



National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU)

Rapid Analysis of the Participation and Involvement of Persons with Disabilities in the Implementation Frameworks of SDG 1, 2 and 11

1 NO
POVERTY



2 ZERO
HUNGER



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BFP	Budget Framework Paper
BTVET	Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training
CCT	Coordinating Centre Tutor
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DAAT	District Accessibility Audit Team
DEO	District Education Officer
DPO	Disabled Persons Organizations
EOC	Equal Opportunities Commission
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
G&E	Gender and Equity
KCCA	Kampala Capital City Authority
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development
MOFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MoICT	Ministry of Information and Communications Technology
MPS	Ministerial Policy Statement
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NAAT	National Accessibility Audit Team
NCD	National Council for Disability
NDP	National Development Plan
NUDIPU	National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
OWC	Operation Wealth Creation
PTC	Primary Teachers' Colleges
PWD	Persons With Disabilities
RIA	Rapid Integrated Assessment
SCG	Senior Citizens Grant
SD	Sustainable Development
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SNE	Special Needs Education
UNRA	Uganda National Roads Authority
UPE	Universal Primary Education
WWD	Women With Disabilities
YIG	Youth Interest Groups
YWD	Youth With Disabilities

1.0 Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. They came into effect in January 2016, to build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in mobilizing collective action for sustainable development and will continue guide the global development agenda till 2030.

The absence of disability in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), their targets and the monitoring indicators meant that persons with disabilities (Persons with disabilities) issues were not adequately considered. However, the SDGs brought a wave of enthusiasm among, disabled people's organizations (DPOs) and activists. The inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the 2030 agenda was a historic achievement for the Persons with disabilities all over the world. Disability is specifically mentioned 11 times in target areas in the 2030 Agenda, and is specifically mentioned in the targets relating to accessible and inclusive habitat and human settlements¹.

It is envisaged that they will end to the invisibility and exclusion of persons with disabilities in development that was experienced during the era of the MDGs. The specific reference of the Persons with disabilities in variety of areas (such as education, employment, accessible cities, reducing inequalities, and disaggregation of data) in the SDGs has led to their inclusion in a wide range of initiatives, increasing opportunities for their voices to be heard and their needs met. Disabled people will certainly benefit, but only if their issues are taken up

¹ Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

nationally and they are provided a platform to actively participate and contribute to the implementation efforts of the SDGs.

Uganda is among the first countries to localize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The deliberations and adoption of Agenda 2030 coincided with the development of the Second National Development Plan (2015 – 2020). As a result the plan was developed in line with the SDGs. The achievement of the disability provisions in the SDGs requires innovative approaches and adaptive programming of its interventions. In this regard, the Government of Uganda has commenced implementation of a range of new social programs working towards a future in which men, women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities are empowered to participate as equal partners in development.

Despite making progressive realization in the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities through various legal frameworks, there is still a significant implementation gap that falls short of the principle of leaving no one behind². How the Government's commitments to disability reflected in the implementation of the SDGs remains to be seen.

NUDIPU commissioned the Rapid Analysis of the SDG framework with focus on SDG 1, 2 and 11 to provide the evidence base to inform the advocacy agendas for Persons with Disabilities in Uganda.

The SDGs of focus included:

- I. SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

² Uganda Civil Society Report on the Implementation of the SDGs (2017)

- II. SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- III. SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

1.1 Purpose of the Rapid Analysis

The analysis aimed at identifying the existing government programs, policies and institutional frameworks established for realization of the prioritized SDG targets, assess whether those programs had “targeted” and “inclusive” strategies and mechanisms to ensure full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the SDGs implementation.

The process entailed the review of existing mechanisms that have been put in place by the National Planning Authority (NPA), Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDA) and the Civil Society to implement the SDGs. Focus was on Government programs, policies / legislation, and institutional frameworks aimed at realizing SDG targets of the 3 SDGs named above.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Technical Approach Used

The methodology was characterized by richness of participatory approaches in discussions / dialogues, reflection, and in consensus building on pertinent aspects of the exercise. A mix of different approaches and tools were adopted and applied at different levels of the rapid analysis. The SDG Accelerator and Bottleneck Assessment tool and the SDG Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) tool were adopted, modified and used to

develop a model and tools that facilitated the data collection, analysis and reporting. The model focused on:

- I. Identifying and understanding the current processes, institutions, actors, policies, mandates and other factors that affect implementation of the 3 SDGs in addressing the strategic needs of Persons with Disabilities.
- II. Understanding the planning and budgeting processes that shape inclusive national priorities particularly in line with the 3 SDGs.
- III. Identifying the range of institutions including government and non - government actors involved in the implementation of the 3 SDGs to meet the strategic needs of Persons with disabilities.

This assessment was conducted using a mix of methods combining the collection and analysis of both primary and secondary data including Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews and review of relevant literature as explained below:

- I. Literature Review: This considered strategic literature on legal and legislative frameworks focusing on disability and the SDGs in Uganda. A critical review of existing national development goals/priorities as set out in long-term national strategic documents was conducted with the assumption that these documents capture the most critical issues in the country. The review process was guided by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) to ensure that the strategic needs of the persons with disabilities were considered.

II. Consultations: These were used to identify and validate issues and targeted government and other relevant actors at national level. The consultations included Key Informant Interviews which targeted government ministries, departments and agencies and Civil Society. FGDs targeted Civil Society Organizations including the respective DPOs that are members of the 3 NUDIPU clusters for the 3 SDGs.

2.2 Analysis

The level of inclusion was determined by assessing the existing government programs, policies and institutional frameworks for realizing the prioritized SDG targets against a set of 6 preconditions for persons with disabilities inclusion. The conditions included; Universal design and reasonable accommodation; partnership with Disabled Persons Organizations; human resources policy, practices and disability inclusion, staff training; legal frameworks; technology-enabled inclusion; and financial capabilities.

3.0 Disability Situation in Uganda

According to the Uganda Population and Housing Census Report 2014, the prevalence of Persons with Disabilities (Persons with disabilities) was 12.4%. Disaggregation by age reveals that Children with disabilities (17 years and below) are 2.9%, youth with disabilities (18-30years) are 2%, adults living with disabilities (31-64) are 5.5% whereas older persons with disabilities (65 years and above)

constitute 2.1% of the population. Analysis by gender reveals that disability is higher among women (13.7%) compared to men (11%). In addition, the disability prevalence rate is higher among those living in the urban areas 15% compared to those in the rural areas 12%. Visual impairments account for the highest form of disability (6%), followed by mental disabilities (5%), physical impairments (4%) and hearing difficulties (3%).

Persons with disabilities face various forms of barriers ranging from discrimination, negative societal attitudes; inaccessible physical environment, information and communication technology to those resulting from insensitive disability friendly regulatory frameworks. These result into unequal access to services in the area of education, employment, healthcare, transportation political participation and justice in communities.

Accessibility remains a major challenge for Persons with disabilities in Uganda. Most public building are not fully accessible by Persons with disabilities thus limiting their participation and benefit from service delivery³. The private sector has also been slow to introduce the necessary adjustments to increase accessibility. Since most Persons with disabilities live in rural areas, their right to movement and participation in family and community life is restricted by physical infrastructure, road network and public transport systems.

Access and utilization of health services by persons with disabilities is limited by lack of appropriate physical facilities such as ramps;

³ Physical Accessibility Report 2017. Equal Opportunities Commission. The commission was established to oversee the equalization of opportunities and affirmative action for vulnerable groups in Uganda. The mandate of the Commission is to assess Sector BFPs,

Ministerial Policy Statements of MDAs and Local Governments (LGs) and the National Budget prior to issuance of certificates of Gender and Equity compliance by MoFPED.

wheel chairs and disability-friendly sanitation facilities in hospitals.

A report by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)⁴ found that most health facilities did not provide disability-friendly services. Their utilization of health services and participation in national programs was limited by access to information such as sign language and braille. Only 7.1% of health facilities in Uganda had staff trained in use of sign language in 2017. Such exclusion in the health sector has left persons with disabilities more vulnerable to disease than other Ugandans. For example, little is known of their HIV risk and the unique challenges they face living with the disease. The issue of equitable access to HIV/AIDS services and support comes to light since the available HIV/AIDS services and policies do not provide for special emphasis on disability friendly services especially for Women with Disabilities (WWDs).

Even with relevant qualifications, persons with disabilities still fail to access employment despite holding and having the relevant qualifications and skills for the available Jobs. Persons with severe disabilities are stigmatized and often deprived of productive resources even within their families. This is a reflection of the national trend where Persons with disabilities are marginalized, making them increasingly more vulnerable to disease and poverty. Persons with disabilities in Uganda are finding themselves resigned to income generating activities such as tailoring, carpentry, shoe shining and retail trade.

Fortunately, the Government of Uganda has also adopted a number of laws and policies pertaining to persons with disabilities, including their right to productive and decent work and basic services.

The current national support for Persons with disabilities is geared toward equalization of opportunities, rehabilitation and inclusion of Persons with disabilities in community activities as reflected in the NDP II.

4.0 Relevance of the SDGs for Persons with Disability in Uganda

The SDGs were developed to guide all countries to achieve sustainable development by 2030 and they will only be considered achieved if they are met for all relevant income and social groups. This means that issues of Persons with disabilities must be included in the national plans for implementation and monitoring.

Uganda has made a conscious effort to localize the SDGs in its planning documents, most significantly in the Vision 2040 and the National Development Plan II. In the pursuit for the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities, the Ugandan Government and its partners are working towards inclusive government programs, policies / legislation, and institutional frameworks. Disabled people will certainly benefit from the full implementation of the SDGs, and associated commitments, but only if they actively participate and contribute to the implementation efforts.

⁴ Annual Report on The State of Equal Opportunities in Uganda FY 2016/17

4.1 SDGs and the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Before the 2030 agenda, the CRPD was a vital framework to ensuring all rights for Persons with disabilities. However, with the adoption of the SDGs whose central impetus is to “leave no one behind”, brought renewed opportunity for the inclusion of Persons with disabilities in development. Now, all people, regardless of their individual circumstances or characteristics, must be included as active participants in the implementation of the 2030 agenda. The table below shows the link between disability, human rights and the SDGs.

Table 1: Link between SDGs and the CRPD

Goal	Description of Link
 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<p>This goal is underpinned by the right to life (CRPD article 10), control over one’s own resources by guaranteeing equal recognition before the law (CRPD article 12) and an adequate standard of living and social protection (article 28), as well as articles 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 31 and 32</p>
 <p>2 ZERO HUNGER</p>	<p>The right to adequate food, including food security, safeguards, and an adequate standard of living (CRPD article 28), control over land, property and inheritance can be guaranteed by equal recognition before the law (CRPD article 12), as well as articles 5, 6, 7, 9, 31 and 32</p>
 <p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>The right of persons to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their family, including adequate housing must be realized (CRPD article 28); persons with disabilities must be afforded personal mobility in the manner and at the time of their choice and at affordable cost (CRPD article 20); safe cities and settlements must ensure protection from violence (CRPD article 16); the environment and public transport must be accessible on an equal basis with others in urban and rural areas (CRPD article 9); participatory planning and management must be respected (CRPD article 4); articles 5, 6, 7, 11, 31 and 32 also apply</p>

The core articles of the CRPD and the SDGs are linked to each other as shown in table 1 above. However, despite this linkage, each CRPD article or SDG must be implemented as a whole as all of them form part of a complex and interconnected equation. Analysis of these 3 SDGs identified inter-linkages across targets

as well as the institutional framework and that their implementation requires both sectoral and inter-sectoral action if they are to succeed. The table 2 below shows the inter-linkages between the SDGs, their line sectors and their balance across the dimensions of Sustainable Development (SD).

Table 2: SDG interlinkages and balance across Sustainable development dimensions

SDG Goal/Target	Sector	SDG Potential linkages
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere		
Target 1.3	Social Development	Goal 2 (targets 2.1, 2.2); Goal 3 (target 3.8); Goal 10 (targets 10.2, 10.4); Goal 11 (target 11.1)
Target 1.4	Finance, Social Development	Goal 2 (targets 2.3, 2.5); Goal 3 (target 3.8); Goal 4 (target 4.3, 4.4, 4.5); Goal 5 (target 5.5); Goal 7 (target 7.1); Goal 8 (target 8.3, 8.10); Goal 9 (target 9.1, 9.3); Goal 10 (target 10.2, 10.4); Goal 15 (target 15.6)
Target 1.5	Environment, Lands Housing and Urban Development, Social Development	Goal 2 (target 2.4); Goal 4 (target 4.7); Goal 9 (target 9.1); Goal 11 (target 11.5, 11.b, 11.c); Goal 13 (target 13.1, 13.3); Goal 14 (target 14.2)
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture		
Target 2.1	Health, Agriculture	Goal 1 (target 1.5); Goal 8 (target 8.1); Goal 10 (target 10.1); Goal 12 (target 12.3)
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable		
Target 11.2	Works and Transport	Goal 1 (target 1.4); Goal 2 (target 2.1, 2.2); Goal 3 (target 3.6); Goal 5 (target 5.1); Goal 7 (target 7.2, 7.3); Goal 9 (target 9.1); Goal 10 (target 10.7)
Target 11.5	Environment	Goal 2 (target 2.1); Goal 4 (target 4.7); Goal 13 (target 13.1, 13.2)
Target 11.7	Environment, Urban Development	Goal 4 (target 4.7); Goal 5 (target 5.1); Goal 9 (target 9.1)

Awareness and appreciation of the inter-linkages provides opportunity for collaboration and is necessary for proper integration and implementation of the SDGs as it highlights the multidimensional and multi-sectoral nature of issues being addressed.

However, not all SDG targets specifically mention “persons with disabilities” or “persons in vulnerable situations”. A review of the 3 SDGs found that, “Persons with Disabilities” are specifically mentioned 2 times and “persons in vulnerable situations”, 5 times in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These SDG targets are also not balanced across the sustainable development dimensions. There seems to be a focus on the social dimension of development with regards to persons with disability.

5.0 Status of Implementation of the SDGs

5.1 Inclusion of Disability in the National Development Plan

The Government of Uganda has continuously shown its commitment to the inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. The Government's recognition and consideration of the unique needs of persons with disability in development has laid way for the localization of the disability inclusive SDGs and the provisions of the CRPD. The Government has taken effort to ensure reasonable accommodation through the development of disability friendly legislations and policies to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities; and apportioned financial resources to support the implementation of the different interventions aimed at achieving the SDGs.

The National Development Plan II is the major implementing framework for SDGs in Uganda. A review of the NDP reveals the considerable effort taken by Government to nationalize these goals. It is estimated that 69% of the SDGs targets are reflected in the National Development Plan and adapted to the national context. The NDP II commits to the following:

- I. By 2020, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- II. Design, implement and follow up the integration of human rights and disability responsive policies.
- III. To build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive, and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

It was noted that most targets are phrased as "for all". This could imply that targets will reach every Ugandan, including persons with disabilities. However, in the absence of specificity in the targets, puts persons with disabilities at risk of exclusion.

The localization of the SDGs has accordingly cascaded to sector and local government planning and implementation frameworks. The goals / objectives presented in the NDP II addressing the issues in the corresponding SDG goal / target were identified and this was taken as an indication of localization. Table 3 below shows the extent of domestication of the SDGs in the NDP II and in sector plans and polices.

Table 3: Domestication of the SDGs at sector level

Target	Sector	NDP II Goal / Objective	Related Sector Objective/Strategy
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere			
Target 1.3 – Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable	Social Development	Improve the resilience and productive capacity of the vulnerable persons for inclusive growth (Obj. 3, Social Dev., pg. 232)	Provision of social care and protection services to children and other vulnerable groups (SDSP strategic interventions, pg. 110)
Target 1.4 – By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance	Social Development	Reduce imbalances and improve access to opportunities for all (Obj. 8, Social Dev., pg. 233)	Promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups (SDSP strategic interventions, pg. 110)
	Lands, Housing and Urban Development	Improve equity in access to land, livelihood opportunities and tenure security of vulnerable groups (Obj. 8 – Lands & Housing., pg. 208)	Improve equity in access to land, livelihood opportunities and tenure security of vulnerable groups (LHUD SDP, pg. 70)
	Financial	Increase sustainable production, productivity & value addition in key growth opportunities (Obj. 1 – Strat. Direction., pg. 102)	Reduce financial exclusion and access barriers to financial services (Obj. 1 NFIS, pg. 21)
Target 1.5 – By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	Social Development	Improve the resilience and productive capacity of the vulnerable persons for inclusive growth (Obj. 3, Social Dev., pg. 232)	Provision of direct income support to vulnerable groups (SDSP strategic interventions, pg. 110)
	Environment	Increase the country’s resilience to the impacts of climate change (Obj. 5, Env. & Natural Resources, pg. 170)	To give special attention to the improvement of the resilience of vulnerable groups to climate change (National Climate Change Policy, pg. 28)

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture			
Target 2.1 – By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round	Agriculture	Increase agricultural production & productivity (Obj. 1 – Agric., pg. 158)	Ensure household & national food and nutrition security for all Ugandans (Obj. 1, National Agric. Policy, pg. 27)
	Health	To address the key determinants of health through strengthening inter-sectoral collaboration and partnerships (Obj. 3 – Health., pg. 193)	Reduce malnutrition levels among women of reproductive age, infants, and young children (Goal, Uganda Nutrition Action Plan I, pg. 16)
Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable			
Target 11.2 – By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons	Works and Transport	Develop adequate, reliable and efficient multi modal transport network in the country (Obj. 1 – Infrastructure Dev., pg. 180)	Develop adequate, reliable and efficient multi modal transport network in the country
	Kampala Capital City Authority	Improve Kampala Capital City physical infrastructure (Obj. 6, GKMA, pg. 213)	Improve public transport services (KCCA Stat. Plan, pg. 12)
Target 11.5 – By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor & people in vulnerable situations	Environment	Increase the country’s resilience to the impacts of climate change (Obj. 5, Env. & Natural Resources, pg. 170)	To ensure disaster mitigation and adequate preparedness for climate change-induced risks, hazards and disasters (National Climate Change Policy, pg. 27)
Target 11.7 – By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities	Lands, Housing and Urban Development	Operationalize the Physical Planning Act, 2010 to support orderly and sustainable development (Obj. 1 Phy. Planning Urban Dev., pg. 210)	Develop environmentally resilient cities in Uganda (LHUD SDP, pg. 70)
	Kampala Capital City Authority	Improve Kampala physical planning and development control (Obj. 9, GKMA, pg. 213)	Improve green spaces, heritage sites and community recreation centres (KCCA Stat. Plan, pg. 11)

5.2 SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

1 NO POVERTY



Disabled people in Uganda, like most developing countries, face extreme conditions of poverty, have limited opportunities in accessing education, health, suitable housing and employment opportunities this leaves them with limited options to livelihood except subsistence farming. Over the years, persons with disabilities who form a significant portion of the Uganda population (currently at 12.4%), were virtually excluded from training opportunities in the public education system limiting their opportunities to acquire needed skills through the relevant training programs. The 2014 census

estimates that the prevalence of disability is higher in urban areas (15%) compared to rural areas (12%). Persons with disabilities in urban areas are more likely to be poor. This highlights the need to understand the nature of poverty and social exclusion of persons with disabilities in urban areas, to complement the current focus on rural areas.

However, the government now recognizes that provision of quality education and training is central to the creation of a high-skill, knowledge and innovation-based economy for sustainable development to all her citizens regardless of gender, age and disabilities. The Uganda Vision 2040 identifies human capital development as one of the key fundamentals that need to be strengthened to accelerate the country's transformation and harnessing demographic dividend.

5.2.1 Legal and Policy Framework for SDG 1

Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995): recognizes the rights of persons with disabilities which is the basis for the enactment of inclusive policies and laws and affirmative action to address the imbalances that exist against persons with disabilities. The following sections make direct reference to the respect and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in the Constitution of Uganda (1995):

- I. Objective XI (I): "The State shall give the highest priority to the enactment of legislation establishing measures that protect and enhance the right of the people to equal opportunities in development."
- II. Objective XIV (b): "All Ugandans shall enjoy rights and opportunities and access to education, health services, clean and safe water, work, decent shelter, adequate clothing, food security and pension and retirement benefits."

Business, Technical, Vocational Education and Training (BTJET) Act, No. 12, 2008: promotes equitable access to education and training for all disadvantaged groups, including disabled people.

Employment Act (2006): the act outlaws any form of discrimination of persons in employment, based on disability.

Equal Opportunities Commission Act (2007): the act gives effect to the State's constitutional mandate to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons by providing for the composition and functions of the Equal Opportunities' Commission (EOC).

National Development Plan II: this is the key framework on poverty eradication in Uganda. The goal of this plan is to attain middle income

status by 2020 through strengthening the country's competitiveness for sustainable wealth creation, employment and inclusive growth. The NDP II is designed to propel Uganda towards middle income status by 2020, in line with the aspirations of Uganda's Vision 2040.

National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2017 – 2022): was developed by Bank of Uganda and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to provide direction for financial inclusion activities in Uganda.

The strategy's vision is, *"All Ugandans have access to and use a broad range of quality and affordable financial services which helps ensure their financial security."*

This primarily supports objectives one and two of the National Development Plan II⁵ and ultimately contributing to Uganda's envisioned attainment of a middle-income status by 2020.

The strategy defines, *"All Ugandans"* as *"all individuals age 15 or greater regardless of their religion, gender, ethnic group, rural or urban location or physical/mental ability."*

Other than recognizing financial exclusion among the disabled, there is no other mention of Persons with disabilities. However, there is a provision for an initiative to reform compulsory insurance products and social protection programs with the aim of increasing usage of insurance and coverage of vulnerable populations.

National Social Protection Policy (2015): aims at reducing poverty and socio-economic inequalities for inclusive development through the provision of comprehensive social

protection services that address risks and vulnerabilities.

Persons with Disabilities Act (2006): this act expanded the protection of persons with disabilities in a range of areas such as education, access to services, health and employment. It prohibits discrimination of any kind with regards to employment. Sections 19 and 20 of the Act require all employers to make their premises suitable for PWDs. Section 2 of the Disability Act provides a right to education, health and vocational rehabilitation.

Public Finance Management Act (2015): The PFMA includes robust planning, budgeting and accountability processes that are intended to promote stakeholder involvement and effective service delivery. It requires all MDAs to specify measures taken to equalize opportunities for women, men, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups in their plans and budgets. It gives the EOC the mandate to certify whether Budget Framework Papers are gender and equity compliant.

Special Needs and Inclusive Education Policy (2012): provides guidelines to all stakeholders to ensure that learners with special needs have equal education opportunities in Uganda.

Workers Compensation Act (2000): the Act entitles an employee to compensation for any personal injury from an accident arising in course of employment. This Act brought much needed relief to persons with disabilities who, depending on the nature of their job and disability, may be at higher risk of injury.

⁵ They include, Objective 1 - Increasing sustainable production, productivity and value addition in key growth opportunities; Objective 2 - Increasing the stock

and quality of strategic infrastructure to accelerate the country's competitiveness;

5.2.2 Institutional Framework for SDG 1

Social Development Sector: Disability is the overall responsibility of the Department of Disability and Older Persons at the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD). The Social Development Sector is responsible for mobilizing and empowering communities to harness their potential, while protecting the rights of vulnerable population groups. The Sector redresses imbalances to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons and also takes affirmative action in favor of the marginalized. The gist of the Ugandan Government's poverty reduction programs lies under this sector. It managed and disbursed grants for the disabled persons across the country; conducts registration of persons with disability, builds capacities of resource persons to promote functional skills among Persons with disabilities.

Education Sector: The education sector planning and implementation provides for the preparation of all children (including the disabled) to achieve academic goals at school and empower them by heightening their awareness of their rights and responsibilities, their abilities, and enhance their self-confidence to enable them to have future dignified lives free of poverty. Issues of disability are addressed with guidance from the Special Needs and Inclusive Education Department whose mission is,

“to coordinate and support the provision of Special Needs & Inclusive Education Services to meet the educational needs and rights of learners with special learning needs.”

this sector plays an important role in national skills and knowledge development. Furthermore, with guidance of the Strategic Plan on Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (BTVET), the education sector is addressing the critical skills gaps among Persons with disabilities that threatens to limit their productivity.

Equal Opportunities Commission: The commission was established in accordance with Article 32 (3) and (4) of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda. Its purpose is to actualize the state's constitutional mandate to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons on the ground of sex, age, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability; as well as to take affirmative action in favor of groups marginalized and vulnerable on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them; and to provide for other related matters.

National Council for Disability (NCD): In order to promote, protect, mainstream and monitor the rights of persons with disabilities, the National Council for Disability was established. The NCD exists to promote equalization of opportunities and realization of the rights of Persons with disabilities through rights advocacy, policy influence, research, disability coordination and networking, as well as monitoring and evaluation.

5.2.3 Status of Implementation of SDG 1

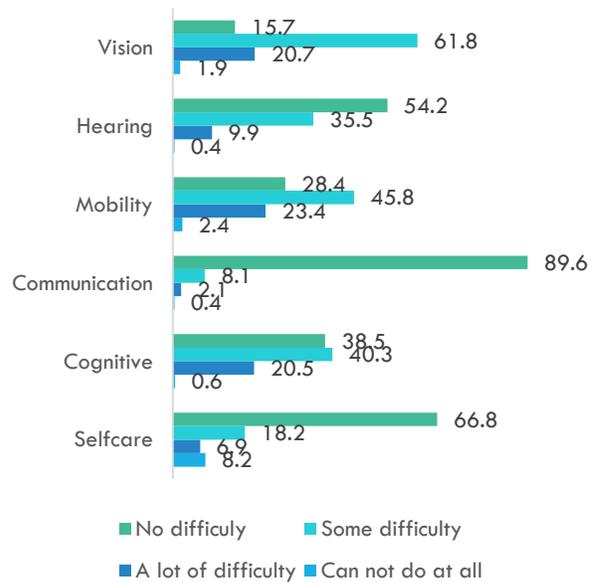
Uganda’s National Vision is “A Transformed Ugandan Society from a Peasant to a Modern and Prosperous Country within 30 years.” Working in the spirit of leaving no one behind, the Government has commenced implementation of a range of social protection and empowerment programs aimed at socio-economic transformation designed with special provisions for gender and equity thus ensuring that no one is left behind. Below is a review of the programs currently being implemented to boost the income levels and employability of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable persons:



Senior Citizen Grant (SCG): The grant was designed to reduce old age poverty by providing a minimum level of income⁶ to the elderly (65 years and above). It currently covers a total of 40 districts and is anticipated to cover 55 districts in total by 2020. By 2016, there were 125,000 beneficiaries with a large reduction in poverty registered. Over a 2-year period, the poverty rate of households receiving SCG fell from 49% to 33%, the poverty gap by 43% and poverty severity by 46%⁷. The SCG has also had an impact on food security and employment within communities. The proportion of beneficiary households experiencing little or no hunger grew from 45% to 62%. It’s noted that the benefits of the grant go beyond the elderly to other vulnerable groups such as persons with

disabilities. It is important to note that older persons are physically weak and often handicapped by other vulnerabilities including physical disability. A disability assessment of beneficiaries of the SCG found that 84% of beneficiaries had visual impairment; 54% had hearing difficulty; 72% had mobility difficulty; 10.6% had communication difficulty; 61.5% had cognitive difficulty, and 33.2% had self-care difficulty. Figure 1 below presents a disability breakdown of the beneficiaries of the SCG.

Figure 1: Disability assessment of beneficiaries of the SCG



⁶ The transfer is currently set at UGX 25,000 (US\$7.50) per month and is paid every 2 months

⁷ Uganda’s Senior Citizen’s Grant: A success story from the heart of Africa

The criteria for selecting beneficiaries of the grant is age-based (oldest 100 per sub-county) and does not take into consideration the varying levels of vulnerability among the older persons - especially the chronically poor, gender, disability and those with terminal illnesses among others. Furthermore, access to the assembly points is a challenge for many. An EOC audit found that 46% of the SAGE beneficiaries felt that assembly centres were very distant and hence not easily accessible.

Special Grant for PWDs: This program aims at improving socio-economic development and employment opportunities for Persons with disabilities through income generating activities. Funds are apportioned to Persons with disabilities through gender balanced groups of not more than 15 members who meet to set criteria. The grants are meant to support entrepreneurship and improve the livelihoods of persons with disabilities through employment creation and increased productivity in agricultural production; agro-processing; trade; micro-credit savings and loans associations; micro and small-scale industries; and any other viable income generating initiatives. Persons with disabilities access it through the office of the District Community Development Officer⁸.

It was noted that there was limited awareness of the grant's existence and hence its utilization. Despite this, the current funding for the grant is still meagre to cater for the overwhelming demand by Persons with disabilities' groups. If fully popularized, the demand for the grant is expected to significantly increase hence the need to revise its funds allocation, in consideration of the growing numbers of Persons with disabilities in

the country and the unique needs of each category of disability.

Furthermore, the current disbursement guidelines direct that the grant's funds be released to the districts under the vote for Community Based Services responsible for all social protection programs. The districts have been given the discretion of deciding how much is allocated to persons with disabilities yet disability is not a priority in these districts. This has hampered effective, and full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the program and is a barrier to achieving SDG 1.

The study found that the districts were not impartial in the selection of beneficiaries. The discretion given to the districts by the program is not the case with other social protection programs and has created grounds for exclusion of some Persons with disabilities, yet only when all forms of disability are catered for can the purpose of the grant be truly achieved.

It was also noted that the total fund budget allocation has remained at UGX 3 billion since the grants establishment in 2009, yet the number of Persons with disabilities in the country has increased hence increased demand and need for the grant.

Youth Livelihood Program (YLP): this is a Government rolling program responding to youth unemployment and poverty in the country through vocational skills development and livelihood support. The program targets unemployed and poor youth (18 to 30 years) and specifically mentions youth with disabilities as part of the youth categories to be supported. Support is delivered through Youth Interest Groups (YIG) of 10 – 15 members

⁸ As guided by the National Guidelines for the Utilization of the Special Grant for Persons with Disabilities (2010)

(with at least 30% being female). A review of the beneficiary selection process reveals potential grounds for exclusion of some categories of Persons with disabilities. The condition, “*are all the youth of sound minds and good character to be trusted with the funds?*” is likely to have or it has already had a negative implication on access to the program funds by some youth with disabilities. In light of the level of misconception, stigma and discrimination exhibited toward different categories of persons with disabilities in Uganda, they may be labeled as “unfit” or “unable” and may in this instance not be trusted with the funds.

The level of involvement of the targeted vulnerable and marginalized groups among the youths is poor. An EOC audit in 2017 found female participation at 46%, youth with disabilities (2.8%). A study by UNAPD⁹ identified lack of information as a key deterrent of youth with disabilities’ participation in the program. The program is demand driven yet many youths with disabilities are not aware of its special provisions for them. Furthermore, there have been inadequate efforts to establish mechanisms that ensure youth with disabilities’ participation in the program.

There are also varying levels of access to the funds between the urban and rural youth. Youth located in urban areas / trading centers were found to have higher access to the YLP funds, yet majority of the Persons with disabilities in Uganda live in rural areas.

Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme (UWEP): the program has eased access to financial services for women without

collateral security which has helped improve their livelihoods.

According to the Annual Report on The State of Equal Opportunities in Uganda FY 2016/17, by August 2017, only 72 districts and 22 municipalities were accessing the fund to directly support women’s projects, leaving 44 districts and 19 municipalities not receiving the funds. It was also noted that there is a very high demand for the funds and yet the resource allocation is meagre and as a result, the program has only been able to fund a portion of the groups that have applied.

The UWEP guidelines are not favorable to women with disabilities. The requirement that beneficiaries under a women group must be bona fide residents of a particular village is unrealistic given that it is difficult to have a village with the required number of women with disabilities. This leaves them with one option of joining mainstream groups where many of them are unlikely to have a voice.



⁹ A study on access to development programs by Persons With Disability by Uganda National Action of Physical Disability (UNAPD)

Additionally, there is no disaggregated data showing levels of access to the program funds by the targeted beneficiaries.

Financial Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities: The Government launched the National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2017 – 2022) whose vision is, “*all Ugandans have access to, and use, a broad range of quality and affordable financial services.*” The strategy recognizes financial exclusion among Persons with disabilities but does not clearly state it will be specifically addressed.

However, Uganda has made great strides in ensuring access to financial services for persons with disabilities. Many financial institutions have lowered tills in the banking halls and constructed access ramps. Social welfare policies do not discourage or penalize Persons with disabilities from using financial services. Some health insurance companies, though, consider age to determine premiums, but not disability.

Educating Persons with Disabilities: The Ministry of Education, Science Technology and Sports works to ensure equal access by Gender, District and Special Needs at all levels of Education. The Department of Special Needs and Inclusive Education developed the draft Special Needs Education Policy (first Draft 2010) which seeks to provide a regulatory framework for coordinating, financing and regulating the provision of Special Needs education on the principles of Respect and care; equal opportunities for all; self-reliance and good quality of life for all. However, the policy is yet to be passed by parliament. Despite the lack of policy, all government programs for promoting education

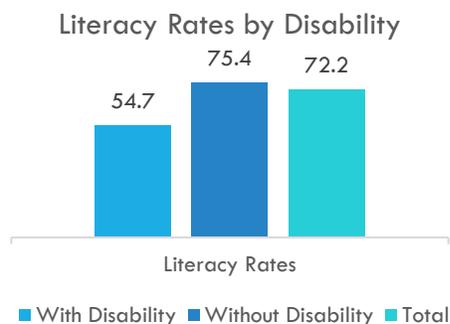
at all levels are all embedded with affirmative action for learners with disabilities. For example, the Universal Primary Education (UPE) policy gives priority to children with disability and their inclusion in schools.

In 2016, there were a total of 178,450 Special needs children enrolled in the primary schools. Of these, 94,158 (52.8%) are males. In regard to category of impairment, hearing, mental, visual and physical impairments constitute higher percentages (i.e. 27.3 %, 23.2%, 25.2% and 18.2% respectively) than the other impairments. In secondary schools for the same year were a total of 8494 special needs students (4479 male and 4015 female) enrolled in 2016.

Visual, physical and hearing impairments constituted higher percentages (i.e. 44.5%, 27.1% and 21.9% respectively)¹⁰. There are generally less girls than boys with special needs accessing education.

Literacy is important across multiple life domains, particularly for persons with disabilities. A review of the 2016 census report as shown in figure 4.4 below revealed that among the persons with disabilities, 54.7% are literate and among persons without disabilities 75% are literate.

¹⁰ Education Abstract 2016. The education abstract is a statistical report detailing the findings of the Annual School Census 2016



In FY 2015/2016, the Ministry trained 80 education managers (i.e. Coordinating Centre Tutors (CCTs), inspector of schools and District Education Officers (DEOs)) from Primary Teachers' Colleges (PTCs) situated in the central region and 65 teachers from Mbale and Wakiso Schools for the Deaf in basic sign language; it also distributed braille embossers to 5 schools, braille papers to 50 schools supporting visually impaired students and assorted braille materials to Mbale School for the deaf¹¹. In FY 2016/2017, a total of 32 Perkins Braille Machines; 150 Cartons of braille paper; and 114 braille kits for learners with visual impairment were procured for various primary schools throughout the country¹².

Infrastructure designs were reviewed to take care of students with Special needs. This is evident with the new constructions of school facilities (classrooms have ramps, pit latrines have at least a stance for SNE learners).

The sector continues to transfer subvention grants to 100 special schools/units supporting learners with special needs and 5000 learners benefitted in FY 2015/16 and 2016/17 each. The number of schools receiving this grant was increased to 200 for FY 2018/19 and is planned to be increased to 300 in FY 2019/20.

It also continues admission of students with disabilities to public universities where 64 students are given Government sponsorship. Additionally, in FY 2016/17, 3 students out of 5 who applied benefitted from the student's loan scheme under the Special Needs Education (SNE) discipline. This has boosted the education of persons with disabilities in the higher institutions of learning.

Despite the demonstrated commitment and effort by the education sector to support special needs education, it has been found that the implementation of the Persons with Disabilities' friendly policies and laws in the education sector like many other sectors are not fully supported by the required technical, human, financial and physical resources. There are inadequate special needs teachers in the country. The Special Needs Sub-Sector budget allocation when compared to the entire Education Sector budget, has from 2016/17 to 2017/18, received only 0.15 percent. In FY 2017/18, it was allocated 3.494bn, FY 2018/19 budget projection is 3.315bn a slight drop of 0.179bn is realized. These allocations are not anywhere close to a minimum of 10% of the entire sector budget as stipulated in the Persons with Disability Act (2006). It was also noted



¹¹ The Education and Sports Sector Annual Performance Report Financial Year 2015/2016

¹² The Education and Sports Sector Annual Performance Report Financial Year 2016/2017

that there is a stagnant number of schools that will be provided with specialized equipment at 40 schools between FY 2018/19 -2020/21. The inadequate funding to SNE deprives children with special needs of their right to education, and consequently increasing their susceptibility to poverty.

Employment of Persons with Disabilities:

The Government provides a 2% tax deduction for private employers of Persons with disabilities for income tax purposes if 5% of their employees on full time basis are persons with disabilities.

Skilling of Persons with Disabilities: Persons with disabilities face critical skills gaps that threaten their productivity and ability to raise income. Persons with disabilities access to employment is undermined by their limited skills and low education levels. The Government through the Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (BTVET) is addressing these skill shortages.

It's working to provide equitable access to skills development and more specifically to equip persons with disabilities with employable skills to promote their access to employment¹³. There are currently 6 vocational training centers spread in different parts of Uganda. However, several studies have persistently pointed out that these programs are limited in scope and no longer meet current market employable skills requirements.

The projected total enrolment per year in formal BTVET has increased from 64,052 students in 2014 to 93,779 in 2017. The National Census (2014)¹⁴ found tertiary completion rates for persons without a disability were higher than for the persons with a disability. Analysis by gender showed that the completion rates for males (7.9%) were higher than for the females (6.5%) among persons with disability. Disparity between urban and rural areas was also clear; the net completion rate for urban population with a disability aged 22-25years was higher than for the population in the rural areas as shown in table 4 below.

Table 4: Tertiary completion rates by selected characteristics disaggregated by disability

	Disabled		Not Disabled	
	Did not complete tertiary	Completed tertiary	Did not complete tertiary	Completed tertiary
Sex				
Male	92.1	7.9	88.4	11.6
Female	93.5	6.5	88.9	11.1
Residence				
Urban	85.3	14.7	80.8	19.2
Rural	95.1	4.9	92.7	7.3

¹³ This is provided for in the Skilling Uganda - BTVET Strategic Plan 2012/3-2021/2, Objective 3 – specifically under strategy 5 of enhancing access of disadvantaged target groups to skills development

¹⁴ Uganda Bureau of Statistics 2017, The National Population and Housing Census 2014 – Education in the Thematic Report Series, Kampala, Uganda.

5.2.4 Challenges in the Implementation of SDG 1

Although the Government has made great strides in the socio-transformation of vulnerable people through its social protection programs, there are still significant implementation gaps that make them ineffective in addressing Persons with disabilities inclusion.

- I. There is limited access to information on the social protection programs which has limited the participation of persons with disabilities and has subjected them to more discrimination and marginalization.
- II. Low budget allocation for the special grant for persons with disabilities. The grant's allocation does not factor in the increasing number of persons with disabilities and as a result has stagnated at UGX 3 billion since 2009.
- III. Unfavorable disbursement guidelines for the special grant for persons with disabilities. The sharing of the funds through the community based services department has caused grounds for exclusion.
- IV. The social protection programs are limited in scope and no longer fully meet current needs of persons with disabilities and more specifically, the unique needs of each form of disability. Some persons with disabilities are being left behind mostly as a result of the limiting eligibility criteria.
- V. Despite the strong policy backing on inclusive education for learners with special needs, there is limited evidence to demonstrate adequacy in terms of facilitation and programming to propel learners with special needs to the next level.
- VI. Persons with Disabilities are largely uneducated which makes attracting skilled labour in an overly competitive jobs market very difficult. The lack of relevant skills and education has been the stumbling block to improving the lives of persons with disabilities.

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

2 ZERO HUNGER



Hunger is one of the negative forces that tend to exclude Persons with disabilities from participating in development programs. Malnutrition on the other hand seems to be among the most common causes of disabilities. It stops millions of people from attaining their full physical and intellectual potential, prevents many from participating in development and hence the need to address. Its determinants and outcomes especially among the disabled persons must be attended to. Agriculture employs the bulk of the Ugandan labor force.

Majority of the peasants in the country are marginalized or vulnerable persons and remain subsistence-oriented, using few intermediary inputs and rudimentary technology to produce low-value crops yet we know agriculture has the potential in poverty reduction among the Persons with disabilities hence the need to prioritize.

5.3.1 Legal and Policy Framework for SDG 2

National Agricultural Policy (2015): the policy through its Objective 1 aims at ensuring household and national food and nutrition security for all Ugandans. The policy recognizes the special needs of vulnerable and marginalized persons and in section 4.17 on Vulnerability, MAAIF commits to developing plans and interventions that are inclusive of the needs of vulnerable groups.

National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) Act (2001): section 5(d) provides for "*creation of options for financing and delivery of agricultural advice for the different types of farmers but with emphasis on subsistence farmers particularly women, youth and persons with disabilities (Persons with disabilities)*".

National Agricultural Extension Policy (2016): the policy mission is to, "*promote access for all farmers and other value chain actors to appropriate information, knowledge and technological innovations for increased agricultural productivity.*" It calls for the targeting of youth, women and other vulnerable groups.

National Agricultural Extension Strategy (2016 – 2021): this was developed to operationalize the National Agricultural Extension Policy. Objective 2 of the strategy calls for the empowerment of farmers and other value chain actors (youth, women and other vulnerable groups) to effectively participate and benefit equitably from agricultural extension processes and demand for services.

Uganda National Food and Nutrition Policy (2003): aims to promote the nutritional status of all people of Uganda through multi-sectoral and coordinated interventions that focus on

food security, improved nutrition and increased incomes.

Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (UNAP): to operationalize the Uganda National Food and Nutrition Policy, the Government adopted the UNAP I (2011 – 2016). The plan represents commitment by Government to improve nutrition status for all Ugandans with special focus on women of reproductive age, infants and young children. More specifically, the plan looks to protect households from the impact of shocks and other vulnerabilities that affect their nutritional status. However, there are no specific provisions for Persons with disabilities. The UNAP I is currently under review and thus providing an opportunity for advocating for the greater inclusion of Persons with disabilities in the national response to malnutrition.

National Nutrition Planning Guidelines for Uganda: these guidelines seek to operationalize nutrition provisions of the Uganda Vision 2040, the global obligations in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (UNAP), and other planning frameworks by providing practical guidance to integrate nutrition into the development plans of all relevant sectors and all local governments. The guidelines emphasize the recognition of the human right to adequate food and the focus on vulnerable groups and call for the identification of vulnerable groups for appropriate targeting with appropriate interventions.

Uganda School Health Policy: the policy is in final stages of approval. It aims to enhance the quality of health in school communities in order to promote education for all.

The policy calls for the use of a rights based approach to providing health and education services and the provision of a conducive, fully accessible and inclusive environment for all learners including Persons with disabilities and other Special Health Needs (SHNs). However, its interventions for disability are limited to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) only, there are no specific provisions for nutrition and counseling, psychological and social services, yet they are crucial for the successful completion of school for children with disabilities.

Guidelines on School Feeding and Nutrition Intervention Program: the guidelines provide the main policy and sector position on School Feeding and Nutrition Education. The guidelines urge the provision of appropriate nutritional care and support to vulnerable children. They were designed to be used under the Universal Primary Education (UPE), Universal Post Primary Education and Training (UPPET) school systems.

5.3.2 Institutional Framework for SDG 2

Agricultural Sector: The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF) is responsible for creating an enabling environment in the Agricultural Sector by enhancing production, improving food and nutrition security, widening export base and improving incomes of farmers.

National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS): The NAADS Act (2001) Section 5(d) provides for "*creation of options for financing and delivery of agricultural advice for the different types of farmers but with emphasis on subsistence farmers particularly women, youth and persons with disabilities (Persons with disabilities)*". In fulfillment of this mandate and in response to the agenda 2030, NDP II and Vision 2040, NAADS has prioritized Women, Youth and Persons with disabilities with the aim of developing and empowering them to the point that they can comfortably contribute to the National

economy. The service has a Youth, Women & Persons with Disabilities (YWDs) department mandated to increase participation and involvement of Youth, Women and Persons with Disabilities and other marginalized groups in NAADS activities.

Health Sector: The Ministry of Health has a Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Section responsible for developing policies and guidelines for reducing the incidence of disability, providing rehabilitation and promoting access to health services by Persons with disabilities.

Office of the Prime Minister (OPM): the Nutrition Secretariat at the OPM coordinates nutrition policies and activities at national level, whereas at the district level, the District Nutrition Coordination Committees (DNCCs) play an integral role in coordinating nutrition activities.

5.3.3 Status of Implementation of SDG 2



Operation Wealth Creation (OWC): The program aims at enhancing household participation in commercial agricultural production through community mobilization, equitable and timely distribution of agricultural inputs, and facilitation of agricultural production chains. It was designed to benefit every farmer in Uganda with special focus on the marginalized persons. An audit on the state of equal opportunities in the implementation of the OWC¹⁵ conducted in 2016 revealed that majority of the people (89%) were aware of the program and 59% of the Persons with disabilities respondents interviewed had benefited from the inputs of OWC Program. Misinformation on how to access the program is a major reason for limited access by persons with disabilities to the program funds.

Deficiencies, however, were revealed in the input distribution process and consideration of the marginalized. Distribution of small quantities of inputs by the OWC secretariat has contributed to the discrimination rate of 3.8% towards disability reported by the audit.

Disability Inclusive Health Programs: The health sector is promoting a human rights approach to health service delivery, paying special attention to certain categories of the population such as pregnant mothers, the elderly, children, persons with disabilities among others. The Ministry of Health contributes mainly to objective 1 of the UNAP I, “*Improve access to and utilization of services related to maternal, infant, and young child nutrition*”, thus working mostly works towards nutrition health rehabilitation and nutrition counseling for better health. The ministry also has an active Nutrition Thematic Working Group that meets on a quarterly basis. The Government is also enforcing universal building designs to ensure accessibility of health facilities and public health information.

sector reveals limited consideration of the nutrition needs of persons with disabilities. The focus of UNAP I was on infants, young children, and mothers, both women of reproductive age and adolescent girls. The provisions for vulnerable persons in the National Nutrition Planning Guidelines for Uganda are quite broad. There is need for specific consideration of the nutrition needs of Persons with disabilities who fall under the UNAP target population. The ongoing review of UNAP I and development of UNAP II (2018-2022) by the Office of the Prime Minister provides an opportunity for inclusion of Persons with disabilities issues in the national nutrition response frameworks.

A review of the current nutrition policies, guidelines and interventions in the health

¹⁵ Was conducted by the Equal Opportunities Commission in a total of 15 districts across the country with a total of 870 respondents

Feeding School Children: MOES has developed and is implementing a strategy to address school feeding and nutrition for school going children. The Strategy includes continuous sensitization of parents about their role in feeding children and providing school uniforms. The National Technical Working Group on Parent/Guardian Led School feeding was established and has a work plan to guide the fulfilment of their mandate.

Integration nutrition education into the curricula: MOES has been promoting the integration of nutrition modules into curricular of health training institutions. It has also requested universities to develop short-tailored programs in nutrition to support skilling Uganda. In response, Mulago Tutors College integrated modules in nutrition and anemia prevention and control; and Bukalasa University established a Diploma program in Human Nutrition and Dietetics.

5.3.4 Challenges in the Implementation of SDG 2

- I. Inadequate statistics with respect to the involvement and participation of Persons with disabilities in the agriculture sector.
- II. Heavy reliance of Persons with disabilities on subsistence farming
- III. Lack of specialized agricultural technologies for the Persons with disabilities
- IV. The effective and sustainable implementation of nutrition interventions requires multi-sectoral,

multi-stakeholder interdisciplinary actions. However, this is being hindered by weak accountability and enforcement mechanisms and the lack of integration of School nutrition data in Health Information System amongst others.

- V. The Government's efforts to ensure access to health by persons with disabilities have been hampered by inaccessible health facilities, inadequate translation of public health information into accessible formats, limited human resource for addressing specific health needs of persons with disabilities and limited funds to meet their health needs.

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

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Urbanization is currently one of the most important global trends of the 21st century. About 6.25 billion people, (15% of them with disabilities), are predicted to be living in urban centres by 2050¹⁶. Despite efforts to establish a conducive environment for participation of persons with different disabilities in all spheres of life, they still face difficulties when accessing the built-up environment. Most public roads, markets, shopping malls, schools, banks, courts, hospitals, places of worship, sports facilities, places of employment, cultural sites and other business and public buildings do not meet the basic accessibility standards which affect universal access and equal

enjoyment of the various services.

These accessibility limitations contribute greatly to the disadvantage and marginalization faced by persons with disabilities, leading to, deprivation and exclusion of Persons with disabilities. Below are the institutional frameworks on the physical accessibility to built-up environment; Governments interventions to ensure a safe environment; and the challenges faced while addressing these issues.

5.4.1 Legal and Policy Framework for SDG 11

Accessibility Standards: these set accessibility requirements that apply to the physical environment. The standards aim at improving equal access for persons with disabilities, in order to enable them to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life. More specifically, they provide a blueprint for creating an accessible physical environment; and a tool for measurement and auditing of accessibility of the environment.

Building Control Act (2013): it is an act to consolidate, harmonize and amend the law relating to the erection of buildings; to provide for building standards; to establish a National Building Review Board and Building Committees with Persons with disabilities' representation; to promote and ensure planned, decent and safe building structures that are

developed in harmony with the environment cater for Persons with disabilities.

The act defines accessibility standards as, “*a practical guide to create a barrier-free physical environment in Uganda for all persons including persons with disabilities*”. It calls for the representation of persons with disabilities in building committees at all levels. It also gives the building committees powers to stop building operations if they do not conform to the accessibility standards.

Guidelines for Mainstreaming Gender into the Road Sub-Sector: these guidelines introduce working tools and methods which are integral to and will guide the sub-sector to mainstream gender and promote affirmative action during policy formulation, planning,

¹⁶ The World Urbanization Prospects (2014). United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

project preparation studies, procurement, supervision as well as monitoring.

National Climate Change Policy (2015): the policy recognizes that climate change disproportionately affects poor and marginalized groups including Persons with disabilities. And as a result, gives special attention to the improvement of the resilience of vulnerable groups to climate change as a strategy to achieve its overall goal¹⁷.

National Land Use Policy (2008): aims at achieving sustainable and equitable socio-economic development through optimal land management and utilization in Uganda.

National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management: the overall policy goal is to reduce vulnerability levels, risk mitigation, disaster prevention, preparedness, effective response and recovery in a manner that integrates disaster risk management with development planning and programming. The policy also calls for the involvement of women, the youth and persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness and management.

National Urban Policy: the policy's vision is a productive, organized, and resilient urban areas, and the goal is to promote livable urban areas that are organized, inclusive, productive and sustainable. Amongst others, it aims at:

- I. Promoting integrated transport systems for urban areas whose planning takes into consideration the special needs of women, children and persons with disabilities.
- II. Promoting the inclusion of the needs of the vulnerable and marginalized groups

in planning and programming of urban services.

- III. Promoting the provision of adequate, accessible and affordable social services and amenities in urban areas.

It also calls for the promotion of the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety with special attention to the needs of women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and those in vulnerable situations.

Physical Planning Act (2010): the act provides for the establishment of a National Physical Planning Board, its composition, functions and procedure. It also provides for the establishment of district and urban physical planning committees; the making and approval of physical development plans and for the applications for development permission.

National Physical Planning Guidelines and Standards (2011): these guide the preparation and implementation of physical development plans, with the basic aim of ensuring orderly, coordinated and efficient development.

Non-Motorized Transport Policy (2012): the policy's mission is that, "*walking and bicycling are healthy, sustainable, economical and non-polluting means of transport.*" It calls for the development and adoption by all agencies of universal design standards that provide for access to all sectors of the community.

Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy (2017/18 –2029/30): aims to ensure that the goals of the Uganda Vision 2040 and the NDP II 2015/16-2019/20 are attained in a sustainable manner. In relation to SDG 11, the strategy focuses on planned urbanization and development of green cities; and sustainable

¹⁷ The goal of the National Climate Change Policy is to ensure a harmonised and coordinated approach

towards a climate resilient and low-carbon development path for sustainable development in Uganda.

transport with a concentration on multi-modal and mass transport systems for urban areas and development.

Uganda Traffic and Road Safety Act (1998): Section 132 (paragraph O) of the Uganda Traffic and Safety Act provides for provisions

to ensure adequate safety for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers who are disabled and the provision of track or ramp for vehicles of conveyance operated by people with disabilities. 10 In the Act, there is a provision that ‘no person shall be denied a driving permit by reason of disability’.

5.4.2 Institutional Framework for SDG 11

Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA): This Authority is the governing body of the Capital City of Uganda. It has the Directorate of Gender and Community Services and Production whose mandate is to empower and facilitate communities, particularly the vulnerable groups, to realize and harness their potential for purposeful and sustainable development.

Lands, Housing and Urban Development Sector: This sector is very critical in ensuring access to adequate standards of living and housing for Persons with disabilities and their families. It also promotes transparent rights of land ownership and improved tenure for all categories of land ownership. It appreciates the need for special intervention to enable Persons with disabilities access adequate housing. Among the sector strategies is developing housing for vulnerable groups and improving equity in access to land, livelihood opportunities and tenure security of vulnerable groups¹⁸.

Office of the Prime Minister: The Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management in OPM is the lead agency responsible for disaster preparedness and

management. It coordinates risk reduction, prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response actions in the country in consultation with other line ministries, humanitarian and development partners, Local Governments and the Private Sector.

Water and Environment Sector: Water and the environment are central in contributing to the achievements of NDP II goals, most especially the goal on Sustainable Production, Productivity and Value Addition in Key Growth Opportunities.

Works and Transport Sector: The sector strives to promote adequate, safe and well-maintained Works and Transport Infrastructure and Services for the Social Economic Development of Uganda. It is critical in ensuring accessibility to physical environment and transportation on an equal basis as provided for in article 9 of the CRPD. The sector is committed to the integration of crosscutting issues including Gender, HIV/AIDS, Occupational Health and Safety and Disability in its activities¹⁹. This mandate falls under the department of Construction Standards and quality assurance of the Ministry of Works and Transport.

¹⁸ Lands, housing and urban development sector development plan (SDP) 2015/16 – 2019/20. Page 112.

¹⁹ MoWT Strategic Plan - 2011/12 - 2015/16. Sector commitments. Page 93.

5.4.3 Status of Implementation of SDG 11

TARGET 11-2



AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

The Works and Transport Sector has made great strides in the inclusion of social development issues in the general specifications for roads and bridges works. The Works and Transport Sector Development Plan (2015/16 – 2019/20) recommends detailed

measures to be adopted by contractors in addressing the concerns of Persons with disabilities and older persons during implementation of road works. It has also conducted a review of road designs, tenders and contract documents to include aspects of vulnerable people including Persons with disabilities, older persons, children and women. In a bid to promote human rights and democracy, the sector has prioritized the address of the issue of limited means of transport for the vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children and Persons with disabilities.

The Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) in its principle C²⁰ is required to ensure that its operations are designed for the delivery of the best service to its customers, while maintaining a high degree of responsiveness to their needs. However, road design is typically not responsive to gender and equity concerns. The needs of the Persons with disabilities are not adequately taken into consideration during construction of infrastructure.

²⁰ Uganda National Roads Authority Act, 2006 “Article 3 Principles”

The Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management at the OPM conducts risk, hazard, vulnerability disaster assessment and mapping. The Water Resources Monitoring and Assessment Department of the Ministry of Water and Environment’s (MWE) conducts constant monitoring of water resources to predict and prevent floods. MWE is committed to adopting a gender-sensitive and gender-equitable approach for all its projects.

TARGET 11-5



REDUCE THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS

A review of the Ugandan disaster and climate risk environment revealed that most disaster risk management activities do not adequately involve and benefit women and other vulnerable groups²¹.

For instance, the provision of relief items to communities has been found to be inadequate and their effective distribution to vulnerable groups hampered by nepotism and corruption by Local Government staff. The relief items provided do not meet the practical needs of persons with disabilities affected by hazards.

The launch of the National Accessibility Standards by the Government in 2010 has contributed significantly to the creation of accessible environment in Uganda, including; influencing the establishment and commissioning of the nine (9) member

²¹ Gender and Vulnerability to Disasters and Disaster/Climate Risk Management in Uganda: A Participatory Characterisation

National Accessibility Audit Team (NAAT)²² to assess public buildings and facilities for accessibility at national level. The Uganda National Action on Physical Disability (UNAPD) is in the process of establishing District Accessibility Audit Teams (DAAT) in the 40 districts and these are mandated to do the NAAT work but at the district level.



The Government has made effort to ensure reasonable accommodation through modification of new public building designs to ensure easy access by persons with disabilities. The operationalization of the Building Control Act (2013) provides

renewed hope in ensuring that all future

building programs meet accessibility standards. The law provides for the establishment of National Building Review Board, District Building Committees and Building Control Officer, all of which are possible entry points for disability inclusion in the Housing Sub-sector.

The Ministry of Education and Sports has adopted the standards in construction of national level school projects. This practice has also been adopted by Local Governments as well in the awarding of tenders for the construction of public buildings. A number of Local Governments have rumps in public schools and health centres.

The Ministry of Information and Communications Technology (MoICT) developed the ICT for Disability Policy (2017) with the aim of reducing the marginalization of Persons with disabilities and creating equal opportunities for them. However, the policy is still a draft.

5.4.4 Challenges in the Implementation of SDG 11

An audit exercise to establish the level of accessibility to public buildings by Persons with Disabilities in Uganda²³, revealed very poor accessibility rates for key public building in Kampala. KCCA City Hall was rated at 48.3%; Kirudi Hospital (60.2%), Kampala High Court Building (26.8%) and Parliament of the Republic of Uganda (62.4%). It's important that all institutions at the forefront of service delivery both in the public and private sector realize the importance of having provisions to allow for accessibility of all persons including Persons with disabilities to

enhance their participation and benefit from service delivery. The following are key challenges identified that could be affecting disability inclusive implementation of Goal 11.

- I. Inadequate institutional mechanisms to promote gender and equity especially Persons with disabilities' issues such as disability friendly policies, capacity development, resource allocation for Persons with disabilities' related interventions and reporting on sector gender and equity performance.

²² NAAT comprises nine members who represent Disabled Peoples Organizations and key government ministries including; UNAPD, NUDIPIU, COMBRA, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Gender Labour and Social

Development and organisation representing the deaf, blind, spinal injuries and the little people.
²³ The EOC physical accessibility report (2017)

- II. Inadequate consideration of the needs of women, Persons with disabilities, the older persons and children during infrastructure / engineering designs and construction; and in land acquisition, compensation and resettlement.
- III. Low compliance to existing laws, regulations and guidelines by the public which marginalizes persons with disabilities in society.

Global Disability Summit (2018)

In July 2018, the Government of Uganda made commitments to enhance disability inclusion around 4 core themes tackling stigma and discrimination against persons with disability; routes to economic empowerment of persons with disabilities; inclusion in education and harnessing technology and innovation. Amongst others, the commitments include to:

- I. Turn the commitments into change; in long-term plans that will be financed, implemented and periodically reviewed.
- II. Promote the leadership and diverse representation of all persons with disabilities. this includes the active involvement and close consultation of persons with disabilities of all ages
- III. Enact and approve important laws and policies which will further disability inclusion.
- IV. Progress and support actions that advance inclusive quality education for people with disabilities, with the necessary resources to support its implementation.
- V. Open up routes to economic empowerment and financial inclusion for persons with disabilities.
- VI. Make humanitarian action fully inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities.
- VII. Gather and use better data and evidence to understand and address the scale and nature of challenges faced by persons with disabilities.

The Charter for Change, the official document of the summit will help ensure a global consensus to address this long neglected issue and support the rights of persons with disabilities around the world.

6.0 Inclusive Planning and Budgeting in Uganda

To ensure inclusion-oriented support services and social protection for persons with disabilities, it is important for the development agenda and actors to recognize disability and its related financing needs. The Public Finance Management Act (2015) and the Equal Opportunities Act (2007) require that all public institutions take into consideration balanced development, gender and equity responsiveness specifying the measures taken to equalize opportunities for men, women, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups. Furthermore, the National Policy on Disability (2006) demands that all Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) mainstream disability in all their activities.

The National Planning Authority (NPA) developed the National Disability Inclusive Planning Guidelines (2017) to provide direction for planning, budgeting and monitoring of harmonized disability interventions in Uganda for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). These guidelines were prepared to facilitate inclusion of disability as a cross-cutting issue in Sector and Local Government plans and they respond to the need for comprehensive multi-sectoral guidance for those involved in planning at various levels. As a result of these guidelines, all sectors at national and local Government levels now must address disability in their development plans.

6.1 Sector Specific Compliance Level to Gender and Equity Concerns

For inclusive development to be achieved, specific funding dedicated to Persons with disabilities must be integrated into various government development programs. Affirmative actions for Persons with disabilities must be supported by public resources. Funding dedicated to persons with disabilities is integrated into various government development programs for inclusive development. The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) conducts assessments of sector Budget Framework

Papers (BFPs) and Ministerial Policy Statements (MPS) to determine their compliance with national gender and equity requirements. The assessments focus on sector's contribution to inclusive growth, highlights of key performance issues with respect to gender and equity, highlight of past performance, medium term plans, sector allocations and medium-term challenges. Table 5 below shows the levels of gender and equity compliance among different sectors.

Table 5: Sector Compliance to Gender and Equity Compliance

Sector	Financial Year	
	2016/2017	2017/2018
Agriculture	54%	51%
Water and Environment	40%	64%
Health	66%	72%
Lands, Housing and Urban Development	45%	71%
Social Development	94%	88%
Works and Transport	61%	50%
ICT	49%	59%
Education	64%	64%
National Average	57%	60%

Source: Gender and Equity Compliance in Planning and Budgeting Fact Sheet for FY 2017/2018

The overall national compliance to Gender and equity (G&E) requirements for the FY 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 was 57% and 60% respectively. The performance areas whose compliance was below 50% in FY 2016/2017 include; utilization of funds on G&E (41%) and reflection of G&E outcomes (47%).

An assessment of the Ministerial Policy Statements for FY 2018/2019 revealed that commitment and reporting are more inclined to location (82%) followed by gender (58%). Majority of the votes still have challenges in ensuring that their respective plans and budgets equally target children, older persons and persons with disabilities as shown in table 6 below.

Table 6: Overall Compliance of the 2018/2019 MPSs with gender and equity selected dimensions

Sector	Gender	Children	Youth	Older Persons	PWD	Location
Agriculture	69%	18%	99%	16%	18%	86%
Water and Environment	64%	30%	60%	5%	29%	81%
Health	66%	59%	50%	22%	21%	82%
Lands, Housing and Urban Development	75%	27%	30%	27%	26%	85%
Social Development	87%	59%	93%	100%	91%	85%
Works and Transport	60%	48%	70%	33%	12%	94%
ICT	37%	50%	50%	50%	62%	94%
Education	49%	18%	53%	0%	45%	83%
National Average	58%	33%	56%	20%	25%	82%

Source: EOC MPS G&E Assessment FY 2018/2019

6.2 Challenges in achieving Inclusive Planning and Budgeting

- I. It is evidently clear that the Government is committed to inclusive development. The difference in compliance to gender and equity requirements shown in table 4 above is indicative of the difference challenges each sector faces in their efforts to achieve inclusion. However, the major issue highlighted in the reviews was the need for better and more reliable data on disability in order to support adequate planning and budgeting.
- II. A discrepancy also exists between budget allocation and release towards

implementation of the gender and equity activities. The allocations are meager in comparison to the planned interventions and outputs. Some activities are not allocated any funds at all thus slowing progress towards its implementation. In some instances, human resource and capacity in gender and equity budgeting, planning and programming may be inadequate.

- III. It is critical that these issues are addressed if Uganda is to realize inclusive growth. The sectors should therefore identify more gender and equity issues that may hinder access, participation and benefit of services and allocate sufficient resources to address these concerns.

7.0 Inclusion of Disability in SDG Monitoring and Reporting

According to the findings, it is clear that there had been significant efforts to monitor the implementation of the SDGs, including the development of statistical capacity, the identification of suitable national indicators, and the establishment of reporting and monitoring mechanisms. According to the findings, reporting on SDGs is integral part of national reporting, as reflected in the Government Annual Performance Report

(GAPR) produced by the OPM. Furthermore, the SDGs are aligned to sector and local level reporting. In addition to this, a separate yearly National SDG Report is produced to Cabinet and Parliament under the SDG Coordination Framework.

However, the lack of consideration of disability and disability indicators in Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks and mechanisms was evident. Majority of the government programs, policies and institutional frameworks reviewed did not have well-articulated Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks to monitor disability inclusion. And as result, there is a gross lack of reliable data on disability in Uganda.

allocation of resources for the implementation of the legal and policy frameworks. Table 7 below provides a summary of the assessment conducted identifying gaps in the efforts to include disability in the various legal and policy frameworks reviewed.

The National Council for Disability Act (2003) provides for the establishment of District Councils for Disability whose functions amongst others are coordinating and monitoring the implementation of policies and programs for Persons with disabilities; and submitting biannual reports on the situation of Persons with disabilities in their respective Districts. However, the study found that many of these councils were non-functional and most districts did not report on disability activities as required. Limited funding was cited as the main contributor to this status. The revival of lower councils for disability is therefore necessary in the sustainable implementation of national policies on disability including the SDGs.

8.0 Inclusion Analysis of the Relevant Policies and Laws

An assessment of the existing legal and policy frameworks established for realization of the prioritized SDGs was conducted. The Policies, Laws, Plans and Guidelines were assessed against 4 elements that were determined to be indicative of efforts to include disability issues in the legal and policy frameworks. The assessment aimed to determine whether the frameworks recognized the unique needs of Persons with disabilities in the different sectors; whether there was effort to mainstream disability evidenced by disability specific or related goals, objectives, strategies, actions or priorities; and whether there was commitment to support disability evidenced by the

Table 7: Inclusion of Disability in Existing Legal and Policy Frameworks

No.	Relevant Policies	Situational Analysis	Goal / Objective	Sector Strategies / Actions / Priorities	Financing / Budget	Remarks
1	National Development Plan II	√	√	√	√	
2	Uganda School Health Policy	-	√	√	NA	Actions limited to WASH only
3	Special Needs and Inclusive Education Policy (2012)	√	√	√	NA	
4	National Social Protection Policy (2015)	√	√	√	√	
5	National Climate Change Policy (2015)	√	√	√	NA	
6	National Agricultural Policy (2015)	√	-	-	NA	
7	National Agricultural Extension Policy (2016)	√	√	√	NA	
8	National Land Use Policy (2008)	√	√	√	NA	
9	National Urban Policy	-	-	√	NA	
10	Non Motorized Transport Policy (2012)	√	-	√	NA	
11	Uganda National Food and Nutrition Policy (2003)	-	√	√	NA	Refers to vulnerable groups
12	Building Control Act (2013)	NA	√	NA	NA	
13	Business, Technical, Vocational Education and Training (BTVET) Act	NA	√	NA	NA	
14	National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) Act (2001)	NA	√	NA	NA	
15	Persons with Disabilities Act (2006)	NA	√	NA	NA	
16	Physical Planning Act (2010)	-	-	-	NA	
17	Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (UNAP)	-	-	-	-	Mentions vulnerable households / populations / groups but focus is on women and children
18	Agriculture Sector Strategic Plan (2015 – 2020)	-	-	-	-	No specific provisions for Persons with disabilities
19	Education and Sports Sector Strategic Plan (2017 – 2020)	√	√	√	√	
20	Health Sector Development Plan (2015 – 2020)	√	-	-	-	No specific provisions for Persons with disabilities

No.	Relevant Policies	Situational Analysis	Goal / Objective	Sector Strategies / Actions / Priorities	Financing / Budget	Remarks
21	Lands, Housing and Urban Development Sector Development Plan (2015 – 2020)	√	√	√	√	
22	Social Development Sector Plan (2015 – 2020)	√	√	√	√	
23	Water and Environment Sector Development Plan (2015 – 2020)	-	√	-	-	Refer to persons in vulnerable situations and vulnerable groups
24	Works and Transport Sector Development Plan (2015 – 2020)	√	-	√	-	Recognizes only people with mobility impacting disabilities
25	National Agricultural Extension Strategy (2016 - 2021)	√	√	√	√	
26	National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2017 – 2022)	√	-	√	-	Only one specific PWD related action
27	Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy (2017/18 –2029/30)	√	√	√	√	Refers to vulnerable groups
28	Guidelines on School Feeding and Nutrition Intervention Program	NA	-	√	NA	Refer to vulnerable children
29	National Nutrition Planning Guidelines for Uganda	-	-	√	NA	Refers to vulnerable groups / populations / households
30	National Physical Planning Guidelines and Standards (2011)	NA	-	√	NA	

In an effort to ensure that the 2030 Agenda is integrated in government policies, legislation and resource allocation for the Sustainable Development Goals’ interventions, 216 Members of Parliament of Uganda have formed the Parliamentary Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum builds on the previous Parliamentary Forum on the Millennium Development Goals. The Forum is developing its strategic plan, to provide strategic guidance in including SDGs in the oversight role of Parliament, advocacy for specific SDGs and collaborating with other stakeholders, such as civil society and academia.

CSOs have also been invaluable in the development of disability friendly policies, laws, guidelines and also the development of ordinances at district level specifically to ensure measures of reasonable accommodation are fully provided for. For example, Integrated Disabled Women’s Association, a DPO supported the development of ordinances on accessibility in Iganga; UNAPD supported Nabaale Sub-County, Mukono District develop a bylaw on accessibility; and Lira Disabled Women’s Association supported Lira District.

9.0 Involvement of CSOs/DPOs in the SDG Institutional Frameworks

The second National Development Plan's implementation Strategy emphasizes the need to have a well-coordinated and strategic partnership within Government, private sector, development partners and the civil society. In response to this, Government has created an enabling environment that facilitates productive CSO work and multi-stakeholder engagement. DPOs are considered key stakeholders in inclusive development as they know the reality of living with a disability and their unique needs and how best they can be met. However, a lack of awareness or limited awareness on SDGs by leaders of persons with disabilities has hampered the effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the SDG processes.

The analysis found significant progress in strengthening institutional structures for sustainable development; efforts to ensure the participation of multi-stakeholders including civil society; and significant evidence of PWDs and DPOs in institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms. In Uganda, CSO

role in the implementation of the SDGs was found to include, but is not limited to;

- I. Advocacy towards the realization of the SDGs in Uganda
- II. Dissemination / sharing information on SDGs
- III. Research and development
- IV. Awareness raising about SDGs

CSOs were key in the formulation of the SDGs and are actively involved in their implementation²⁴. Since the adoption of the SDGs in 2016, CSOs have participated in various ways such as; participation in the SDG National Taskforce, SDG Technical Working Groups, SDG awareness building, promoting domestication of the SDGs at national and local levels and monitoring of the SDGs. Some CSOs have been directly involved in implementation in SDG related sectors such as water and sanitation, agriculture, health and education. This has been partly made possible due to the existence of a coordinated framework for the implementation of the SDGs in place as illustrated in the table 8 below:

Table 8: SDGs Coordination Framework

Framework	Membership	Chair	Role
SDG Policy Coordination Committee (PCC)	Cabinet Members, Heads of UN Agencies and Heads of Mission	Office of the Prime Minister	Meet once a year to review implementation and provide policy guidance and direction to MDAs on SDGs
SDGs Implementation Steering Committee (ISC)	Permanent Secretaries, Heads of UN Agencies, UN Country Representatives and participating Development Partners	Head of Public Service and Secretary to Cabinet	Meet twice a year to review progress and recommend policy proposals to the PCC
SDGs National Taskforce	Technical officers from OPM, MoFPED, NPA,	Permanent Secretary in the	Meet quarterly to receive and consider reports from TWGs

²⁴ Civil Society Report on the Implementation of SDGs (2017)

Framework	Membership	Chair	Role
	MoFA, MoLG, UBOS, UN, NGO Forum and PSFU	Office of the Prime Minister	and make recommendations for consideration by the SDGs ISC
SDGs Technical Working Groups			
1	Coordination , M&E and Reporting	Office of the Prime Minister	All contribute to the monitoring of SDG implementation. However, each working group has clear Terms of Reference
2	Data	UBOS	
3	Planning	NPA	
4	Communication and advocacy		
5	Financing	MoFPED	

NUDIPU represents DPOs in the Planning SDG Technical Working Group and is part of discussions with Government Agencies about how to ensure greater inclusion of Persons with disabilities in society. As a setback, these committees have not yet been institutionalized and hence not functional.

Additionally, in February 2018, NUDIPU established three clusters on SDGs 1, 2 and 11 to facilitate the mobilization of her members for advocacy and networking with government and other stakeholders to drive the agenda on selected goals. Membership of these clusters is based on interest and relation to their organizational thematic areas of operation.

9.1 Challenges in CSOs/DPOs Involvement

A critical analysis of the stakeholder involvement in the SDG Institutional Frameworks reveals limited involvement of mainstream CSOs compared to DPOs in mainstreaming disability. This has been partly attributed to limited awareness on disability in the SDGs and hence limited interventions to include persons with disabilities. This is compounded further by the limited capacity gaps of CSOs in mainstreaming disability issues. It was noted that the issue of inadequate financial resources has stalled the planning and implementation of CSO initiatives on the disability inclusive domestication and localization of SDGs.

Furthermore, the Civil Society under the National Core CSO Reference Group on the SDGs, a coalition of organizations monitoring the SDG process in 2017 produced the Civil Society Report on the Implementation of SDGs. This report presented the critical factors for the selected SDGs that if not adequately addressed in the implementation of the SDGs, the expected development outcomes will be negatively affected. However, there are no proper guidelines on disability inclusive reporting to guide the group’s members capture issues affecting Persons with disabilities in their reports.

10.0 Summary of the Sector Specific Disability Issues

This section includes a summary of the sector specific disabilities issues identified in the review of laws, policies, strategies, plans and guidelines established by the Uganda Government to aid the localization and implementation of the prioritized SDG targets.

Sector	Issue(s)
Agriculture	Inadequate statistics with respect to the involvement and participation of PWDs
	Poor market linkage for PWDs (access to market information)
	Limited access to agricultural extension workers by the marginalized groups
	Limited access to the new technologies in terms of skills and inputs by PWDs
	Lack of specialized technologies for PWDs
	High subsistence oriented farming among PWDs
	Limited capacity of vulnerable groups to manage farming enterprises
	Limited coverage of the NAADs services
	Lack of specialized services for the marginalized populations
Education	Poor school enrolment completion rates for Special Needs students especially female students
	Unfriendly and inaccessible school environments especially for girls and SNE learners
	Inadequate policy support for SNE
	Inadequate resource allocation for SNE
Environment	Deteriorating environment with adverse effects on the population particularly the vulnerable
	Persons with disabilities left out in environmental conservation programs
	Gender and equity blind policies, legislation, plans, budgets, implementation mechanisms and performance reports
	Inadequate institutional mechanisms to promote gender and equity
Health	Limited healthcare services to address the needs of PWDs across the country
	Lack of disaggregated data by sex, disability and ethnicity
	Inadequate PWDs participation and involvement in community and facility based health programs
Kampala Capital City Authority	Increasing number of PWDs living on the streets
	Compliance with accessibility standards of public and private buildings. Most buildings in the city including that housing KCCA offices cannot be easily accessed by older persons, children, PWDs especially the physically handicapped and visually impaired
	Design and construction of roads that are not easily used by PWDs
	Transport system not responsive to the needs of PWDs
Lands, Housing and Urban Development	Low compliance to existing land laws, regulations and guidelines by the public which marginalizes vulnerable persons in society
	Inadequate institutional mechanisms to promote gender and equity
Office of the Prime Minister	Non-functionality of the SDG government coordination framework
	Low household income especially in PWD headed households

Social Development	Limited coverage of the social protection programs especially the Youth Livelihood Program, SAGE Program, Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Program
	Unfavorable and stringent guidelines of the social protection programs
	Inadequate budget allocation for social protection programs
Works and Transport	PWD and illiterate persons experience challenges in accessing and effectively using information either due to language, reading, visual and hearing barriers
	Inadequate consideration of PWD during construction of infrastructure
	Inadequate consideration of PWD during land acquisition, compensation and resettlement
	PWDs suffer the negative impacts of land acquisition and resettlement disproportionately
	Design of Entebbe airport does not fully comply with universal accessibility standards
	Engineering designs are typically not gender and equity responsive
	Ferries inadequately equipped for PWDs
	Lack of critical mass for PWD in positions that influence corporate strategy and road project design and implementation

11.0 Ranking of the Sector Inclusion Levels

Based on findings, the sectors involved in the implementation of the 3 SDGs were ranked according to their determined level of inclusion of Persons with disabilities using the criteria described in section 2.2. The rankings were determined using a Likert scale where 1 is the lowest and 5 highest mark. Below is the final assessment of inclusion of the select sectors.

Table 9: Ranking of Inclusion Performance per Sector

Criteria	Sector							
	MAAIF	MWE	MOH	MLHUD	MOES	MoICT	MoWT	MGLSD
Universal Design: all interventions / services are easily accessible and usable for all Persons with disabilities	2	4	4	3	4	3	2	5
Reasonable Accommodation: necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments in place to ensure equal participation and involvement of Persons with disabilities	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
Partnership with DPOs: collaboration with DPOs in addressing disability issues	3	3	3	2	4	3	2	4
Human Resources Policy and Practices; Disability Inclusion Staff Training	3	2	3	2	4	2	2	4
Legal Framework: existence of legal and policy frameworks for Disability	4	3	5	3	5	3	3	5

Financial Support: dedicated financing for disability interventions	2	3	4	3	4	3	2	3
TOTAL	17	19	22	16	25	17	14	26

Key: MAAIF – Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries | MWE – Ministry of Water and Environment | MOH – Ministry of Health | MLHUD – Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development | MOES Ministry of Education and Sports | MoICT – Ministry of Information and Communications Technology | MoWT – Ministry of Works and Transport | MGLSD – Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

The most Persons with disabilities inclusive sectors according to the findings are the Education and Social Development Sectors and the least inclusive being the Works and Transport Sector. There seems to be a generally great effort of universal design and reasonable accommodation amongst the sectors probably as a result of the Government aggressively ensuring that persons with disabilities are not discriminated against in government programs. However, financial support for disability mainstreaming and availability and capacity of appropriately qualified or trained staff to handle issues of disability in the sectors is equally lacking.

Despite the rather sufficient legal, policy and institutional frameworks in place to support sustainable development, the country is finding it difficult to convert policy to practice. The successful implementation of the SDGs depends on the functionality and capacity of the implementing and coordinating institutions. This analysis has identified gaps in these institutions which if addressed can contribute significantly to the inclusive implementation of the SDGs.

12.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

This study was set to identify the existing Government programs, policies and institutional frameworks for realizing the 3 SDG targets, assess whether those programs had “inclusive” strategies and mechanisms to ensure full inclusion of persons with disabilities, identify existing gaps and propose possible advocacy interventions for strengthening the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the SDGs implementation.

Overall, the study found an elevated level of Persons with disabilities’ inclusion in existing Government legal, policy and institutional frameworks in relation to the 3 SDGs. Most of these frameworks recognize the existence of disability needs in their respective sectors and as a result, disability is mainstreamed to some extent. However, the major gap is in the implementation of the equity provisions of these frameworks thus making them ineffective in addressing persons with disabilities’ inclusion. There is inadequate translation of the existing policies and laws into inclusive programs and interventions. Some government programs and interventions are being implemented in a disability-neutral way, where it is assumed that the interventions benefit Persons with disabilities and Persons with No Disabilities equally. This has been exhibited most in the Works and Transport Sector.

There are two major factors which may influence the persons with disabilities exclusion in national policy formulation and implementation: Persons with disabilities’ social position and the attitude of MDAs to disability issues. Their control over their own lives is generally less than that of Persons with No Disabilities. The latter tend to dominate

decision-making within households, in communities and in organizations. Policy makers tend to be Persons with No Disabilities, and government institutions and organizations both in the public and private sectors, as well as Civil Society are Persons with No Disabilities dominated. As a consequence, the forums where issues are identified, and any potential solutions proposed, tend to be Persons with disabilities exclusive.

An increased participation of Persons with disabilities in policy formulation and implementation and an improvement in their status relative to PWND are regarded as key dimensions of inclusion. However, this does not automatically guarantee PWD-sensitive policy goals or the implementation of such a policies. One of the major reasons for exclusion identified was the lack of awareness of disability issues amongst policy makers and decision-makers. They are not aware of the unique needs of the various categories of disability and so most policies focus on physical disabilities. The Persons with disabilities’ productive role is not always acknowledged and reflected in policy despite their contribution at various levels to national development.

Furthermore, despite the strong policy backing for disability, it is not backed up by adequate facilitation and programming to facilitate progress towards its address in the different sectors reviewed. There is also a general issue of limited access to information on the inclusion programs which has limited their participation and has subjected them to more discrimination and marginalization.

12.1 Recommendations

Promoting Disability in National Development Frameworks to Integrate the SDGS

The following recommendations should be addressed in order to further promote the inclusion of disability in national plans, strategies and monitoring processes:

- I. There is need for disability-inclusive budgeting at all levels to ensure that financing for sustainable development. Disability financing is a key prerequisite to ensuring inclusion. Therefore, MDAs need to consult persons with disabilities and their organizations in the preparation of budgets and related processes. This however should be accompanied by an appropriate budget allocation towards disability in consideration of their numbers, forms of disability and unique needs.
 - a. Ministry of Education and Sports allocates more resources to the Special Needs Education program.
 - b. Government to increase budget allocations to Persons with disabilities programs
- II. Improved disability data to provide evidence for accountability and decision-making.

Strengthening the Participation DPOs in the SDG Localization & Implementation Processes

The participation of Persons with disabilities and DPOs is crucial in the national efforts to achieve disability inclusive implementation of the SDGs. In order to strengthen their participation, the following measures were suggested:

- I. Conduct capacity assessment for disability mainstreaming and capacity building of policy / decision makers with focus on methodologies and tools for mainstreaming.
- II. Capacity building for DPOs to promote their effective participation from the grassroots to national level as well as the representation of different groups of persons with disabilities in SDG discussions, mechanisms and projects.
- III. Integration of SDGs into their strategic plans
- IV. Increased collaboration between DPOs and Government
- V. Awareness raising about the disability provisions of the SDGs. This involves the dissemination of SDG-related information, education and communication and monitoring frameworks in accessible formats including Braille, audio, large print, sign language interpretation etc.
- VI. Identification or establishment of effective institutional mechanisms that ensure the participation of DPOs in the planning, implementation and monitoring of progress of the SDGs
- VII. DPOs should strengthen partnerships with other CSOs implementing SDG related projects, and Government at national and local levels to ensure widespread recognition of disability in governance and accountability.
- VIII. DPOs to integrate the SDGs into their strategic plans, and develop a consolidated position in order to realize effective advocacy for the disability inclusive implementation, reporting and monitoring of the SDGs.

12.2 Recommended Advocacy Strategic Framework for Persons with disabilities' Participation and Involvement in SDG 1, 2 and 11

	SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 11
Change we want to see	End poverty in all its forms among Persons with disabilities everywhere	No hunger, improved food security and nutrition among Persons with disabilities	Inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities
Summary of the issues that emerged from the study	<p>Social Development Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor access to information on the inclusion programs has limited Persons with disabilities participation and involvement in these programs • Limited consideration of the vulnerability levels of the potential Persons with disabilities beneficiaries of social protection programs • Limited scope / coverage of social protection programs • Inadequate statistics with respect to the involvement and participation of persons with disabilities in the social protection programs • Low budget allocation for the special grant for persons with disabilities with inadequate consideration to the increasing numbers of persons with disabilities 	<p>Agriculture Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate statistics with respect to the involvement and participation of Persons with disabilities in the agriculture sector • Heavy reliance of Persons with disabilities on subsistence farming • Lack of specialized agricultural technologies for the Persons with disabilities • Low household income especially in Persons with disabilities' headed homes 	<p>Works and Transport Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural and urban market designs, and public transport systems do not comply with universal accessibility standards • Inadequate consideration of the needs of Persons with disabilities during infrastructure / engineering designs and construction; • Limited participation of Persons with disabilities and DPOs in the sector activities and processes • Inadequate institutional mechanisms to promote gender and equity • Inadequate gender and equity disaggregated statistics in the sector • Poor resource allocation for social development issues in the sector • Challenges in accessing and effectively using information either due to language, reading, visual and hearing barriers • Lack of critical mass for Persons with disabilities in positions that

	<p>Education Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor P7 completion rates for girls, boys and Special Needs Education Learners • Unfriendly environments learning institutions e.g. physically inaccessible school environment 	<p>Health Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate translation of public health information into accessible formats • Lack of tailored health services for Persons with disabilities • Food insecurity in Persons with disabilities headed homes • Inadequate statistics with respect to the involvement and participation of persons with disabilities in the health sector 	<p>influence corporate strategy and road project design and implementation</p>
		<p>Education Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of integration of school nutrition data in the Health Management Information System 	<p>Lands, Housing and Urban Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate gender and equity disaggregated statistics in the sector • Non-compliance to gender and equity requirements and affirmative action by MDAs • Inadequate consideration of the needs of Persons with disabilities in land acquisition, compensation and resettlement
<p>Pre-condition for the desired change (short term)</p>	<p>Social Development Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased public awareness of the social protection programs in place • Development of key M&E indicators to monitor progress on the inclusive implementation of SDGs • The vulnerability level of Persons with disabilities 	<p>Agriculture Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of key M&E indicators to monitor progress on the inclusive implementation of SDGs • Conduct studies to develop or identify appropriate agricultural technologies for the different forms of disability 	<p>Works and Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons with disabilities sensitive policies • Gender and equity responsive sector outcomes, outputs and indicators developed and integrated into sector M&E framework • Strengthen the gender and equity dimension in planning and implementing sector activities

	<p>considered during identification and enrolment of beneficiaries in social protection programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The YLP and SCG guidelines reviewed to provide for a specific quota for youth with disabilities and elderly with disabilities respectively • Disbursement guidelines for the special grant for persons with disabilities reviewed • Increased budget allocation for the special grant for persons with disabilities that is commensurate to their numbers • Uganda implements the 2018 Global Disability Summit commitments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political commitment to disability mainstreaming • Financial commitment to disability mainstreaming • Need for placement of a disability technical attaché to support in mainstreaming disability • Uganda implements the 2018 Global Disability Summit commitments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct persons with disabilities' accessibility audit of public transport systems and make effort to retrofit them to adequately take into consideration the unique needs of Persons with disabilities • Political commitment to disability mainstreaming • Financial commitment to disability mainstreaming • Need for placement of a disability technical attaché to support in mainstreaming disability • Uganda implements the 2018 Global Disability Summit commitments
	<p>Education Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of SNE learners' friendly school infrastructure including sanitation facilities, ramps, rails and special sitting spaces • Increased resource allocation for Special Needs Education and training 	<p>Health Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons with disabilities sensitive health policies and programs • Development of key M&E indicators to monitor progress on the Persons with disabilities inclusive implementation of health policies and programs • Capacity building of sectors on addressing the special health needs of Persons with disabilities e.g. Development of key M&E indicators to monitor progress on inclusive implementation of SDGs 	<p>Lands, Housing and Urban Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender and equity responsive sector outcomes, outputs and indicators developed and integrated into sector M&E framework • Strengthen the gender and equity dimension in planning and implementing sector activities • Political commitment to disability mainstreaming • Financial commitment to disability mainstreaming • Need for placement of a disability technical attaché to support in mainstreaming disability

Levels / domains of change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual Persons with disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitudinal change for enhanced participation of Persons with disabilities in planning and implementation of sector interventions • Easy access to information • Disability friendly learning environments 2. Households <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased adaptive capacity to deal with climate shocks • Diversified and increased household incomes 3. Communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened structures that enhance PWD participation and involvement in addressing issues that affect them • Established Persons with disabilities nutrition improvement programs 4. Local Governments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement their mandate in a Persons with disabilities sensitive way and allocate resources to support related activities • Capture of disability disaggregated data • Mainstreaming disability issues in DDP and other plans • Allocation of resources to diversify access to agricultural resource and technological options for Persons with disabilities • PWD sensitive planning and budgeting 5. DPOs/CSOs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced consultation of DPOs 6. Central Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced participation of Persons with disabilities in policy formulation and implementation • Production of an annual status report on Persons with disabilities in all relevant sectors • PWD sensitive planning and budgeting • Affirmative action for qualified Persons with disabilities during recruitment • Dissemination and popularization of disability related policies and laws • Funding of Local Government to address issues of disability in all sectors • Mainstream disability, develop indicators for Persons with disabilities inclusion and include them in LG performance assessment guidelines • Use of multi-mode media that is sensitive to the needs of Persons with disabilities • New engineering and infrastructure designs that are gender and equity responsive 		
Target beneficiaries of this advocacy work	Persons with disabilities (males, female, youth and children) in rural and urban areas		
Target population to influence /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Government (MGLSD, MAAIF, MOES, EOC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Government (MAAIF, MOH, MWE, MOES, OPM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Government (MoWT, MLHUD, KCCA, MoLG)

facilitate the change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government (line sector departments – Community Development, Education) • Civil Society Organisations (NGOs, FBOs, DPOs and CBOs), Development Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government (line sector departments – Agriculture, Education, Health) • Civil Society Organisations (NGOs, FBOs, DPOs and CBOs) • Development Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government (line sector departments – Works, lands, • Civil Society Organisations (NGOs, FBOs, DPOs and CBOs) • Development Partners
Channels of communication and methods	<p>Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaflets • Presentations • Concept papers • Policy briefs • Community structures 	<p>Channels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print and electronic media • Community meetings • Conferences • Posters 	
Advocacy messages at national level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't plan for us, plan with us • Technical support, supervision and guidance to government MDAs on disability programming and budgeting needs strengthening • Disseminate and popularize relevant policies on disability in all levels of government • Increase funding to the line MDAs to address issues of disability • Mainstream disability and develop indicators tracking Persons with disabilities inclusive implementation of the 3 SDGs 		

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Annex

Annex 1: List of NUDIPU Cluster Members

No	SDG Focus	Organisation
1	Goal 1	Uganda National Association of the Deaf (UNAD),
		Uganda National Association of the Blind (UNAB).
		Uganda National Association of Cerebral Palsy (UNAC)
		Uganda Albinos Association (UAA), Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC)
		Uganda Federation for the Hard of Hearing (UFHOH), Mental Health Uganda (MHU)
		Epilepsy Support Association of Uganda (ESAU)
2	Goal 2	National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda (NUWODU)
		National Association of Parents with Deaf Blind Children (NAPADEC,) and Uganda
		Down Syndrome Association of Uganda
		Source of the Nile Association of Persons with Albinism (SNUPA),
		Triumph Uganda
		My story Initiative
		Little People of Uganda (LPU)
		Spinal Injury Association of Uganda (SIA)
Sign Health Uganda (SHU)		
3	Goal 11	Uganda National Action on Physical Disabilities (UNAPD)
		Motivation and Charitable Trust Uganda COMBRA
		Disability Empowerment Centre Uganda (DECU)
		Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities (LAPD)
		Uganda Parents of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (UPPID)
		Action for Youth with Disabilities of Uganda (AYDU)
		Rights for Disability Development Foundation (RDDF)