### Uganda Country Analysis

ICRW Africa Regional Office, Kampala, Uganda

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### Overview of Project

As part of a long running relationship between the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), a team of four graduate students from the International Development program conducted a 2nd year Practicum in collaboration with the Director of the newly established Africa Regional Office of ICRW in Kampala, Uganda.

The team conducted two weeks of field work in January, 2017. During this time, the team met with representatives of potential project partners as well as important actors in the international development field in Uganda. ICRW was interested in exploring potential opportunities and entry points around which to build its initial projects and also seeking guidance on sectors in which ICRW has not traditionally conducted research.

This report is a culmination of that field work. The final analysis incorporates desk research and meetings with sector experts in Washington, DC in order to shine a light on possible implications for ICRW's expansion in the region as well as recommendations and strategies for the office moving forward.



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### Executive Summary

The Johns Hopkins University SAIS team's trip to Kampala, Uganda in support of the opening of ICRW's new Africa Regional Office yielded helpful information regarding potential partnerships and the general context for development and gender work in Uganda. ICRW requested in-depth analyses and an outside perspective in order to develop a positioning strategy for the new office.

### Entry Points and Local Context

Changing laws in Uganda have made NGO operations subject to much closer government scrutiny. It will be important for ICRW to be diligent in its record keeping and licenses in order to make sure that the organization does not run afoul of the law. This will be especially important in the short term as the office begins to build up both its portfolio and its credibility within the country and region.

Communication strategies will be key to establishing credibility of the organization, especially in the short term. ICRW should seek to look beyond the traditional NGO ecosystem when forming its portfolio by building relationships with local NGOs and civil society. The Africa Regional Office should also leverage its position as a new entrant to Uganda to improve coordination and communication among projects by organizing working groups and joining existing coalitions as well.

Much of the current development cooperation focus is on the Northern and North-Eastern regions of Uganda. Ravaged by decades of conflict, underinvestment, and political isolation, many of the NGOs we spoke to focused on these underserved areas, namely Karamoja. This is a region that presents many opportunities for possible collaboration in the future. Specifically, countering Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) was noted as being particularly important to several organizations. This is an ideal entry point for ICRW to leverage its expertise and create new partnerships.

As Uganda's economy begins to grow and linkages within the East African Community strengthen, the private sector will play a greater role in the development of the country. With fair trade rules and other private certification standards gaining importance in the export industry, ICRW can look to support companies in mainstreaming gender policies in their workplaces and social enterprises in measuring their impact. Additionally, working with international corporations to strengthen their gender mainstreaming will allow ICRW to demonstrate real benefits to their clients that could lead to more opportunities moving forward. Several other themes such as women's political participation, remittances, and the effect of climate change in North–Eastern Uganda are also covered in the full report.

### Partnership Opportunities

A primary goal of this project was to find possible partnerships that align with ICRW's mission and research agenda. We have included profiles from a number of the organizations with whom we spoke and have assigned them ratings based on their influence in the development field in Uganda and interest in working with ICRW. These are included as an annex to this report. The most promising potential partnerships that we have identified are: The Hunger Project, PACE, and Oxfam Uganda.

### The Hunger Project

The Hunger Project has a unique model and funding platform compared to most of the other organizations we interviewed. Working from a holistic, community—driven development foundation, The Hunger Project makes long term investments in communities. The Hunger Project generally does not seek large donor grants from agencies such as USAID or DFID. Their platform and mission alignment could be leveraged by ICRW to conduct important research in the areas of women's economic empowerment, child marriage, and gender based violence.

### PACE

PACE's enthusiasm about integrating gender in their programming came out loud and clear during our interview. The health-oriented NGO, part of the PSI network, demonstrated an eagerness to mainstream gender and a frankness towards their own lack of capacity in relation to gender integration. This would be an ideal

relationship for ICRW to pursue for its sexual health and reproductive rights research portfolio.

### Oxfam Uganda

Oxfam Uganda presents a fruitful partnership opportunity for ICRW. Oxfam Uganda's mission alignment and project portfolio significantly overlap with that of ICRW's. Gender is a cross-cutting element to all of the programs that Oxfam implements. Oxfam Uganda generally conducts its own monitoring and evaluation, but it has in the past partnered with research organizations and representatives were very interested in the notion of helping to create a working group to that effect.

Establishing these connections on the ground with both local and international organizations will aid in building ICRW's reputation within Uganda and will prove vital to their success in the region.

## 02

### Development in Transition

Recent years and months have brought forth new dynamics to the world of development cooperation. There are a number of external factors relevant to ICRW that need to be considered in a broader context in order for ICRW to best position its new office in Kampala, Uganda. As uncertainty rises the development ecosystem ICRW will need to be able to nimbly navigate itself to a niche that fulfills both its mission and benefits its partners.

### Changing Priorities and Politics

The year 2016 will be remembered around the world for its ground shaking electoral results. An unexpected victory in the U.S. Presidential election and the affirmation of the Leave campaign in the United Kingdom were concrete expressions of a more protectionist populace in the two largest donors of foreign aid. It is always said that elections have consequences and the tremors are still reverberating throughout the development world.

### The Trump Administration and Foreign Assistance

This new political paradigm is affecting the future of development cooperation and foreign assistance from the US Government. Cuts are expected at USAID and other American development agencies as the most recent White House budget proposal called for a reduction of nearly a third of the foreign assistance budget. Although the American budget for foreign assistance is a little less than 4% of federal discretionary spending, the American public holds an incorrect perception that it counts for as much as a quarter of every dollar spent by the federal government. It is true that 60 votes are generally necessary in the Senate for any such budget to be approved, Senate leadership could always circumvent this legislative filibuster in the same way that they did for Judge Gorsuch's confirmation. Regardless, the executive branch wields enormous power in setting foreign aid agendas. President Obama's initiative Feed the future was established in 2010 to help stabilize the world food system and did not receive formal congressional approval and oversight until 2016.

### Implication for ICRW

Ultimately congress holds the power of the purse, but even if full funding cuts are not achieved the Trump administration has great leeway in sector priorities. Challenging times lie ahead.

### **Brexit**

The situation is not so clear in the United Kingdom, where Theresa May's time as Prime Minister has sent mixed signals to the global community. Although invoking Article 50 of the Treaty of the European Union allows for a more protectionist and isolated UK, this may be a misreading. Prime Minister May has repeatedly called

for a renewal of Britain's stature on the world stage. The conservative government of her pro-EU predecessor actually *increased* DFID's funding levels to the 0.7% of GNI that modern donor countries have pledged. Yet as one of only 6 countries to meet the OECD's 0.7% target the political pressure to reduce spending is increasing. Britons are not as uninformed as their American counterparts about foreign aid spending, but they still aren't convinced of the value of sending tax dollars overseas. While Prime Minister May would like to maintain and increase Britain's stature on the global stage, the realities of a protracted exit from the EU may risk the short-term economic outlook and require Parliament and the Exchequer to tighten budgets. There is also the looming possibility of another referendum on Scottish independence given one of the reasons they voted to remain in the United Kingdom was its European Union membership. In an attempt to counter and consolidate her power in parliament, PM May has called for snap elections in June.

### Implication for ICRW

Although not the stated wishes of government, external factors such as Brexit and internal political trends and their economic consequences may force a reduction in the UK's prized 0.7% of GDP donor level.

### Private Foundations and Philanthropy

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (with Warren Buffet's contribution) has quickly become the top private contributor of development assistance with \$3.24 billion in direct outlays to their programs in global development and global health in 2015. 11 It's grant disbursements place it 15th in the world in gross donor activities when included in bilateral and multilateral lists. 12 The Gates Foundation being the notable new entrant, joins a long list of other foundations originally endowed from high-profile entrepreneurs and industrialists such as Ford, MacArthur, Hewlett, and Open Societies. These foundations, though dwarfed in total aid by large bilateral agencies, can play an important role in leading research. As data from all these different organizations has been difficult to collate definitive conclusions are difficult to draw regarding their future priorities, it is fair to say that private

foundations are able to fill gaps and fund niches to which traditional donors have paid little attention. 13

### Implication for ICRW

Private donations, be they from large foundations or from the crowd, can help cover unfilled funding niches not addressed by larger donors. The flexibility that foundations afford also lends well to continued research efforts as well as innovation.

### Aid Relationships in Transition?

In 2013, the Dutch development assistance agency reoriented their development assistance. This document, "A World to Gain: A New Agenda for Aid, Trade, and Investment," places Uganda in the middle of their three-tiered development framework.

Figure 2.1: Aid to Trade Transition for Dutch development cooperation relationships

Aid

- Pure aid relationship
- Burundi, South Sudan, Rwanda

Tran<u>sition</u>

- Increasing emphasis on Dutch trade integration
- Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique

Trade

- Pure trade relationship
- South Africa, Nigeria

Source: "A World to Gain" 14

This *transitional relationship* puts added emphasis on expanding trade opportunities and drawing down anti-poverty aid. The document notes, "The pace

at which this will occur will differ from country to country." <sup>15</sup> In our conversation with the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands he noted that this transition was already underway and spoke of a more mature relationship based on mutual trade as Uganda grows into a middle income country.

Other Embassies expressed regret that their aid budgets have declined in recent years. In our interview with the Royal Embassy of Norway in Uganda, their representative noted that while NORAD budgets have remained steady, the amount of discretionary spending that gets disbursed directly via the Embassy in Kampala has been reduced drastically. These funds would be granted to local organizations working in community economic development and enhancing civic spaces but the refugee crisis in Europe has caused those funds to be diverted.

### Implication for ICRW

Uganda's continued transition into a middle income country will bring about a realigning of development policy from certain European countries. The current refugee crisis has diverted small amounts of development funds away from Uganda.

### An Expanded Mexico City Policy

One drastic change to focus on in judging future aid portfolio trends is the Trump Administration's implementation on the Mexico City Policy, also known as the Global Gag rule. It is by far the widest reaching language of any such version of the executive action, extending its mandate to all global health program funding, rather than limiting itself to just family planning programs. The Ugandan government has been silent on the effects of the Trump administration's new Mexico City Policy. Many leading voices have criticized the move and suggested that recent gains in women's health will be lost due to the policy change. Even the Bush administration made exceptions to the policies in order to fully implement its PEPFAR program. In time the current administration may choose to relax certain restrictions in order to further its foreign policy's goals, but the current attitude towards international development suggests this may not be any time in the near future.

### Implication for ICRW

ICRW finds itself well positioned at the crossroads of advocacy and research for women. It can use this position to do research on the effects and restrictions this new rules places on its partners and participants around the world.

### ICRW Entering Uganda

Uganda has well developed and managed national development frameworks that were first established in 1997 as the Poverty Eradication Action Plan(PEAP). The current iteration of this framework was released in 2015 as *Vision 2040* which the Ugandan government hopes to lead its country out of poverty through more targeted strategies on a whole host of fronts. This, in conjunction with the NGO law passed by parliament in 2015<sup>20</sup>, has given the government far more control and ownership of development priorities. It also has the potential to limit NGO's conducting work outside of the government established frameworks by imposing penalties or sanctioning them. <sup>21</sup> Various opinions were expressed during out interviews regarding this legislation. They ranged from positive to negative although the balance was decidedly more skeptical than not. Because of the relative newness of the law, there has not been enough time for norms and precedent to settle regarding its enforcement. These new regulations also impose an extra burden on NGOs such as ICRW. Record keeping and careful interpretation of the law's pertaining qualities will be essential to remain credible within country.

### Implication for ICRW

Uganda's well defined frameworks and their new NGO Act make it imperative for ICRW to find partners of good standing with which to work. ICRW will need to take extra care in its record keeping to make sure it stays within the bounds of the law.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Andrew Natsios, "What Trump's Foreign-Aid Budget Means to the Rest of the World," *The Atlantic*, published April 4, 2017, accessed April 25, 2017,

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<sup>16</sup> Interview with representative from the Royal Embassy of Norway in Kampala Uganda, January 17<sup>th</sup> 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Jill Filipovic, "The Global Gag Rule: America's Deadly Export," *Foreign Policy*, published March 20, 2017, accessed April 4, 2017, http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/03/20/the-global-gag-rule-americas-deadly-export-trump-africa-women-reproductive-rights/

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "Parliament passes controversial NGO bill on eve of pope's arrival," *Daily Monitor*, published November 27, 2015, accessed May 4, 2017, http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Parliament-passes-controversial-NGO-bill/688334-2974692-8n2co1/index.html

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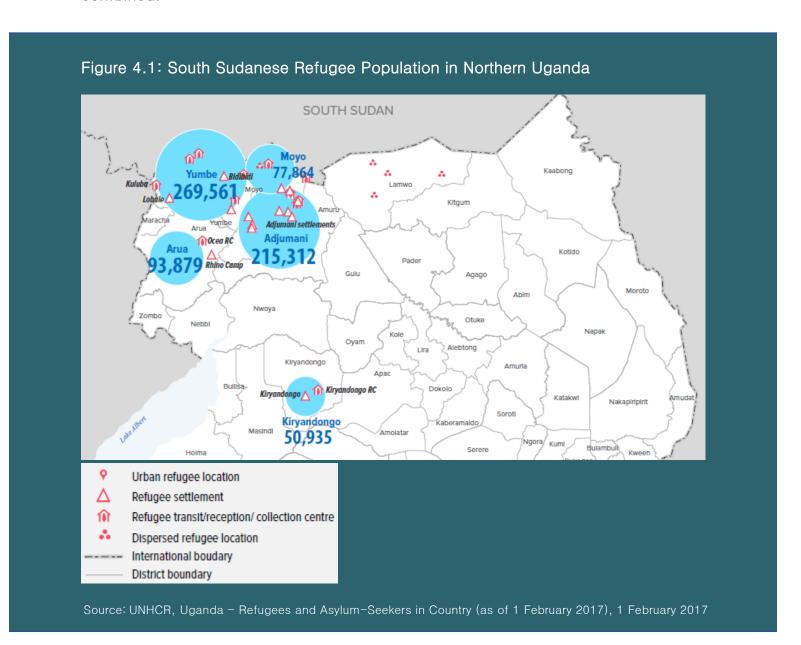
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### Northern Uganda

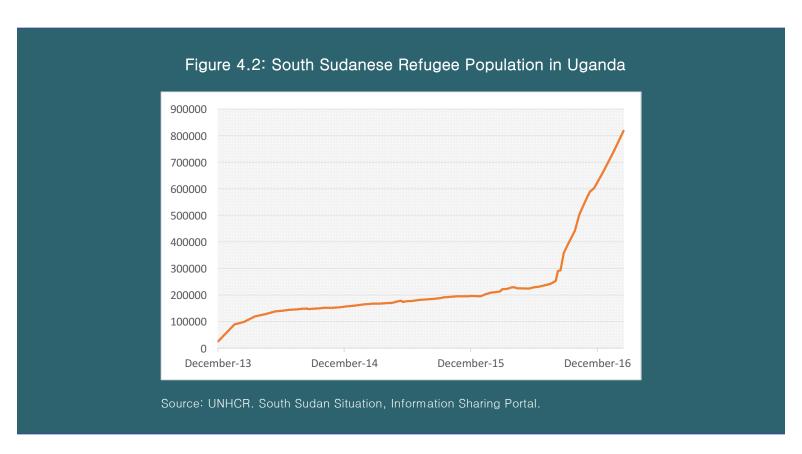
International organizations are focusing their attention on Northern Uganda as the region suffers from constant strains on land, water and food resources which create immense challenges for local populations. Through interviews with NGO leaders in January, it became clear that every INGO had a presence in Northern Uganda. The recent influx of refugees from neighboring South Sudan, the pastoralist conflict in Karamoja and the LRA conflict in the North have made the region extremely vulnerable.

### Refugee Crisis

In July of 2016, heavy fighting between the South Sudan government and rebel forces caused the death of hundreds of civilians and forced tens of thousands to flee the capital. This marked the beginning of a massive flow of refugees into South Sudan's neighboring countries. Today, there are approximately 1.6 million South Sudanese refugees in the region, which now represents the largest scale refugee movement in Africa. <sup>1</sup> Uganda has been the most affected by the refugee crisis as its stock of refugees is almost double that of other neighboring countries combined.



The political events in South Sudan triggered a refugee emergency in Uganda as 61,000 new refugees were entering Uganda every month. <sup>2</sup> Toward the end of 2016, Uganda still witnessed a daily average of 2,000 to 3,000 refugees entering the country through various entry points along the border with South Sudan. <sup>3</sup> UNHCR predicts there will be 925,000 refugees from South Sudan in Uganda at the end of 2017. <sup>4</sup>



In Uganda, the Office of the Prime Minister and UNHCR have been leading the coordination and implementation of refugee settlements and temporary camps. Uganda, along with 5 other countries, spearheads the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) which aims to apply innovative approaches to improving refugee conditions worldwide. <sup>5</sup> Following the CRRF, Uganda is providing land to refugees and allowing them to access job markets. By pushing this new framework, UNHCR admits that there is an increasing need to address the needs of the refugees and the hosting communities.

Women and children represent 86 percent of all South Sudan refugees in Uganda. <sup>6</sup> Therefore, child protection, sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) prevention and response, psycho-social support, legal aid, education and general support remain of critical importance to the refugee response in Uganda. The high risk of SGBV and psycho-social trauma while fleeing conflict requires specific protection services upon reception in Uganda. The large concentration of refugees in communal temporary reception facilities poses an enormous risk of SGBV for women and girls which can be mitigated through decongestion and rapid relocation of refugees to settlements. Additionally, UNHCR reports low numbers of women in refugees' leadership positions and low participation in community self-management structures which has led to difficulties in identifying protection cases.<sup>7</sup>

### Implication for ICRW

The UN's focal interest in addressing SGBV in refugee camps represents a potential entry point for ICRW. ICRW is well placed to deliver research which identifies best programs to address SGBV in a refugee camp situation. SGBV reduction programs will also need M&E. ICRW can partner with other organizations that have received funding to address SGBV in refugee camps, leveraging their expertise and knowledge in the area.

### Pastoralist Conflict and Climate Change

The North-Eastern region of Uganda, Karamoja, has gone through a ten-year peace and disarmament process. Tensions between the Pokot, the Karamojong and other pastoralist groups over natural resources had escalated with the introduction of arms. The conflict affected the entire Karamoja region and neighboring districts. After years of instability and unsettlement, the region has now returned to a state of relative peace. The Pokot community who had fled to neighboring Kenya due to violent cattle rustling by the neighboring Karamojong group started to migrate back to the Karamoja region protected under a disarmament and peace treaty.

The disarmament process imposed sedentary pastoralist practices which now limit cattle herders' mobility. Corrals are now concentrated around Ugandan army camps, replacing the traditional Kraal system which enabled cattle herders to move their cattle camps as they traveled during the dry season searching for water and grass. <sup>8</sup> The forced mobility and the concentration of corrals is creating challenging conditions for pastoralists' livelihoods. Tensions are emerging due to overgrazing and limited water resources. Additionally, there are now risks of livestock diseases and reduced reproduction rates linked to this practice. <sup>9</sup> All of these issues combined reduce the quality of herds, render livestock more sensitive to heat and water stress, and threaten their usefulness in helping families cope with shocks.

In addition to changing herding practices, climate change has worsened already difficult environmental conditions for people living in Karamoja. Unlike most of the country which experiences two distinct rainy seasons, Karamoja only has one single long rainy period between April and November. The region has recently been affected by an increase in average temperature, an increase in average number of days with extreme heat, decreased reliability of rainy season, reductions in total annual rainfall and a shorter rainy season. <sup>10</sup>

The current climate trends have caused climate-related shocks in the region which affect households' agriculture productivity. These shocks include erratic and unevenly distributed rainfall which can result in droughts, severe dry spells, floods, outbreaks of livestock disease or changing crop pest dynamics, high food prices, livelihood insecurity. <sup>11</sup>

### Implication for ICRW

Although climate change and food security are not a current area that ICRW focuses on, it is an area that has received growing interest from donors. ICRW's research around women's economic empowerment programs can fit in well with current food security and resilience programming.

### Post-Conflict Reconstruction

The Acholi region in Northern Uganda suffered twenty years of armed conflict between the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) led by Joseph Kony. Approximately two million people were displaced and lived in IDP camps for over two decades. Since the LRA left Northern Uganda in 2006, peace has returned and a vast majority of people have returned to their original homes. The communities in this region, however, remain fragile with low levels of access to basic services and sustainable livelihoods. Government institutions are weak and the Acholi community's social fabric has been eroded during life in camps. Land conflicts are rampant in parts of the region and threaten the social and economic recovery process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNHCR. South Sudan's refugee crisis now world's fastest growing, Uganda and region in critical need of help. March 17, 2017. http://www.unhcr.org/news/briefing/2017/3/58cba77f4/south-sudans-refugee-crisis-worlds-fastest-growing-uganda-region-critical.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> UNHCR. South Sudan Regional Response Plan, January-December 2017. December 2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> UNHCR, 2017

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid

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## Government Priorities

From the PEAP to Vision 2040, the main priority of the Ugandan government has been poverty alleviation. While poverty reduction has been the primary goal of the government for decades, the government has utilized a variety of approaches to try and achieve it. The PEAP was the guiding framework of development in Uganda for roughly 20 years. It focused on creating economic opportunities for the poor and providing basic services to the population, including health and education. Two of the four pillars of the PEAP put people at the center of the plan, focusing on their well-being and income. However, Uganda has recently begun using a new framework to promote growth and alleviate poverty that focuses on the development of hard infrastructure.

### Vision 2040

Vision 2040 is the latest framework to follow the PEAP. This new plan along with the projected budgets demonstrate the government's change in tactics in regards to reducing poverty. The amount of resources dedicated to education remains high in relation to many other sectors, but is smaller by about ten percent compared to its highest point during the PEAP. In the place of education, the works and transportation sector and energy and mineral development sectors have both seen growth in planned investment by the government, as well as outside sources. The language in Vision 2040 signals a distinct departure from the human focused PEAP. Instead it stresses the "harnessing [of] strategic opportunities" such as a large labor force, agriculture, tourism, and many natural resources, such as oil, gas, minerals, and water. In order, to take advantage of these opportunities, the government has focused its resources on developing infrastructure that will promote the utilization of these natural resources whether through trade of oil and minerals, or development of the energy sector through hydropower.

### Infrastructure Projects

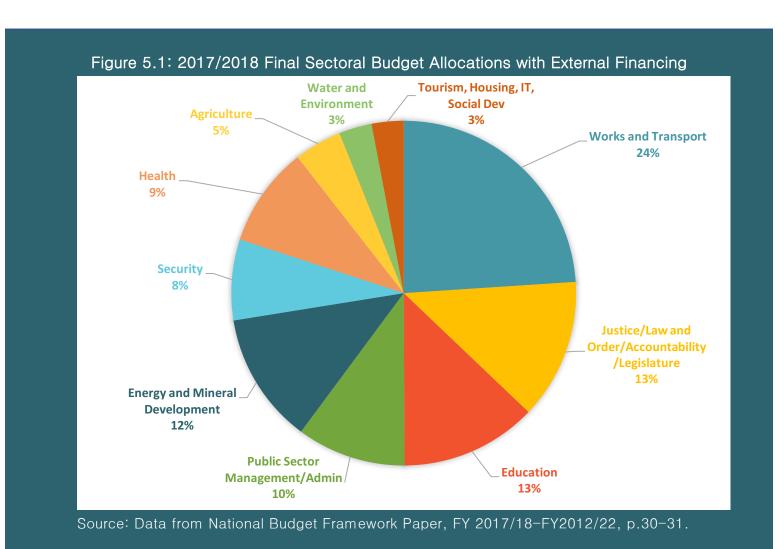
Transportation infrastructure will be vital if Uganda intends to expand trade of its natural resources, which explains why transportation has now become the largest planned expenditure in Uganda's budget. Currently, the Ugandan government is seeking a \$500 million loan from the EXIM Bank of China to build roads near its oil deposits in the Albertine basin, which is in addition to a \$2.3 billion loan to build a railway. The Ugandan government has also received loans from the AfDB to work on three different roads projects. In 2015, Uganda also had a loan from The World Bank. Uganda



Source: Lauren Purnell, 2017. Kyagwe Road in Kampala, Uganda

had already received more than two-thirds of the \$265 million loan, but after allegations of sexual abuse of minors in the areas near the project and the mishandling of these allegations, the World Bank project was cancelled.<sup>8</sup>

Even with the large loans that Uganda has procured for these projects, a high amount of investment in roads comes from the government. On the other hand, investment in energy is meager compared to the international financing received. In the budget projections from 2015 moving forward, internal investment hovers between three and four percent, but including external investments the proportion of investment in energy jumps to 12 percent of the national budget.<sup>9</sup>



The budget also has financing projects related to the development of Uganda's oil deposits. Three joint venture partners from three different countries. The companies are UK's Tullow Oil, France's Total SA, and China's CNOOC. In order to begin exporting the oil, a pipeline has been agreed upon through Tanzania. Tanzania and Uganda have awarded a contract to Gulf Interstate Engineering in the United States for the design of the pipeline.<sup>10</sup>

The progress of oil production, electrification, and road construction have all emerged as priorities in recent years.

### Social Programs

This shift in priorities suggests that social policy and programs may not remain main focus of the government in the coming years. Also, there are instances of government programs that are funded by multilaterals or foreign governments. An example of this is the DFID funded program, Support to Uganda's Response on Gender Equality (SURGE). SURGE has been empowered to do a review of the budgets in order to detect areas where gender inequalities may take root. Along similar lines, is the Northern Uganda Action Fund which was made possible through a loan from the World Bank to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. This project aims to provide a safety net for poor and vulnerable households in Northern Uganda. The hope for projects like these is that the government will eventually be able to fund and run them independently, but currently these are not the areas where the government is dedicating its resources.

### Implications for ICRW

The shift in the government's approach to development from a more human—centric development strategy to a more infrastructure based approach may mean that certain entry points that were once open to ICRW are no longer accessible. As it pertains to research, there may very well be opportunities to show how these changes are affecting women directly and whether they are being left behind in, or if the benefits of this kind of growth are equitable. Additionally, there are certain issues that arise as a result of such infrastructure developments that would be of concern to women, for example, the rise of sexual abuse surrounding construction projects. The development of the oil fields could raise similar concerns.

### Implication for ICRW

Programs related to ICRW's thematic areas may have less funding then before, but there are still areas where research will be needed to show the the rights of women and girls are being protected.

The three joint venture partners have all agreed to the use of Land Acquisition and Resettlement Framework (LARF) and create a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). The LARF and RAP were formed by both the joint partners and representatives from the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Local Government, and National Environment Management Authority. Even with these guidelines in place, these parties will have the legal right to remove residents from their land in exchange for what they determine to be adequate compensation.

Most Ugandans currently living on this land are either agriculturalists or agropastoralists, so their entire livelihood is generally tied to their land. The power dynamics in these kinds of procedures would be difficult for any average Ugandan to navigate and there is a high risk that female—headed households would not be adequately compensated as women's right to land is generally tenuous at best.

### Implication for ICRW

The improvements of these procedures to ensure that they are equitable between male-headed and female-headed households could be seen as an entry point for ICRW.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> National Planning Authority of Uganda, "Uganda Vision 2040," National Planning Authority of Uganda, 2017, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rosemary McGee, "Meeting the International Poverty Targets in Uganda: Halving Poverty and Achieving Universal Primary Education," *Development Policy Review* 18, (2000): 87.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic, "Uganda's Poverty Eradication Action Plan: Summary And Main Objectives," Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, (2000): 3

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, "Approved Estimates Of Revenue And Expenditure (Recurrent And Development," (2015): 18–21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> National Planning Authority of Uganda, "Uganda Vision 2040," National Planning Authority of Uganda, 2017, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Elias Biryabarema, "Uganda says seeking \$500 million loan from China for roads in oil area," *Reuters*, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Shawn Donnan, "World Bank cancels \$265m Uganda road project," *The Financial Times* (Washington, DC), Dec. 21, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, "National Budget Framework Paper FY 2017/18 - FY2021/22," (2017): 30-31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Elias Biryabarema, "Uganda and Tanzania award crude pipeline design contract to U.S. firm," *Reuters*, Jan. 11, 2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> CNOOC, Total, Tullow, "Land Acquisition and Resettlement Framework," (2016).

# Private Sector

Private sector development has become a priority of Uganda, and yet growth in this area will inevitably be stunted by the difficult business environment and corruption that continues to permeate the government. Despite these challenges, the private sector represents a large part of consumption and investment within Uganda.

### Private Sector Environment

The World Bank's *Doing Business* ranks Uganda 115<sup>th</sup> out of 190 countries, behind both Kenya and Rwanda. The especially low rankings on indicators measuring the time needed to start a business, gain access to electricity, or obtain construction permits reveal that there is more the government could be doing to improve these processes. Even with these challenges, private investment in Uganda as a part of total investment is estimated to be 76 percent, indicative of a very high degree of private sector activity. However, for countries characterized by low productivity, even high shares of private investment may not promise the desired level of growth. It is also notable that 85 percent of credit is private, belying any notion that the government is crowding out investment through its push for infrastructure development. In fact, access to credit was the indicator that was least of concern in the World Bank's *Doing Business Report*, achieving a rank of 44<sup>th</sup> out of 190 countries. Although even in access to credit Uganda ranked behind Rwanda and Kenya.

### Social Enterprise

Operational difficulties in the private sector have not disincentivized companies from starting initiatives that serve society and empower women. In fact, many social enterprises in Uganda work with women on a number of levels. There are a variety of organizations that connect local women artisans to larger markets, as is the case of "Baskets of Africa". Some take the form of social enterprises and others act as nonprofit organizations, with missions that overlap with ICRW's thematic areas. Another organization active in the areas of women's empowerment is AgriProFocus which acts as a network for farmers, companies, governments, and research. AgriProFocus is actively conducting trainings that introduce gender concepts and build capacity of local organizations. These businesses, nonprofit organizations, and networks could provide opportunities for ICRW to offer services to enhance their mission and improve strategies they are currently employing. Additionally, organizations like the National Union of Coffee Agribusinesses and Enterprises or the Integrated Seed Sector Development which are participating in training in gender may be open to further integrating gender into their organizational practices, which could also be an entry point for ICRW.

### **CSR** Initiatives

Centenary Bank has also taken initiative in the area of women's empowerment. Centenary Bank has used it corporate social responsibility (CSR) department to begin the "Supawoman Club Programme" in order to address gender imbalances between men and women as it pertains to access to and understanding of financial services. Other prominent banks in Uganda, such as Stanbic Bank and Standard Chartered are not making similar efforts. Standard Chartered, however, has created insurance plans specifically for women in Ghana and supported the training of female entrepreneurs in Bangladesh. Given that Standard Chartered has women's empowerment programs in other countries, there may be barriers they are facing in Uganda that ICRW could help them overcome.

### Implication for ICRW

Missions of social enterprises and CSR initiatives of companies that are in line with ICRW's thematic areas should be targeted as potential clients for ICRW advisors, partners, and donors.

### UNDP Gender Equality Seal Certification Programme

Other companies that have expressed interest in cultivating equitable work places are doing so through the Gender Equality Seal (GES) Certification Programme for Public and Private Enterprises. The GES Certification Programme is part of Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals. It is being promoted by the UNDP as a way to spur companies to reevaluate their policies and practices in order to create equitable conditions for men and women in the work place. The list of key areas released by the UNDP include, "Eliminating gender-based pay gaps, increasing women's role in decision-making, enhancing work-life balance, enhancing women's access to non-traditional jobs, eradicating sexual harassment at work, and using inclusive, non-sexist communication." Currently, 13 companies in the Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU) have committed themselves to the program.

This presents an opportunity for ICRW. Over the course of stakeholder meetings in Kampala, two different organizations explained the difficulty they have with effectively including women or a gender perspective. One organization felt that gender mainstreaming efforts often involve simply checking a box, due to lack of certainty over what can be done to truly achieve this goal. They noted that there is a lack of reflection in the process. Another organization explained that they often understand the need for a gendered perspective in their programming, yet they do not know what to ask for in a specialist.

### Implication for ICRW

The limits to organizational knowledge on eliminating inequality provides an opportunity for ICRW to market itself, as these businesses may need assistance so that the attainment of the GES is not simply in name, but is evident in their actions and working environment, as well.

Figure 6.1 Sample of Companies and Social Enterprises that ICRW Could Target

Company Information	Entry Points for ICRW
AFRIpads Social Enterprise http://afripads.com/	Afripads is a growing social enterprise looking for new ways to show how its reusable sanitary pads make a difference in the lives of women and girls.
Airtel Telecom Company http://afripads.com/	Airtel has women's empowerment initiatives in India, but in Uganda they have focused more on rural schools. Perhaps, they would be willing to see how Indian initiatives could be implemented in the Ugandan context with the help of ICRW.
Alam Group Conglomerate of building, mechanical and construction companies http://www.alam- group.com/index.php/csr	Alam Group is an UNDP GES Certification Program participant and has many active CSR efforts but none related to women. Their demonstrated interest in gender may mean that the Alam Group would seek to know how to include gender equity goals within their organization and CSR efforts.

Baskets of Africa Social Enterprise http://www.basketsofafrica.com/	Baskets of Africa connects female artisans within Africa to wider markets. On their website there is not any strong evidence of social impact, thus a partnership with ICRW could strengthen their evidence and help them better tell the story of their artisans.
Burn Social Enterprise http://acumen.org/investment/burn/	Burn produces clean and efficient stoves throughout East Africa. Given the behavior change they are seeking from customers, ICRW could offer a partnership results in better information regarding women's energy needs in the region.
Centenary Bank Bank http://www.centenarybank.co.ug	Centenary Bank currently has the Supa Woman Programme and has been active in promoting women's financial literacy. Perhaps they would be interested in how to better evaluate the impact of these programs.
DFCU Bank Bank https://www.dfcugroup.com	DFCU Bank is participating in the UNDP GES Certification Program and has a Women in Business Programme that encourages women entrepreneurs. DFCU Bank could be a potential client of ICRW, so they can better build and evaluate their CSR programs.
Finance Trust Bank https://www.financetrust.co.ug/	Finance Trust is a participant in the UNDP GES Certification Program and has CSR efforts related to health. Given their demonstrated interest in gender equity, perhaps they would consider expanding their CSR to include women's empowerment.
Hostalite Tech Company http://www.hostalite.com/	Hostalite has a proven interest in gender through the UNDP GES Certification Program and its work with Marie Stopes related to a hackathon for health solutions that emphasized reproductive health. Hostalie could be a potential client of ICRW advisors moving forward.
MTN Uganda Telecom www.mtn.co.ug/	MTN Uganda's CSR initiatives currently focus on health, education, and environment. All of these can be connected with women and perhaps they would be interested in seeing how gender could be better incorporated into their CSR initiatives.
NBS Television Media http://www.nbs.ug/	NBS Television is an UNDP GES Certification Program Participant and potential client for ICRW advisors.

NTV Digital Media http://www.ntv.co.ug	NTV Digital launched a campaign aimed at creating an awareness campaign for victims of GBV about two years ago. This may be a campaign they would be willing to repeat and ICRW could be in a position to measure the impact of such a campaign.
Nile Breweries Alcoholic Beverage Company http://nilebreweries.com/	Nile Breweries is an UNDP GES Certification Program participant and CSR promoting sorghum agriculture in Northern Uganda. Their recent interest in gender may open doors for ICRW as a potential client for ICWR advisors.
Simba Group Conglomerate of telecom, real estate, agriculture and energy firms. http://www.the-simba-group.com/	Simba Group is an UNDP GES Certification Program participant, with CSR initiatives focused on youth through their CSR-arm, Simba Foundation. Perhaps they would want to create an initiative focused specifically on girls and young women to accomplish the GES Certification and expand its CSR goals.
Solar Sister Social Enterprise https://www.solarsister.org/	Solar Sister is a previous partner of ICRW. The mission of Solar Sister naturally aligns with that of ICRW and it would be beneficial to maintain this relationship.
Standard Chartered Bank Bank https://www.sc.com/en/	Standard Chartered Bank is an UNDP GES Certification Program Participant and has women's empowerment programs in Ghana and throughout Asia. These have not been introduced in Uganda, creating an entry point for ICRW to discuss what barriers they may be facing in the Ugandan context.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The World Bank, "Doing Business 2017 Economy Profile Uganda," (Washingon: World Bank Publishers, 2017), 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Stampini, et al., "How Large Is the Private Sector in Africa? Evidence from National Accounts and Labor Market," (Bonn: Institute for the Study of Labor, 2011), 2, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid., 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The World Bank, "Doing Business 2017 Economy Profile Uganda," (Washingon: World Bank Publishers, 2017), 61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> United National Development Programme, "Gender Equality Seal Certification Programme for Public and Private Enterprises."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> PSFU, "13 Companies Commit to the Gender Equality Seal Certification Program (GES)", Press Release, December 20, 016, Accessed May 1, 2017.

http://www.psfuganda.org/new/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=53:ges&catid=14:news-display&Itemid=262.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Team interview, January 25, 2017, 5:00PM, TPO. <sup>8</sup> Team interview, January 25, 2017, 11:00AM, PACE.

### 06 Remittances

Remittances are an important factor for development in Uganda. Many urban and rural households have benefited from the benefits of this additional source of income. Inclusive access to remittances across gender can help spread these benefits and reduce gender inequalities. As expansions in technology and infrastructure have helped boost domestic, regional and international remittances, it is useful to analyze the opportunities and challenges that the private and public sectors have faced so far in working towards harnessing the power of remittances.

### Trends in Remittances

Remittance flows into Uganda grew by eighteen percent in 2015 from the previous year <sup>1</sup> and grew faster than Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) and Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) in the last decade. <sup>2</sup> Remittances also represent a more stable source of income at the micro and macro level. <sup>3</sup>



Figure 7.1: Remittance Flows to Uganda (USD Millions)

Source: World Bank, Annual Remittances Data, last updated April 2017.

Uganda is placed among the top five countries in Sub-Saharan Africa in terms of size of net remittances. <sup>4</sup> However, remittances only represent three percent of the country's GDP. <sup>5</sup> Uganda does not rely heavily on remittances unlike small economies such as Djibouti or the Gambia.

Various studies have shown the same trend in household use of remittances. Also, the allocation of remittances to the household budget have not changed significantly throughout the years. Consumption goods and services represent the main use of remittances. <sup>6</sup> The second biggest spending category is education. <sup>7</sup> The share of remittances spent on education increases if it is an international remittance. <sup>8</sup> Health and other human capital expenditures are close behind education. <sup>9</sup> In the end, Ugandans spend little of their income on capital investments for agriculture of businesses. One reason that may explain why Ugandans do not use remittances for longer term investments (such as agricultural machines or real estate) is that banks

do not consider remittances as a form of income, making it virtually impossible for households that rely on remittances to get loans approved. <sup>10</sup>

### Implication for ICRW

There is little in-depth research done in Uganda about the impact that remittances have on households, especially women within the household. This represents an opportunity for ICRW to contribute important research to a policy area that is seeing growing interest.

### Accuracy of Remittance Data

The availability and accuracy of remittance data is problematic. Indeed, quantifying remittances is done on an inconsistent and unreliable basis. This is due to the fact that money transfer operators and banks do not collect remittance data homogeneously and often don't share the data to third parties. <sup>11</sup> However, remittance estimates have improved since in 2011, the Bank of Uganda (BOU) has developed a new methodology to measure remittances based on migrant flows. <sup>12</sup>In 2011, the World Bank estimated that remittance flows into Uganda represented US \$ 900 million while the BOU estimated inward remittances to be US \$ 58 million. 2015 data shows convergence in estimates between the World Bank and the BOU remittance estimates.

The size of the informal remittance market is another factor that contributes to the unreliability of remittance data. Remittances are often delivered through informal channels such as friends or family personally delivering cash to relatives in Uganda. The World Development Report 2007 reported that the informal remittance sector could potentially represent half of the formal sector <sup>13</sup> showing how the size of remittance flows could be hugely underestimated.

### Public and Private Sector Responses

Full liberalization of the capital account was implemented in Uganda in 1997. Liberalization attracted and increased the number of players in the formal remittance sector. At the same time, it made it difficult for the BOU to measure remittances as actors were no longer required to disclose the amount of foreign currency with which they entered the country.

The Financial Institution Act 2004, the Foreign Exchange Act 2004, and the Foreign Exchange Regulations 2006 all provide extensive regulation for money transfer businesses. The Foreign Exchange Act and Regulations require foreign exchange

bureaus and international money remittance businesses to obtain authorization from the BOU before engaging in money remittance operations. <sup>14</sup> The requirements to obtain a license for money transfer business can be costly. In particular, capital requirements can create a disincentive for small operators to opt in to registration. <sup>15</sup> The prohibitive costs of registration for small and medium sized money transfer companies may force them to merge to survive. This results in a less competitive market that could hinder efforts to reduce remittance costs.

Figure 7.1: Cost of Sending \$200 and \$500 to Uganda, in USD

	From Kenya	From Tanzania	From United Kingdom
\$ 200	9.44	17.13	8.69
\$ 500	5.07	8.32	6.29

Note: Prices are total average prices for first quarter 2017

Source: World Bank, Remittance Prices Worldwide

Current laws also require all authorized foreign exchange dealers to issue receipts for every foreign exchange transaction and submit returns to the BOU. <sup>16</sup> The transaction receipts, the foundation document for official data, require customers to indicate the source and purpose for funds transacted. <sup>17</sup> The implementation of this law and the accuracy of completed forms raises concerns. However, if accurately completed, the forms are a credible source of information on foreign exchange flows.

Although the Ugandan government has taken some important steps towards market liberalization which have had the effect of increasing remittance flows, some of the regulation is extremely costly especially for small money operators. In addition to increasing the cost of remittances for users, these laws and regulations may indirectly limit access to remittances in rural areas where alternatives (such as banks) are not available.

#### How do Remittances Affect Women?

While the inflow of remittances to Uganda has almost doubled between 2009 and 2013, women and men report differing access to remittance mechanisms. This is especially when looking at formal sector remittances. The gender gap has started to

become more apparent according to a FinScope survey studying financial inclusion in Uganda in 2013. Fifty—one percent of women compared to fifty—eight percent of men surveyed received remittances in 2013. <sup>18</sup> Although this might not seem like a wide gap, it is indicative of the difference in access to formal banking institutions between men and women.

#### Implication for ICRW

Increasing efforts towards more financial inclusion for women is the main avenue for ICRW to enter the remittance policy and programmatic area in Uganda. Women face many challenges in accessing bank accounts, either geographical or institutional. ICRW can leverage its research in this field to increase its women's economic empowerment agenda.

The receiving household's allocation of remittance income points to an increase in education expenditures as previously noted. This could have an important impact on access and quality of education for many Ugandan children, especially girls.

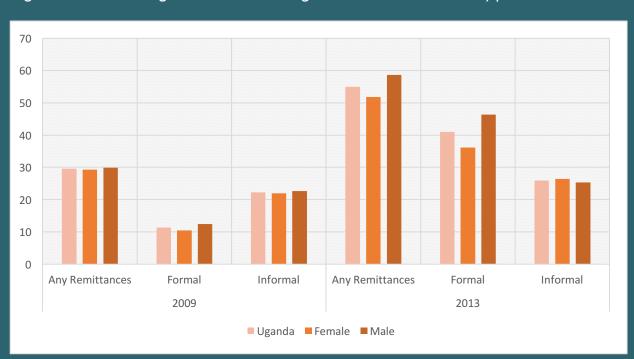


Figure 7.3: Receiving Remittances in Uganda in 2009 and 2013, percent

Note: the categories are not mutually exclusive.

Source: Uganda 2013 Finscope III Survey Report Findings

<sup>1</sup> World Bank. Migration and Remittances Data: Annual Remittances Data (updated as of April 2017)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Endo, Isaku, Namaaji, Jane and Kulathunga, Anoma. Uganda's Remittance Corridors from United Kingdom, United States and, South Africa, Challenges to Linking Remittances to the Use of Formal Services. World Bank Working Paper n. 201. Washington, DC: 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ratha, Dilip et al. Leveraging Migration for Africa, Remittances, Skills and, Investments. World Bank, Washington, DC: 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Endo, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> World Bank, 2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ratha, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Endo, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Endo, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Interview with Isaku Endo: April 12, 2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ratha, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Endo, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC). Uganda 2013 FinScope III Survey, Report Findings: Unlocking Barriers to Financial Inclusion. November, 2013.

## 07

# Women and Political Participation

Since the 1990s, we have seen a revolution in women's political participation across Sub Saharan Africa. Since Uganda adopted the quota system in 1989, the country has continuously met its target for women's presence in the National Assembly. Despite significant progress, many with whom we spoke cited the lack of *meaningful* female political participation as a key hurdle to improving development outcomes related to gender equality. Without significant policies targeting the social and economic hurdles women face, especially gender norms and ownership of productive resources, women's empowerment in Uganda will remain a challenge.

#### Women and Political Participation

There are multiple dimensions to women's political empowerment: their presence in formal arenas such as parliament and the cabinet, as well as women's leadership in civil society and local political structures. In the formal arena, quotas have proven an important factor for female political inclusion. Those African countries that have adopted the quota system have an average of 9% more seats selected for women. Still, potential partners such as Oxfam, Mercy Corps, and the Nordic Consulting Group as well as the Makerere School of Women and Gender Studies all cited low female political influence as a major obstacle for implementing long term changes to support women's empowerment

Figure 8.1: UNDP Gender Equality Rankings

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX RANKING	161 out of 187 countries in 2011. <sup>1</sup>
GENDER INEQUALITY INDEX	116 out of 146 countries in 2011. <sup>2</sup>
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL RANKING	143 out of 183 countries in 2011. <sup>3</sup>
% OF WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE	33 percent women in the Public Service in 2011. <sup>4</sup>
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION	<ul> <li>✓ Gender equality provided for in the national Constitution, the Local Government Act (LGA) and other laws.</li> <li>✓ Affirmative action policy in education and in political representation.</li> <li>✓ Women's quotas in Parliament and Local Councils.</li> </ul>
NEED TO KNOW	<ul> <li>✓ Reasonably good policy framework for gender equality including gender mainstreaming guidelines for the Public Service (MPS, 2011).</li> <li>✓ The country is transitioning from a <i>de facto</i> one party state to a multi-party system.</li> </ul>

Source: UNDP Gender Equity Case Study, Uganda 2011 (2011)

#### The Ugandan Context

As is a continent-wide trend, Uganda has positive policies for female inclusion in political life. Women have the same access to voting and running for election, and following the 2011 elections 23 female ministers held positions in the 75-member cabinet. Uganda boasts the fourth highest percentage of women in legislature among the Sub Saharan African countries.<sup>2</sup>

The 2012 Social Institutions and Gender Index ranked Uganda as 73 out of 86, with a score of 0.38. Uganda was ranked 46 out of 136 in the 2013 Global Gender Gap Index with a score of 0.517; 110 out of 148 in the 2012 Gender Inequality Index with a score of 0.517. These indices are on a 0-1 scale, and for the SIDI and the Gender Inequality Index 0 is complete equality and 1 complete inequality.<sup>3</sup>

#### Regional Improvements

Improvements can be explained by global factors, like changing norms around women's representation and the growth of women's movements pressing for political change. In Sub-Saharan Africa specifically, political openings in the 1990s, the decline in intra-state conflict, and the willingness of international donors to support the women's empowerment agenda all created new opportunity structures for women. These structures were especially salient in African countries undergoing a peace process – the post-conflict element allowed for women's engagement in peacekeeping negotiations and proved to be an important way to bolster engagement. Of 10 countries in Sub Saharan Africa with highest percentages of women in cabinet, 6 are post-conflict, suggesting these dynamics influence women's leadership.

#### Barriers to Access for Female Candidates

The legal framework in Uganda is not discriminatory in its makeup; however social, economic, and cultural constraints that Ugandan women face present some challenges. These include less access to resources, education and health challenges, gender roles which direct women away from political life, access to justice, and gender based violence.

While women in Sub Saharan Africa are responsible for 60% of agricultural productivity, they have clear title to only 3-4% of the land they work.<sup>6</sup>

Discriminatory inheritance laws prevent women from attaining the wealth they need to support themselves, let alone to reach the upper echelons of politics. Indeed, the political campaign process has also become more expensive. The Presidential Elections Act has been altered to raise the required amount from 8 million to 20 million for presidential candidates. This appeared to especially impact female candidates; for example, Ms. Maureen Kyalya was forced to halt her presidential campaign three weeks into the 2016 process, citing lack of funds. The emphasis on money and the commercialization of the campaign process has made barriers to entry even greater for women.

In terms of access to education, the same number of boys as girls are now enrolled in primary schools. The ratio of girls to boys in secondary and tertiary levels is 88.3% and 79.1% in 2014, respectively. The gender gap still exists at these levels due to socioeconomic, cultural, and religious practices that push women into the agricultural sector or early marriage and pregnancy, interrupting further education.<sup>8</sup>

In 2013, 38% of female headed households were uneducated. Only 3.8% of female household heads had completed a post- secondary level of education. Female adults were more likely to care for the sick - 78% of household members who fell sick were taken care of by a woman. 66% of women are involved in fetching and collecting firewood, exposing them to health risks and sexual assault.<sup>9</sup>

Women are increasingly attending campaign rallies, as seen in the most recent 2016 election. This is partly due to the sensitization of women's organizations and a general improvement in society's attitude regarding women as political candidates. Still, negative attitudes persist. Women are disproportionately asked about marital status and whether their husbands are accompanying them on the campaign trail. There has been some contention in the 2016 elections as to whether women should be allowed to represent the areas in which they were married but not born. Many voters believe women should not stand on open seats.

Politically powerful male champions of female MPs is a growing phenomenon; while this move may prove helpful for female candidates, it also entrenches notions of patronage and male privilege on the political stage. These norms will likely have an impact on the performance of female candidates over time.

#### Implication for ICRW

ICRW can help build coalitions that target grassroots women in areas that are especially vulnerable to discrimination, and train women on media skills and key national and local policy issues.

#### Changing Organizational Priorities and Methods

The majority of research concerning women's political participation centers on their involvement in political affairs, rather than policy-specific outcomes. Scholars have examined the relationship between gender quotas and women's access to leadership, revealing that institutionalizing quotas is an important factor improving gender equality. However, this focus on quotas has pressured scholars to focus on the numeral representation of women, rather than the factors that allow women to get elected, or their influence once in office. The socio-economic factors impacting electoral success for women remain less addressed, with some evidence that education attainment correlates highly with women's access to office. For example, Yoon (2004) identifies women access to education, women's labor force participation, country's economic condition, and country's culture as the most important social, economic, and cultural factors affecting women's access to the parliament.<sup>12</sup>

Another new direction in the area of women's political participation is building greater data use for assessing impact. Addressing the gender data gap is necessary to ensure that development work is truly impacting the growth more inclusive societies; however, the data realm when it comes to political competencies remains limited. For example, while the global gender gap in health outcomes and educational attainment has been nearly closed, only 23% of the gap in the political sphere has been closed, according to the World Economic Forum's 2016 Global Gender Gap Index. The root causes of exclusion must therefore be addressed qualitatively and quantitatively, in order to inject life into this avenue of women's empowerment programming, an avenue ICRW is well placed to engage.

#### Gaps and Recommendations

The unique challenges that plague poor outcomes in female political participation are useful for ICRW's to know in a number of ways. First, while research is plentiful surrounding the quota system and its benefits to increasing female participation, evidence on socio-political context and clear and accessible impact data are needed to assess the situation holistically. There is tentative evidence to suggest that post-conflict environments, for example the Karamoja region, are promising entry points for supporting women politically. Karamoja could be a fruitful potential starting point for ICRW to collect and analyze data on women's leadership and participation in Uganda.

Second, it is likely that the capacities of women and norms of Ugandan society are important factors, rather than solely women's access to the system. Therefore, supporting NGOs who pilot trainings or supplemental education for women to improve their skills would be beneficial to the sector. This can be done by building coalitions that target grassroots women in areas that are especially vulnerable to discrimination, training women on media skills and building knowledge of key national and local policy issues. For example, the IRI Women's Democracy Network has used Women's Political Education Forums to increase women's political engagement. On a lower level, mentorship programs and supporting local role model partnerships is a less intrusive or politically overt way to build women's capacity in this setting.

In addition to addressing the foundational elements underlying women's participation, activity around election cycles themselves is crucial. Because women typically have less access to the media in Uganda, ICRW and civil society organizations might act together to analyze campaign messages and educate women specifically on the legitimacy of political promises made. <sup>16</sup> In addition, increasing clarity around requirements for voting is a practical and necessary measure – in the 2016 elections, many women were left out of the process simply due to confusion as to the time of day voting was taking place.

Women's representation in political bodies in Uganda plays an important symbolic role, but it is insufficient for realizing the kind of tangible change in resources and attitudes necessary to advance women's status in society. The state of research in this area suggests that collective action and pressure from outside the state is

especially impactful, and ICRW with its emphasis on rigorous results-driven research is well-placed to participate in this process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Franceschet, Susan; Krook, Mona; Piscopo, Jennifer. Quotas and Qualifications in Uganda. 2012. The Impact of Gender Quotas. Oxford Scholarship Online.

http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199830091.001.0001/acprof-9780199830091-chapter-4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Franceschet, Krook, Piscopo

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Tripp, Aili. 2014. Women's Political Participation in Sub-Saharan Africa. Retrieved from http://www.ssrc.org/publications/view/women-s-political-participation-in-sub-saharan-africa/

<sup>4</sup> Tripp, Aili

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Tripp, Aili

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Political Economy of Gender in Sub-Saharan Africa. April, 2017. Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies Africa Studies Conference. Washington, DC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Political Economy of Gender in Sub-Saharan Africa. April, 2017. Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies Africa Studies Conference. Washington, DC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Millennium Development Goals Report for Uganda 2013, UN Development Programme, Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Uganda National Household Survey 2012-2013, Uganda Bureau of Statistics. Kampala, Uganda, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Report On Gender And Women's Participation In The 2016 Elections In Uganda". 2016. http://www.cewigo.org/sites/default/files/reports/second\_report\_on\_gender\_and\_womens\_participat ion\_in\_2016\_elections-nov\_2015-jan\_2016.pdf.

<sup>11</sup> Report on Gender and Women's Participation 2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Kiwanuka, Sophia (2012, May). Gender and Development in East African Politics: The Ugandan Case. University of Texas at San Antonio. Department of Political Science and Geography.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Lieberman, Amy. 2016. "New UN Women, Gates Foundation Partnership Takes On Gender Data". *Devex*. https://www.devex.com/news/new-un-women-gates-foundation-partnership-takes-on-gender-data-88795.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Bekkering, Michelle, and Matthew Baker. 2016. "Opinion: Why Data Is Key To Gender Parity In Politics". *Devex*. https://www.devex.com/news/opinion-why-data-is-key-to-gender-parity-in-politics-89241.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Empowering Women In Political Participation And Leadership | New Tactics In Human Rights". 2015. *Newtactics.Org.* https://www.newtactics.org/conversation/empowering-women-political-participation-and-leadership.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Empowering Women In Political Participation And Leadership

## Summary of Implications

The changing donor landscape signals a cause for concern for ICRW. ICRW will be required to adapt and think creatively about how it will fund its research. Alternative funding approaches explored in this report include private donations from foundations, private sector partnerships with companies and social enterprises, and even crowdfunding. Partnerships with international NGOs will also continue to be beneficial to ICRW, however, it is recommended that ICRW seek partnerships with Ugandan NGOs in order to build up support on a local level. Given the government's recent efforts to restrict NGO activity, donor funds may be scrutinized more heavily and the existence of strong local connections will aid in easing ICRW's work. In some instances, ICRW may be walking a fine line considering that their research is geared towards advocacy and creating narratives that may contradict the government's perspective.

As ICRW finds a balance between its work and the goals of government, it will also need to maintain a healthy relationship with local government ministries, district offices, and relevant national ministries, such as the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. Ministries focused on gender issues are expected to be underfunded in the coming years, especially as the government's focuses in on infrastructure development. However, this will mean that ICRW's work could provided a much needed perspective on these development activities if they are given the opportunity to offer their expertise.

Other areas which might serve as entry points for ICRW include Northern and North-Eastern Uganda, women's political participation, and remittances. Karamoja is increasingly struggling with food security and related climate change issues while the North of Uganda has been recovering after the end of the LRA conflict and is now dealing with the refugee crisis. There are many NGOs working in this space with various programs which commonly incorporate SBGV prevention, which has

been an areas of interest for ICRW. Another theme of interest to ICRW was women's economic empowerment, which while more politically sensitive could be an area in which ICRW works together with local organizations to measure the impact of their programming. Similarly, women's economic empowerment could be researched through remittances. The near doubling of remittances in Uganda signals their growing importance and also invites organizations like ICRW to examine how this trend is affecting women. There is little research in Uganda that studies women's role in remittances and this gap could be an opportunity for ICRW to leverage its research capabilities to strengthen its women's economic empowerment agenda.

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### Annex



Organization		
Barefoot	Law	Plot 1544 Koire Close Old Kira Rd. Kampala, Uganda
About		
Mission	Barefoot Law provides the Ugandan public with free legal information and assistance using innovative approaches	
Size	14+ attorneys and staff	
Funding	Partial funding from GIZ	

Relevant Programs	
Description	In addition to providing free legal advice through an online platform, Barefoot Law travels around the country to provide legal information sessions and workshops to rural populations.
Activities in Uganda	Women's Property Rights Initiative (WPRI): focuses on equipping women with knowledge and skills regarding their rights to property. Barefoot Law uses a combination of approaches including technology, audio-visual and traditional means to provide legal knowledge and assistance to women, both in rural and urban areas.
Areas of Collaboration	WPRI is in its pilot phase and pending further funding from GIZ. ICRW can help a truly young, innovative and dynamic Ugandan led team to flesh out their strategy to sustain this program.
M&E	Barefoot Law relies on surveys from workshop participants to provide feedback on activities. No formal M&E structure
Resources	www.barefootlaw.org

Level of Influence (1-5): 2 Level of Interest (1-5): 4



Organization		
Democratic Governance    1st Floor EADB Building   Plot 4 Nile Avenue   P.O.Box 8772 Kampala   P.O.Box 8772 Kampala		Plot 4 Nile Avenue
About		
Mission	The overall goal of the DGF is to contribute to equitable growth, poverty eradication, rule of law and long term stability in Uganda.	
Size	~100 million euros over 5 years	
Funding	Funded by eight partners: Austria, Denmark, the EU, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.	

Relevant Programs	
Description	A 5 year project funded by a consortium of European countries and the EU meant to strengthen democratic institutions and good governance. At the time of meeting DGF was anticipating a second 5 year funding authorization.
Activities in Uganda	Makes grants to partner organizations throughout the country in a number of sectors including: Deepening Democracy, Rights Justice and Peace, and Voice and Accountability
Areas of Collaboration	Gender mainstreaming, women in government, gender-based violence and civil rights
Research	In house. Occasional outside assistance.
Resources	https://www.dgf.ug/

Level of Influence (1-5): 4 Level of Interest (1-5): 3



Organization		
Diakonia		45 Kanjokya St. Kololo Kampala, Uganda
About		
Mission	Diakonia works both in developing and developed countries by using a participatory approach and a pro-active agenda to alter systems and structures that generate and maintain poverty.	
Funding	Uganda office funded by the Swedish government through the Swedish CSO frame and SIDA.	

Relevant Programs		
Description	In Uganda, Diakonia cooperates with civil society organizations to promote active citizenship as a means of improving the living status and living conditions of people living in poverty in Uganda.	
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>The analysis of bills, policies and laws regarding human rights as a basis for advocacy</li> <li>The empowerment of women and youth as active citizens economically, culturally and politically</li> <li>Livelihoods as well as psychological and legal support to survivors of conflict and GBV</li> <li>Building strong and resilient communities, and strengthening CSOs</li> <li>Information dissemination regarding human rights</li> </ul>	
Areas of Collaboration	Although Diakonia only partners with local CSOs, the organization represents a well-connected partner in areas that are already of interest to ICRW: programs for victims of GBV, economic empowerment of women and information dissemination.	
M&E	Diakonia's local implementing partners are responsible for M&E.	
Resources	http://www.diakonia.se/en/Where-we-work/Africa/Uganda/	

Level of Influence (1-5): 2 Level of Interest (1-5): 4



Organization		
Dutch Embassy		Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Rwenzori Courts (4th floor), Plot 2, Nakasero Road Kampala, Uganda
About	About	
Mission	The Dutch Embassy would like to transition from a donor to Uganda to a trade and investment partner in Uganda.	
Funding	The Dutch Embassy relies on direct funding from the Netherlands, but funding for gender projects is controlled by the ministry.	

Relevant Programs	
Description	The focus of the Dutch embassy is to maintain strong diplomatic relations with Uganda and to encourage trade between the two countries. Justice, rule of law and gender initiatives have been scaled down.
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>Programming for transforming subsistence farmers into commercial agriculture. Hold an annual "Best Farm Competition" to encourage farming as a business.</li> <li>Drug users program through UNFPA about access to medicine and commodities that incorporates gender.</li> <li>Reproductive health programming has been scaled down</li> </ul>
Areas of Collaboration	<ul> <li>Sexual reproductive health for youth</li> <li>Gender-based violence</li> <li>Women's economic empowerment</li> <li>Reduce fertility rate</li> </ul>
M&E	M&E is done internally in the embassy due to the small portfolio of projects.
Resources	http://uganda.nlembassy.org/

Level of Influence (1-5): 3 Level of Interest (1-5): 4



Organization		
GIZ		GIZ Office Uganda Plot 23 Nakasero Road/P.O. Box 10346, Kampala Nakasero Rd, Kampala, Uganda
About		
Mission	The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development declared Uganda a priority country for development cooperation, focusing mainly on renewable energy, economic and rural finance, water, and governance.	
Funding	The majority of fundi	ng comes from the German government.

Relevant Programs		
Description	German development agency that implements technical cooperation projects of the BMZ as well as private sector and other national organizations. Usually not with NGOs.	
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>GIZ is incorporating governance and the rights of vulnerable groups and sexual minorities into their principles</li> <li>GIZ develops capacity for evaluation and governance statistics, and is involved in five development partnerships with the private sector in Uganda</li> <li>In Karamoja priority areas are: strengthening local disaster prevention capacities, sustainable management of natural resources, water for agricultural production, and agro-pastoral production</li> <li>GIZ's gender mainstreaming activities address both internal and external mainstreaming, with possible avenues for trainings of GIZ and partner staff</li> </ul>	
Areas of Collaboration	GIZ gender mainstreaming activities and increasing presence in northern Uganda provide potential opportunities to partner with ICRW, although GIZ typically targets the private sector.	
Research	New areas include analyzing labor in fishing communities and value chains and how these interventions increase female resilience.	
Resources	https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/310.html	

Level of Influence (1-5): 5 Level of Interest (1-5): 2



Organization			
The Hunger Project		Kisozi Complex, Annex P. O. Box 26393 Kampala, Uganda	
About	About		
Mission		a global, non-profit, strategic organization ainable end of world hunger.	
Size	In Uganda, The Hunger Project is active in 11 villages in 9 districts.		
Funding	recipient offices, alon	raised by the 11 donors offices, for the 11 g with some funding from local communities to rship of the epicenters.	

Relevant Programs		
Description	The Hunger Project utilizes an epicenter strategy that aims for communities to find ways to end their own hunger. The Hunger Project takes a holistic approach that emphasizes health, nutrition, education, gender equality, and women's empowerment.	
Activities in Uganda	When the Hunger Project comes to a village they do workshops so that households can identify their needs and possible solutions for themselves. The services and types of knowledge available at the epicenters are dependent on these workshops.	
Areas of Collaboration	<ul> <li>Women's Empowerment</li> <li>Child Marriage</li> <li>Sexual and reproductive health</li> <li>Gender based violence</li> </ul>	
M&E	The Hunger Project generally employs their own M&E practices, however they do sometimes have external consultants for this work.	
Resources	http://www.thp.org/our-work/where-we-work/africa/uganda/contact-uganda/	

Level of Influence (1-5): 2 Level of Interest (1-5): 5



Organization		
Mercy Corps		Nsambya Road Kabalagala Makindye Division Kampala, Uganda
About		
Mission	market-driven approa where South Sudanes	food insecurity using community-led and aches in the most vulnerable areas, including e refugees have been resettled. Help farmers and promote health and nutrition.
Size	Revenue streams of about 436 million for the entire organization in 2016 with 87% going to programs.	
Funding	Majority is from gover	nment, multilaterals, and foundations.

Relevant Programs		
Description	INGO focused on regions in transition from conflict, including emergency relief and community resilience. They have initiatives in Karamoja and the Kenya/Somalia border.	
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>Agriculture &amp; Food: Training farmer groups in business skills to grow subsistence plots to small-scale commercial farming operations.</li> <li>Economic development: Providing jobs building roads that link farms to markets.</li> <li>Health: Promoting maternal-child health and nutrition programs, including village-level mother groups that encourage healthy behavior change.</li> <li>Emergency response: Meeting the urgent needs of vulnerable South Sudanese with cash while supporting local economy and livelihoods, establishing a cash for work program for both Ugandans and South Sudanese</li> </ul>	
Areas of Collaboration	Mercy Corps usually contracts out their M&E, and they have a girls resilience livestock program that focuses on improving the productivity and status of women through asset ownership.	
Research	New areas include analyzing labor in fishing communities and value chains and how these interventions increase female resilience	
Resources	https://www.mercycorps.org/countries/uganda	

Level of Influence (1-5): 3 Level of Interest (1-5): 4



Organization			
Norwegian		Royal Noregian Embassy of Uganda	
Embassy		Plot 18B, Akii-Bua Road Kampala, Uganda	
About	About		
Mission	The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kampala represents the interests and advocates the priorities of Norway in Uganda.		
Funding	Minimal funding travels via the Embassy to local organizations.  NORAD in Oslo handles the large portfolios.		

Relevant Programs	
Description	Norway mostly focus on governance and human rights issues, working through civil society and with the Uganda Human Rights Commission.
Activities in Uganda	Main activities in Uganda are DGF funding, strengthening civil society as it relates to future Ugandan oil exports. Gender portfolio through embassy has slowed down, many funds being diverted back to Norway to deal with refugee crisis.
Areas of Collaboration	Civil society and oil. Gender mainstreaming and programming if funding should return to embassy control.
Resources	https://www.norway.no/en/uganda

Level of Influence (1-5): 3 Level of Interest (1-5): 3



Organization		
Oxfam Uganda		Plot 3459 Tank Hill Rd. Muyenga Kampala, Uganda
About		
Mission	Oxfam's rights-based approach to development focuses its programs and advocacy on populations affected by conflict	
Size	Uganda office: USD 9.5 Million for FY 2015/2016	
Funding	<ul> <li>Outside Funders: 60-70% (mainly through DFID)</li> <li>Fundraising done through donor country offices: 30-40%</li> </ul>	

Relevant Programs		
Description	In Uganda, Oxfam operates mostly in the North with vulnerable populations, especially women, youth and pastoralists.	
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>Governance and Accountability: focuses on building active citizenship, around taxes and budgeting, extractives, and women leadership</li> <li>Resilient Livelihoods: focuses on promoting land and seed rights for women and pastoralists, private sector engagement, climate change adaptation, youth employment, GBV and unpaid care work for women</li> <li>Humanitarian Response: focuses on preparedness, humanitarian capacity building and emergency response (emphasis on water and sanitation, gender and protection of women and children)</li> </ul>	
Areas of Collaboration	Oxfam's programs present a large emphasis on women and girls but especially: active citizenship around extractives, land rights, private sector engagement, GBV and unpaid work for women, protection of women and children in humanitarian context.	
M&E	M&E is mostly done in house by pulling resources from within the Oxfam confederation. Peer reviews are done by external evaluators.	
Resources	https://www.mercycorps.org/countries/uganda	

Level of Influence (1-5): 4 Level of Interest (1-5): 5



Organization		
PACE Uganda		Plot 3, Mackenzie Vale, Kololo P.O.Box 27659, Kampala, Uganda
About		
Mission	PACE promotes products, services and healthy behaviors that enable low-income and vulnerable communities to lead healthier lives.	
Funding	USAID, DFID, CDC, NORAD, UNICEF, and others	

Relevant Programs	
Description	"The vision of PACE is to be an innovative, efficient, results-oriented organization that works towards realizing a community of Ugandans empowered to sustain healthy behaviour and a significant contributor to Ministry of Health priority health areas including, but not limited to, HIV/AIDS, malaria, child health and reproductive health."
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene</li> <li>Contraception</li> <li>Malaria Prevention</li> <li>HIV/AIDS</li> </ul>
Areas of Collaboration	Sexual based violence, Women's health, Gender Mainstreaming
M&E	In house, and in collaboration with outside organizations as dictated by donors.
Resources	http://www.psi.org/country/uganda/#about

Level of Influence (1-5): 4 Level of Interest (1-5): 5



Organization		
Pathfinder		Pathfinder International 30B, Plot 15 Impala Ave Kampala, Uganda
International		
About		
Mission	Pathfinder champions sexual and reproductive health and rights worldwide, mobilizing communities most in need to break through barriers and forge their own path to a healthier future.	
Size	Revenue streams for 2016 were about 130 million USD with 89% used for program services.	
Funding	80% of their funding comes from USAID federal grants, 10% from foundations, and the remaining 10% from private sources. They are looking to diversify and strengthen funding streams.	

Relevant Programs		
Description	Pathfinder partners with local governments, communities, and health systems to remove barriers to critical sexual and reproductive health services.	
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>Connect communities and health systems so that people have access to contraceptive services and quality health care</li> <li>Insure that the local health systems have a full range of contraceptive methods available so individuals have a choice</li> <li>Work with communities to reduce gender inequality</li> </ul>	
Areas of Collaboration	<ul> <li>Maternal &amp; Newborn Health</li> <li>Safe Abortion Care</li> <li>HIV &amp; AIDS</li> <li>Contraception &amp; Family Planning</li> <li>Adolescents and Youth</li> </ul>	
M&E	5-10% of funding is spent on M&E. Pathfinder is able to do their own M&E, but may require outside evaluators depending on the stipulations of the grant.	
Resources	http://www.pathfinder.org/countries/uganda/	

Level of Influence (1-5): 3 Level of Interest (1-5): 5



Organization			
Swedish	Embassy	Swedish Embassy Uganda 24 Lumumba Ave Nakasero Road Kampala, Uganda	
About			
Mission	The Embassy of Sweden in Kampala has a broad mandate to promote Swedish-Ugandan relations through political dialogue, development cooperation, trade and investment		
Size	Swedish Aid to Uganda is 39.5 million USD.		
Funding	The Swedish Embassy relies on direct funding from Sweden		

Relevant Programs		
Description	Sweden aims to strengthen the respect for human rights in Uganda, enhance the local population's opportunities to make a living and to obtain improved health as well as freedom from violence.	
Activities in Uganda	<ul> <li>The 2014/18 strategy has been earmarked 1 350 million SEK to:</li> <li>Strengthened democracy and gender equality, greater respect for human rights and freedom from oppression</li> <li>Better opportunities for people living in poverty to contribute to and benefit from economic growth and obtain a good education</li> <li>Improved basic health</li> <li>Safeguarding human security and freedom from violence</li> <li>Sweden also supports the development of Uganda's domestic research capacity with 210 million SEK over 4.5 years</li> </ul>	
Areas of Collaboration	The Swedish Embassy has a research program that needs gender mainstreaming support.	
Research	The Swedish Research Cooperation was initiated in 2000 to strengthen research capacity at five public universities in Uganda in partnership with 11 universities in Sweden.	
Resources	http://www.swedenabroad.com/en-GB/Embassies/Kampala/About-us/About-the-Embassy/	

Level of Influence (1-5): 4 Level of Interest (1-5): 5