within two kilometres (km) of an all-weather road was 53% by 2020. To increase access to all-weather roads, the government is implementing several projects to rehabilitate, upgrade and maintain roads countrywide.
- 2 Manufacturing production was mainly for the domestic market, with manufactured exports contributing an average of about 11% of total exports. The improvement in export performance was primarily the result of new market opportunities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Rwanda.
- 3 The government has improved road networks running up to the border points, and several legal and policy instruments have been reviewed to strengthen the regulatory environment. These include the Tolling Policy 2017, Roads Act 2019, Civil Aviation Act (Amended) 2019 and Traffic and Road Safety Act (Amended) 2020.
- 4 Additional actions include the procurement and distribution of road equipment from Japan to all local governments for the maintenance of district roads.
- 5 By March 2020, the government had also operationalised new ferries and developed five landing sites: Namasale-Zengebe (MV-Kyoga 2), Wanseko-Panyimur, Namasale-Lwampanga, Sigulu Island, and Kumi-Katakwi Ferry (Lake Bisina).

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

The national Gini coefficient that measures income inequality was

0.42 **0.41**

2016/17

2019/20

For instance, the income inequality for the central region ranged from

0.40 to 0.46

while that of West Nile ranged from

0.28 to 0.34

over the period

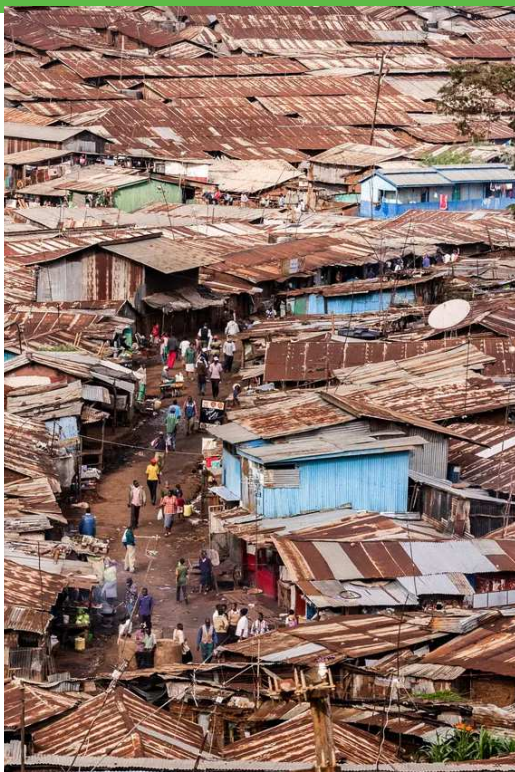
2002 to 2017.



There are significant variations in income between those with and those without formal education and those in formal and informal employment.

The government has made an effort to reduce the income gap through legislation such as the Public Finance Management Act and Equal Opportunities Act and programmes like the Social Protection Programme and the universalisation of primary and secondary education.

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



The proportion of the urban population living in slums and informal settlements was

60%

in 2018

above the NDP III
target of

58%
by 2020.



The population living in slums fell gradually from

75%

in 1995 to

48.3%

in 2018

Urban solid waste management is still a considerable challenge for many urban authorities.

With support from the World Bank, NEMA supported 12 municipalities to undertake effective collection and disposal of urban solid waste through the construction and equipping of clean development mechanism sites.



Goal II: Bottlenecks hindering

- | Growth of slums and informal settlements.
- | High urban risks from buildings. A number of buildings collapsing while under construction.
- | Weaknesses in Urban administration, institutions, and overall planning capacity.
- | Poor catchment management practices.



Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Uganda has implemented standard accounting tools to monitor tourism sustainability's economic and environmental aspects.

Uganda's Green Growth Strategy was developed in 2017 /2018 and recognises the need for sustainable public procurement in the development of green cities.

With the support of the UN Environment Programme under the SWITCH African Green Programme, the government has developed a five-year National Action Plan (2021-2026) on integrating sustainable procurement.

Through the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, the Government of Uganda has trained 20 trainers in sustainable public procurement and has developed draft evaluation criteria and means of verification for seven products to be piloted.



Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

As a result of extreme weather conditions, the country has faced disastrous moments that have led to deaths

For example, the number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters stood at

103 per 100,000 population in 2018 compared to 130 per 100,000 population NDP III target in 2020/21

This was due to increased disasters caused by natural calamities such as **floods in the Rwenzori sub-region and landslides in the east (slopes of Mount Elgon).**

The country also faced prolonged droughts, especially in 2016, that were largely blamed for **an increase in poverty**

However, the government has endeavoured to restore degraded fragile ecosystems and enact policies, programmes, projects, and interventions to alleviate the impacts of climate change and the development of the Green Growth Development Strategy.



Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Uganda focuses on managing fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels. The value-added for fishing activities registered a decline of

8.8%

in 2020/21 compared to a growth of

0.3%

recorded in 2019/20

This was on account of the decrease in fish catch in 2020.



This was on account of the decrease in fish catch in 2020. The fishing activities contributed 2.3% to the GDP in 2020/21, which was 0.2 percentage points lower than the 2.5% contribution in 2019/20.



The fishing sector employs up to

1.7%

million people directly and over

3.5%

million people indirectly

Considering the vital importance of the industry and faced with the challenge of polluted water bodies, the government is currently implementing efforts to decrease pollution levels in large water bodies and developing ecosystem management strategies such as restoring the degraded fragile ecosystems on riverbanks and lakeshores.

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Deforestation and desertification caused by human activities and climate change pose significant challenges to sustainable development and have affected the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in the fight against poverty.



The total forest area coverage reduced from

9.5%

in 2017/18 to

09%

in 2018/19

It then, however, increased to

12.4%

in 2019/20 as a result of the growth and protection of forests by the National Forestry Authority.

Uganda has an average annual loss of natural forest of

2% per annum

one of the highest in the world, yet forests provide 88% of the country's energy, 61% of tourism income, and jobs for about one million people.



Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

The homicide rate per 100,000 people stood at

11%

in 2019 compared to the

10.54%

NDP III target 2020/21.



According to the Uganda Police Force Annual Crime Report 2020, a total of

4,460 cases

of homicide were reported by the end of 2020 compared to

4,718 cases

in 2019, a 5.4% decrease.



Despite the general decline, however, there was an increase in most categories of murder:

37.5%

shooting

2.8%

strangulation

16.1%

aggravated domestic violence

In 2016, about

25%
girls

11%
boys

aged 13-17 years

reported being subjected to sexual violence in the past year, primarily perpetrated by neighbours and strangers.



Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

The frequency of sexual violence was highest on roads, followed by home and school.

The proportion of GBV cases (rape, defilement and domestic violence) taken to court increased by

5.8%
from

7,376 → 7,810
in 2018 to in 2019



Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Revenue to GDP ratio stood at

13.36%

in **2020**, which was an increase from

12.6%

in **2019** and was close to the

13.73%

NDP III target for **2020/21**.



The country registered gains in domestic revenue mobilisation, manifested by the increase in the tax-to-GDP ratio from

11.1%

in 2016/17 to

12.6%

in 2018/19

and projected to increase to

16.5%

in 2024/25 to



Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

The Domestic Revenue Mobilisation Strategy (2019/20-2023/24) guides Uganda in leveraging different financing sources to expand its resource mobilisation.

The proportion of the domestic budget funded by domestic taxes in 2016/17 stood at

87.8%

compared to

88.9%

in 2019/20,

while the volume of remittances (as a proportion of total GDP) in Uganda had been reducing since 2016 from

4.1% to 2.8%

in 2020



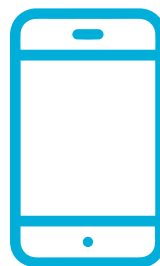
Uganda's internet penetration rate (internet users per 100 people) stood at

25%

in 2019, still below the

30%

NDP III 2020/21 target



52%

of adults (9.7 million) had mobile phones, and 10% (1.9 million) had access to the internet.



Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Male adults were significantly more likely to have mobile phones



58%
(5 million) than

female adults



46%
(4.6million)

Access to the internet

Males

13%

(1.1 million) than

females

08%

(0.8million) than



Progress on the six overarching areas and themes

In the 2020 VNR, Government committed to paying close attention to six overarching areas:



- | Stronger partnerships, coordination, and collaboration
- | Deeper localisation and popularisation of the SDG Agenda
- | Building a leadership culture for the SDG Agenda at all levels
- | Promoting SDG-focused innovation by all citizens, especially young people
- | Focusing on financing for the SDGs - harnessing Uganda's potential
- | Strengthening technology and information systems in SDG implementation

Limitations

Despite the progress made, there are challenges that the country has faced, which limit the attainment of the SDGs.

These include:

- | limited timely, quality and disaggregated data and statistics,
- | Financing for SDGs amidst competing priorities for funding
- | Limited localisation, particularly at sub-national levels
- | Standardised monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs is also hampered by the fact that not all global indicators apply to the Uganda national context, making international comparisons challenging



Conclusion

- | As the Sustainable Development Report 2022 notes – despite the difficult times, the SDGs should remain our roadmap for **achieving sustainable development** by 2030.
- | They remain the only common language and vision across all UN member states on the triple bottom line of sustainable development: **economic, social and environmental**.
- | Uganda has progressed a lot in attaining the SDG targets - on each of the **17 SDGs, the country has made strides in achieving some of the respective targets** as measured from the applicable and measured indicators.
- | Alongside this, Uganda has made commendable progress in SDG **coordination, implementation, monitoring and reporting**.
- | Uganda continues to demonstrate **transformative political will coupled with ambitious actions** by all stakeholders that have contributed to progress on most of the SDGs.





For God and My Country!

Thank you
for listening