



A citizen-driven initiative to monitor
SDG implementation in Africa

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFRSD - African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

BRAC - Building Resources across Communities

CGD - Citizen-generated data

CSO – Civil society organisation

DWC - Domestic work and care

GBV - Gender-based violence

GDP - Gross domestic product

HLPF – High-level Political Forum

IAEG-GS - Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics

ILO - International Labour Organisation

MOI – Means of Implementation

MTPs - Medium-term Plans

NDP II - Second National Development Plan

NUSAF - Northern Uganda Social Action Fund

PPP - Purchasing power parity

PWD – People with disabilities

SACCO - Savings and credit cooperative organisations

SAGE - Social Assistance Grant for Empowerment

SDG - Sustainable Development Goals

UGX – Ugandan Shilling

UN – United Nations

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme

UPE - Universal Primary Education

USE - Universal Secondary Education

UWEP - Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Fund

YLP - Youth Livelihood Programme

VNR - Voluntary National Review

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (“Agenda 2030”) seeks to end poverty and hunger, reduce inequality, and protect the planet. It comprises 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets, and 232 indicators aimed at addressing the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

The follow-up and review of Agenda 2030 is guided by the requirement for “data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts”, as specified in paragraph 74 of the plan.¹ Agenda 2030 furthermore recognises the need for timely and disaggregated data to inform better decision-making and ensuring that no one is left behind, while also recognising that data availability is poor for a number of indicators.

The data gap on gender-specific indicators is well documented.² In closing such a gap and ensuring that no one is left behind, citizen-generated data (CGD) can complement official sources of data, fill existing gaps in a timely manner, and supplement official reporting when data quality is insufficient. CGD can help to make the best policy choices, track SDG progress at all levels, and ultimately, deliver on the promise of these crucial global goals. When data covering themes and topics that matter to citizens is collected, issues affecting marginalised and excluded groups are more likely to be brought to the fore.

The methodology adopted for this project- which focusses on selected targets from Goals 1, 4, 5, 10, and 16³ - was guided by the principle of “leaving no one behind” and enabling citizens to generate data that is relevant to their circumstances. Two instruments for data collection were utilised: a survey focusing on the poor and marginalised members of society, and Citizen Hearings. Data was collected from 640 randomly-selected households spread across three localities - Kampala (Kisaasi), Mbale (Aisa), and Kampala (Bwaise slum) - representing rural, peri-urban, and urban areas respectively.

Findings reveal that gender is a critical factor cutting across all the goals covered by both this survey and the Citizen Hearings that were undertaken, with significant implications for the targeting of development interventions.

¹ United Nations General Assembly (2015). *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1 (25 September 2015). Available from https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E.

² Azcona, G. and Valero, S. (2018). *Making women and girls visible: gender data gaps and why they matter*. UN Women Issue Brief. Available from <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/12/issue-brief-making-women-and-girls-visible>.

³ This project focusses on the following six sustainable development goals:

- 1 - ending poverty in all its forms everywhere;
- 4 - ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;
- 5 - achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls;
- 8 – promoting sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all;
- 10 - reducing inequality within and among countries; and
- 16 - promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.



Summary of Findings

On ending poverty (Goal 1): In the three study communities, the predominant occupation is self-employment in the informal sector as well as smallholder farming. The participation of members of a household in productive activities and asset ownership (primary place of residence) provided the background on the forms and intensity of poverty in those communities. The availability and accessibility of social protection and other poverty reduction programmes supported by the government of

Uganda is very limited or hardly available. When the data is disaggregated based on gender and age, it becomes clear that female-headed households are more likely to be affected than those headed by males.

On quality and equitable education (Goal 4): The data shows that, even though at policy level education is free with a “no user fees” policy, households sampled still are required to make various forms of payment. These associated costs of schooling include stationery, books, uniforms, transport, meals, development, etc. The added costs prohibit access to and successful completion of education. Again, female-headed households are more likely to be disadvantaged in this respect than those headed by males.

On gender equality (Goal 5): The survey measured unpaid domestic work and care as well as gender-specific indicators across Goals 1, 4, 8, and 16, disaggregated based on the gender of the head of household. Of the 640 households sampled across the three communities, female heads of households – who account for 35% - spend more time on unpaid domestic work than males. The difference is also present amongst girls and boys younger than 18 years, but with a smaller gap between the two sexes. Disaggregated data shows that households headed by women have less members of the household engaged in productive activities, own less assets, and have more children out of school. Women also feel less safe in their communities and have lower public participation rates.

On inclusive growth and decent jobs (Goal 8): High levels of unemployment are apparent across all three localities, with most of those who are unemployed actively seeking employment. In terms of decent work, conditions of employment - written contract, sick leave, paid annual leave, and maternity leave – were measured. The study found that for more than half of those who are employed, the requirements of decent work are not met. Across the three communities, there are various employment creation initiatives, e.g. small business training and support, small-scale agriculture inputs, public sector employment, internship or apprenticeships, government employment or employment guarantee programmes, community services, and unemployment and disability insurance. However, these initiatives have limited reach and do not satisfy the demand for such services.

On peaceful and inclusive societies (Goal 16): Data related to community safety, public participation, corruption, as well as satisfaction with services delivery collected from the three communities attests to generally low public participation at local government level. Female heads of households reported higher levels of participation relative to their male counterparts. For example, in Kisaasi, only 8% of men

surveyed reported that they had been invited to participate in consultations, while the figure increased to 11% for their female counterparts. In Bwaise, only 12% of the men surveyed reported that they had been invited to participate for consultation, while the figure increased to 20% for their female counterparts.

Data across all three communities reveal a high level of corruption, with men more likely than women to be asked for bribes, but less likely than women to actually pay the bribes. In Bwaise, 54% of female heads of households reported being asked to pay bribes with 52% reporting to having paid, while of the 60% of male-headed households who were asked to pay bribes, 42% did so.

For Uganda to deliver on Agenda 2030, the country must implement a strategy that prioritises those who are poor and marginalised. This would require public services that are tailored to their needs. The application of the principle of “leaving no one behind” will be crucial for the Ugandan effort to achieve Agenda 2030, thereby addressing social and economic marginalisation. The implementation of Agenda 2030 for sustainable development, therefore, has to adopt an approach that prioritises those who are furthest from realising their development. In other words, development has to start from the margins and move towards the centre, ensuring it includes those who are marginalised and excluded.

Furthermore, the principle of “leaving no one behind” also applies to the extent to which citizens’ voices and agency are strengthened at national, provincial, and local levels. A SDG monitoring framework highlighting a clear plan to close the data gaps for Tier II and Tier III indicators, as well as identifying new reliable data sources - including citizen generated data – needs to be developed.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development seeks to end poverty and hunger in all forms and dimensions, reduce inequality, and protect the planet. It comprises 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets, and 232 indicators, aimed at addressing the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The plan makes provision for an open, inclusive, and transparent process in which all stakeholders, including civil society, can actively participate in a state-led follow-up and review process – the Voluntary National Review (VNR) - while regional and global reporting is facilitated through the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) and the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) respectively.



A 2018 UN Women issue paper on gender gaps in reporting⁵ identified 54 gender-specific indicators, and the UN's Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) identified 80 gender-relevant indicators.⁶ Of the 232 indicators identified to measure progress of Agenda 2030, as of May 2019 there are 45% of Tier I indicators, 38% of Tier II indicators, and 14% of Tier III indicators.⁷ The UN Women issue paper further notes that “only 12 (22%) of the 54 gender specific indicators are produced with enough regularity to be classified as Tier I by the IAEG-GSs”.⁸

In closing the data gap, the role of citizen-generated data has to be considered. Women and youth can play a leading role in data generation and its use in order to inform the delivery of Agenda 2030, thus

- Tier 1: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least 50 per cent of countries and of the population in every region where the indicator is relevant.
- Tier 2: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries.
- Tier 3: No internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested.

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accelerating effective implementation of the SDGs during the remaining 15-year delivery period. Citizen-generated data offers the possibility of timely and relevant data that can inform decision-making. Timely data generated by citizens will facilitate informed and efficient delivery of the SDGs, where the end users will be public officials, decision makers, citizens, and local media. This data will also enable advocacy that can trigger action where there is no delivery.

African Monitor, in partnership with UN Women East and Southern Africa, undertook an initiative to close the data gap by garnering citizen-generated data in nine communities in three counties – Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania. The project is focused on particular aspects of Goals 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, and 16 of the sustainable development goals.

Rationale

In the context of the SDGs, evidence of activities, outcomes, and impacts will play an important role in monitoring and tracking progress of the plan at all levels. Without a doubt, data will be crucial, especially citizen-generated data. This is because CGD can complement official sources of data, fill data gaps that exist in a timely way, and supplement official reporting when data quality is insufficient. Furthermore, CGD is gathered on themes and topics that matter at a disaggregated and geographic level, potentially flagging issues of social injustice and/or economic inequality that might otherwise be missed when collecting survey data.

Improving the capacity of the women and youth to generate and champion citizen-generated data can potentially make a substantial contribution towards the achievement of the 17 Goals. Furthermore, their involvement offers an opportunity for anchoring capacity of indigenous knowledge transfer beyond 2030.

Focus goals, targets, and indicators

The focus of goals and targets selected for this project are based on African Monitor's work from 2016/2017 in more than 20 communities in west, east, and southern Africa. The realisation of Agenda 2030 for sustainable development for grassroots communities anchors on the improvement of their livelihoods and access to economic opportunities, with a particular focus on youth and women empowerment. This includes access to quality education, gender equality, public participation, and effective service delivery.

The focus of the project is on the Goals indicated below; the specific targets and indicators were selected based on a country level scoping and data gap analysis:⁹

- Goal 1 calls for an end to poverty in all its manifestations by 2030.
- Goal 4 calls for inclusive and equitable quality education and the promotion of lifelong opportunities for all.
- Goal 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- Goal 8 aims to promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.
- Goal 10 aims to reduce inequality within and among countries.

⁹ IAEG-SDGs. (2019). *Compilation of Metadata for the Proposed Global Indicators for the Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. Retrieved from <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/metadata-compilation/> on 26 September 2019.

- Goal 16 focusses on peace, justice, and strong institutions.

The chosen targets and indicators were identified based on the following:

- 1) Targets that provide a context to and increase our understanding of development outcomes (i.e. poverty, education, unemployment, and governance outcomes);
- 2) Targets focused on interventions and processes that drive progress in these key outcomes;
- 3) The information or data is not being collected by National Statistical Offices (i.e. there is an apparent data gap) and these are thus likely to be category II and category III indicators; and
- 4) The targets identified include process - including means of implementation (MOI) - and outcome indicators.

Methodology

The methodology for citizen-generated data is guided by the concept of *“leaving no one behind”* with the focus on communities and populations that are likely to be excluded from service delivery and other development programmes. The principle has also informed the choice of indicators, analysis, and sampling techniques for additional data.

DataShift defines CGD as “data that people or their organizations produce to directly monitor, demand or drive change on issues that affect them. This can be produced through crowdsourcing mechanisms or citizen reporting initiatives, often organized and managed by civil society groups.”¹⁰



Firstly, it is important to note both the advantages as well as the limitations of CGD. CGD can provide contextual information to drive progress around the SDGs (Wilson and Rahman, 2017¹¹). From African Monitor’s 2017 citizens hearings it has become clear that qualitative CGD was useful in explaining the progress - or lack thereof - of SDG targets and indicators. Furthermore, CGD provides information that is more relevant for local actions, and generally tends to focus on SDG targets - rather than indicators - using different units of analysis.

The methodological limitations of CGD can be summarized as follows:¹²

- *Representativity*: data represents only a limited group of people and thus is not representative of a larger group or geographic area, i.e. the sample is not representative of the whole population.
- *Coverage*: data covers a geographical area that is not comparable to the area analysed by official observations (too narrow or too wide).

¹⁰ DataShift. (2017). *Using citizen-generated data to monitor the SDGs: A tool for the GPSDD Data Revolution Roadmaps Toolkit*. Retrieved from <http://www.data4sdgs.org/sites/default/files/2017-09/Making%20Use%20of%20Citizen-Generated%20Data%20-%20Data4SDGs%20Toolbox%20Module.pdf>.

¹¹ Wilson, C. and Rahman, Z. (2017). *Citizen-generated data and governments: towards collaborative model*. DataShift report retrieved from <http://civicus.org/images/citizen-generated%20data%20and%20governments.pdf>

¹² Piovesan, F. (2015). *Statistical perspectives on citizen-generated data*. Civicus: DataShift. Retrieved from http://civicus.org/thedatashift/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/statistical-perspectives-on-cgd_web_single-page.pdf

- *Reliability*: the diverse collection and verification methods and lack of methodological refinement often bring the issue of data reliability to the fore.
- *Complementarity*: the issues monitored through CGD are not always comparable or complementary to those analysed by governmental agencies.
- *Interoperability*: the format of CGD is such that it requires further processing before it is compatible with official data.

On the balance of advantages and limitations, CGD should be used as an indicative and/or informative tool to learn about specific population groups, or understand the depth and nuance of specific issues or themes.

Sampling Criteria

Purposive selection was used to select one community representing each of the three settlement types in each country, while random sampling was then used to select households from each community.

The criteria for the purposive selection of communities was based on the concept the “*leaving no one behind*” with a focus on poor and marginalised communities, which the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) defines as “people [who] get left behind when they lack the choices and opportunities to participate in and benefit from development progress”.¹³

Five key factors were considered when selecting one community each from a rural, urban, and peri-urban area in each country:

- socio-economic status,
- geography (spatial settlement),
- discrimination,
- governance,
- shock and fragility, and
- other country-specific fault lines.

On the basis of this, one community was selected from each of the three settlement types in each country. A sample of 200 households was randomly selected from each purposefully selected community (lowest administrative unit). The study adopted random systematic sampling to determine the households to be interviewed in the (district) county: enumerators selected the first respondent randomly and systematically chose the eighth household after the first. The choice of this sampling criterion was to ensure that the population would be evenly sampled.

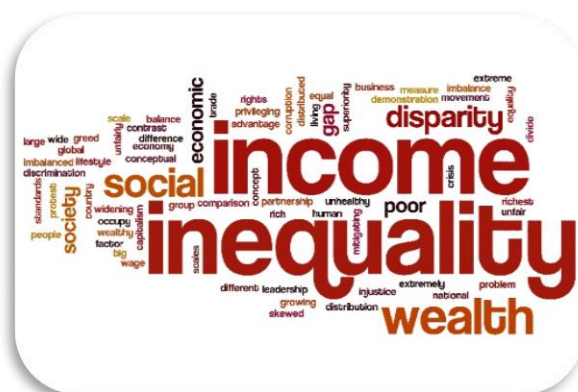
¹³ UNDP (2018). *What does it mean to leave no one behind? A UNDP discussion paper and framework for implementation*. UNDP discussion paper, July 2018. Retrieved from https://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Sustainable%20Development/2030%20Agenda/Discussion_Paper_LNOB_EN_lres.pdf

- Youth Champions and country focal persons from Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania attended a five-day training workshop on 16- 20 of October 2018 at the University of Dar Salaam.
- The Champions (three women and two men) were trained on data collection techniques based on the questionnaire and practiced interviewing techniques.
- The survey instrument deployed to collect data focused on inputs and interventions to provide insight to what is behind the outcome indicators.
- The KoBo Toolbox, a free open-source tool data collection, was used on mobile tablets.



Uganda is an East African country with an estimated population of 44.6 million people, up significantly from the 33,640,833 estimated in 2013.¹⁴ The country has one of the youngest populations in Africa, with nearly half of its citizens younger than 15 years of age and 55% under the age of 18.¹⁵ In Uganda, marginalised and vulnerable groups include women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disability, and ethnic minorities.¹⁶

Uganda's economy performed well between 1992 and 2010, with growth rates of around 8% per annum, but then dipped to 4% in the 2016/17 financial year.¹⁷ The economy's slow growth has had a negative impact on incomes and poverty reduction initiatives. The slowdown was mainly driven by adverse weather conditions such as drought, slow implementation of public investments, low private sector credit growth, and political upheavals in the region. This includes the conflict in South Sudan which has led to thousands of refugees fleeing to Uganda. The country's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth was estimated at 5.3% in 2018, and is estimated to improve to 5.7% in 2020.¹⁸



¹⁸ African Development Bank Group (2019) *African Economic Outlook 2019*. Retrieved from https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/2019AEO/AEO_2019-EN.pdf

In 2013, more than a third of Uganda's citizens lived below the international poverty line of USD 1.90 per day. In 2006, more than 31% of the country's citizens lived under the national poverty line; this number decreased to 20% in 2013, increasing to 21% in 2016/17 (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2018).¹⁹ This poverty line was set in- over twenty years ago - and is now too low, and not reflective of the reality in which too many Ugandans live today.²⁰

The Gross Domestic Product per capita in Uganda was last recorded at USD 1,697.70 in 2017, when adjusted for purchasing power parity (PPP) - equivalent to 10% of the world's average. GDP per capita PPP in Uganda averaged USD 1,227.66 from 1990 until 2017, escalating from a record low of USD 769.50 in 1990 to an all-time high of USD 1,697.70 USD in 2017.²¹

According to the Global Gender Gap 2016, Uganda ranks 61st out of 144 countries in addressing the gender gap. Vision 2030 points out that, in spite of progress in the political and decision-making arena, other conditions sustaining gender inequality in Uganda remain salient, including: gender disparities in access and control over productive resources like land; limited share of women in wage employment in non-agricultural sectors; sexual and gender-based violence; and limited participation in household, community, and national decision-making.²²

Implementation of SDGs

The Ugandan government started with the implementation of Agenda 2030 in the 2015/16 financial year - before the official UN implementation date of 1 January 2016. The SDGs were incorporated in the Second National Development Plan (NDP II) (Uganda National Planning Authority, 2015a), and since then implementation has taken effect as part of the broad national development strategy.

NDP II takes note of both the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs in its formulation. Uganda was in a uniquely advantageous position to lead by example by adopting and localising the SDGs, and implementing projects geared towards the achievement of the SDGs - particularly those that fit within the current national development obligations - as well as the East African regional integration



¹⁹ World Bank (2016) *Uganda Poverty Assessment 2016: Fact Sheet*. Retrieved August 2019 from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/uganda/brief/uganda-poverty-assessment-2016-fact-sheet>

²⁰ World Bank Group (2016) *The Uganda Poverty Assessment Report 2016*. Retrieved from <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/381951474255092375/pdf/Uganda-Poverty-Assessment-Report-2016.pdf> on 22 August 2019.

²¹ Trading Economics (2019) *Uganda GDP per capita PPP*. Retrieved from <https://tradingeconomics.com/uganda/gdp-per-capita-ppp>, on 21 August 2019.

²² United Nations Population Fund (2017) "Worlds Apart In Uganda: Inequalities In Women's Health, Education and Economic Empowerment". UNFPA *Population Matters*, Issue Brief 05, Special Edition October 2017. Retrieved from https://uganda.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Issue%20Brief%205%20-%20special%20edition.%20inequalities.final_.pdf, on 21 August 2019

and African Agenda 2063 development commitments. NDP II presents the perfect opportunity to do this.²³

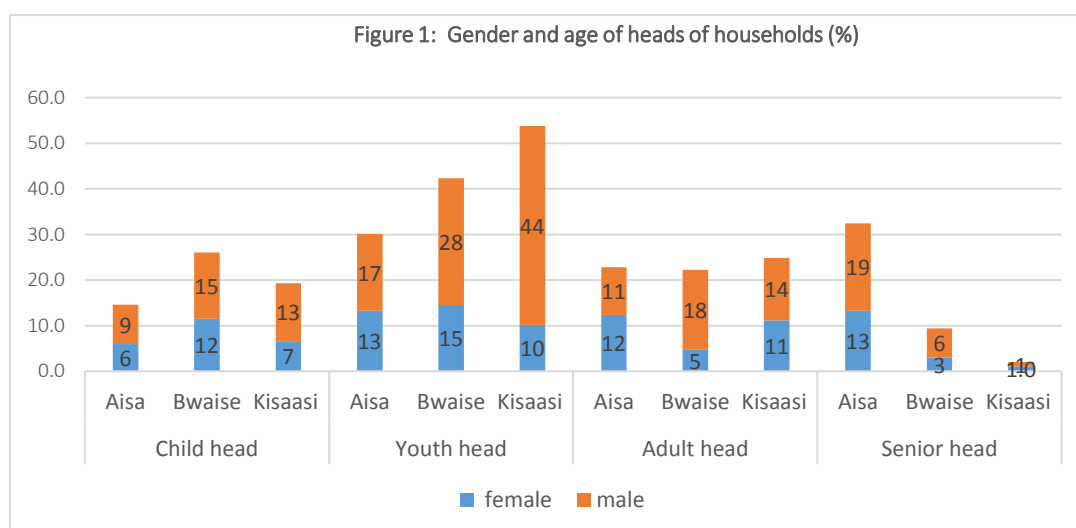
NDP II does not adopt or mainstream the SDGs holistically; it identifies those elements critical to Uganda and those that are aligned to its constitution and regional agreements. The plan mainstreams all goals except SDGs 11, 12, 14, and 15 (sustainable cities and communities, responsible consumption and production, life below water, and life on land), which are not considered to be critical for Uganda. However, not all the targets attached to the mainstreamed goals have been included. This might be where Ugandan CSOs have to apply a sectorial lens to ensure those elements relevant to their constituencies are included in the next NDP.

²³ Uganda National Planning Authority, 2015a. Second National Development Plan (NDPII) 2015/16–2019/20. Retrieved from <http://npa.ug/wp-content/uploads/NDPII-Final.pdf> on 8 June 2016.
Uganda National Planning Authority, 2015b. Uganda Vision 2040: Sector Development Planning Guidelines. Retrieved from <http://npa.ug/wp-content/themes/npatheme/documents/vision2040.pdf> , on 6 June 2016.

RESEARCH RESULTS

Household and Community Profile

A sample of 640 households was randomly selected in three communities: 219 in Aisa, 234 in Bwaise, and 197 Kisaasi.



In terms of age brackets of heads of households, children under the age of 18 head up 15% of the sample taken in Aisa, 27% in Bwaise, and 20% in Kisaasi. Households headed by youth (age 18-35) amount to 30% in Aisa, 42% in Bwaise, and 53% in Kisaasi; while those headed by adults (age 36-65) total 23% in Aisa, 23% in Bwaise, and 25% in Kisaasi. Seniors (age 65 and above) head up 32% of the sample households in Aisa, 9% in Bwaise, and 25 for Kisaasi.

The general socio-economic profile of each of the sampled communities is tabled below.

Table 1: General socio-economic profile of sampled communities

	District municipality	Local municipality	District	Community	Main characteristics within the context of the study
Urban	Kampala City Council	Kawempe Division	Kampala	Bwaise	Retail trading, very few toilets - mostly shared with more than two households, high urban crime level, unemployment, poverty.
Peri-urban	Wakiso	Nakawa	Wakiso	Kisaasi	Retail trading, small-scale urban farming, rental settlement.
Rural	Bungokho	Namanyonyi	Mbale	Aisa	Subsistence agriculture, stone quarry, brick laying, unemployment, poverty

Bwaise is located in Kawempe division, Kampala district, and is one of the most densely populated areas of Kampala. Located in a swampy area, Bwaise is subjected to flooding during the rainy season. This has exposed residents to several problems ranging from diseases - such as malaria, cholera, typhoid and dysentery - to floods, as well as posing an environmental threat as a result of stagnant water. The main sources of livelihoods are boda-boda (motorcycle) taxis, selling foodstuffs, and other goods.

Aisa is located in Namanyonyi sub-county in Mbale district. Located in a rural setting, households primarily engage in agriculture - especially subsistence agricultural activities - as their main source of livelihood. Other economic activities include stone quarrying, brick laying, and providing public transport in the form of Boda-boda.

Kisaasi is a middle-class residential neighbourhood in Wakiso district with clusters of upscale residencies and an estimated population of about 60,000 people. It is a peri-urban setting with agriculture as the main economic activity.

Goal 1 - End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Ending extreme poverty and reducing deprivation experienced by men, women, and children in all its forms is central to Agenda 2030. Achieving this requires improving and sustaining the livelihoods of the most marginalised communities, and restoring their dignity.

This section will look at source of income and livelihoods, regularity of income, and asset ownership to provide an alternative measure of the state of poverty in the communities. It will also focus on state intervention - in terms of social protection - and the equal right to economic resources.

Specific **targets** measured in relation to this goal are:

- 1.1 - By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than USD 1.25 a day;
- 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; and
- 1.4 - By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, access to basic services, and ownership and control over land and other forms of property.

Proxy **indicators** used to measure this goal focused on:

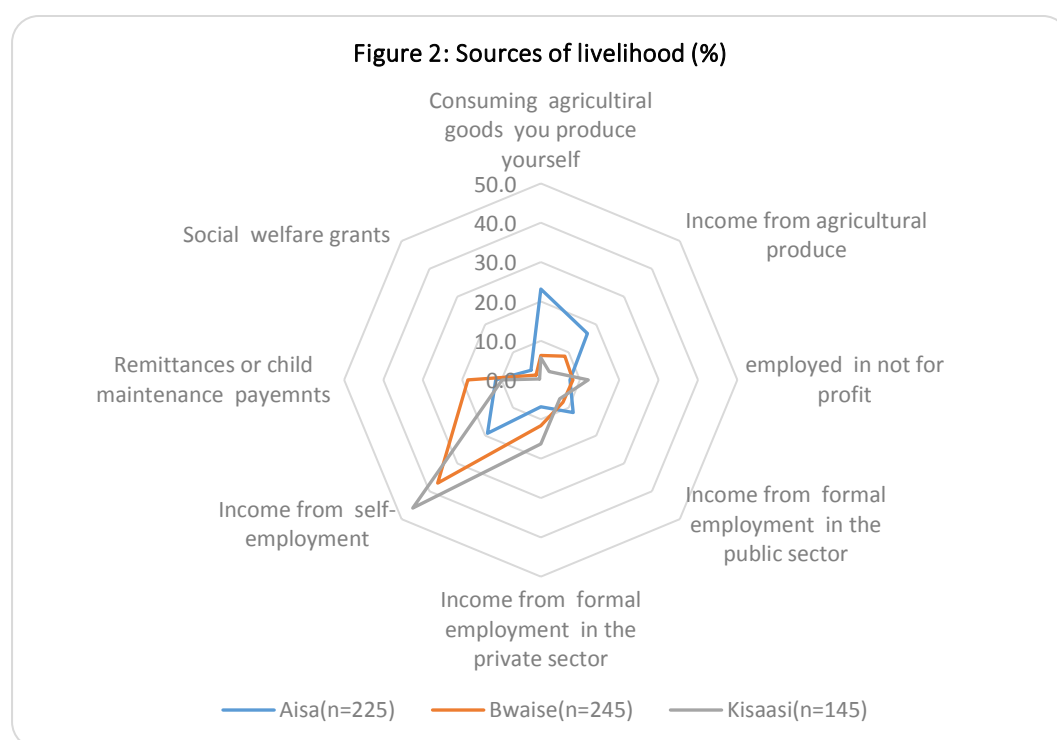
- Sustained sources of livelihoods and regularity of income;
- Ownership of assets - limited to ownership of accommodation (dwelling) - and access to basic services (electricity, water, and sanitation); and
- Coverage and effectiveness of social protection systems, as well as poverty reduction programmes.

The following analysis is based on the data generated through Citizens Surveys and Citizens Hearings. Indicators for which valid data could not be generated are not reported on.

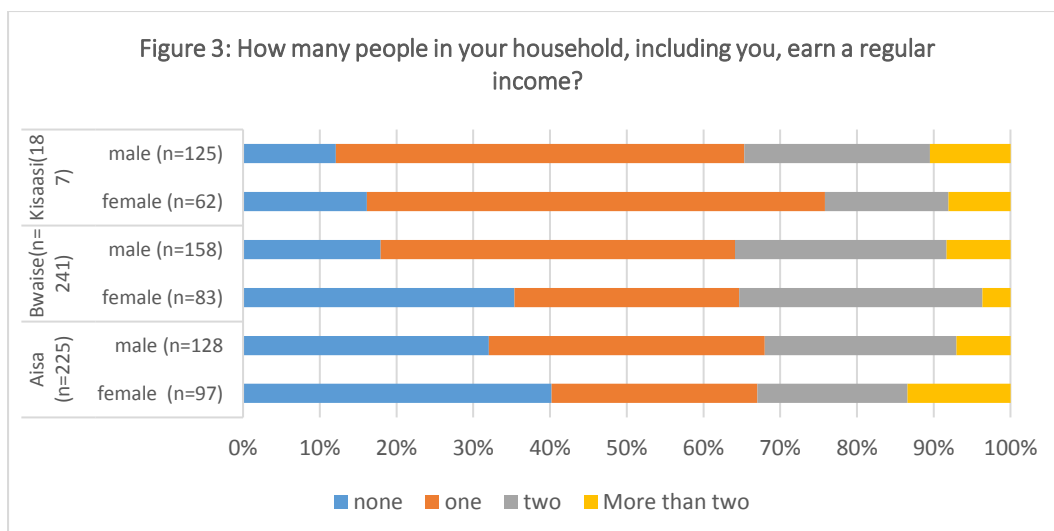
Source of income

Across the three communities, the main source of livelihoods is mostly self-employment in the informal sector and smallholder farming. (See Figure 2).

- In Mbale district, Aisa parish is a rural area where agriculture is the mainstay of the local economy. Sixteen per cent of respondents reported generating income from agricultural production, 23% of respondents reported consumption of their own agricultural produce, and a further third said their main source of income is self-employment in the informal sector.
- In Kisaasi (peri-urban), 46% of respondents that self-employment is their main source of income, while 16% derived income from employment in the private sector and 12% from employment in the not-for-profit sector.
- In Bwaise, an urban slum area, 37% of respondents indicated that their main source of income is from self-employment in the informal sector, while 18% derived income from remittances and child maintenance, and 11% from employment in the private sector.

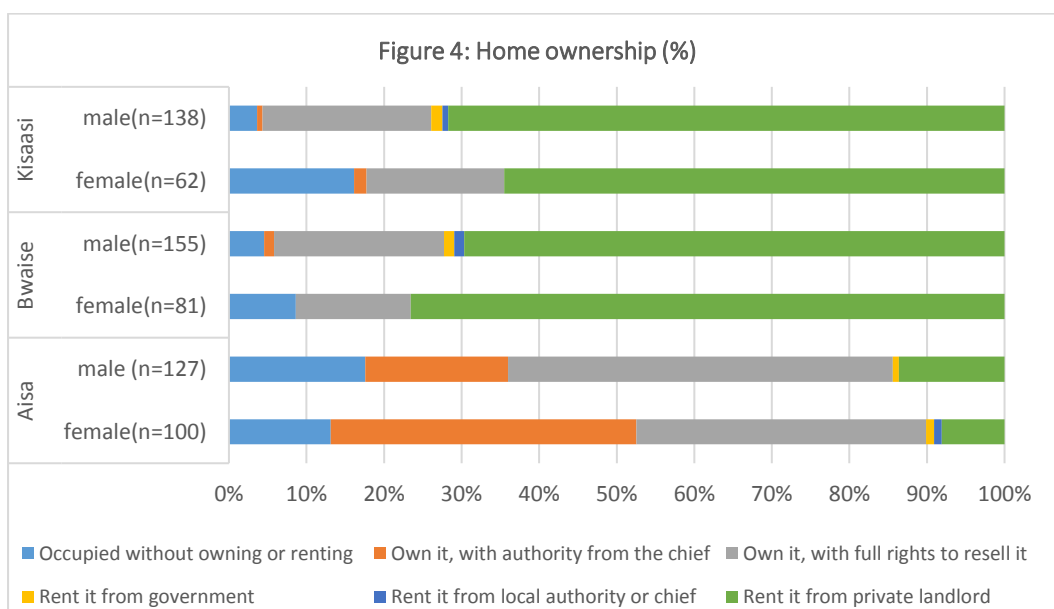


As Figure 3 below illustrates, more than 30% of the households sampled reported that none of their household members are earning a regular income. This figure was higher in the poor communities: in Aisa, 39% of female-headed households had no regular income, while Bwaise recorded 34% for female-headed households. In comparison, Kisaasi, Kampala district reported that only 16% of female-headed households had no household members who earn a regular income.



Ownership of dwelling place

The findings further showed that tenure (ownership) of accommodation in the poor communities sampled is very low. There is a definite pattern in the differences between female- and male-headed households. In Aisa parish, more households own and have a right to sell their accommodation: 48% for male-headed households and 37% of those headed by women. The urban and peri-urban areas included in the study have lower rates of ownership due to the high cost of land. Most houses are in these cases owned by the landowners. Only 15% of female-headed households and 21% male-headed households in Bwaise claimed to own a dwelling with the full right to sell it, while in Kisaasi, 17% of female-headed households and 21% of those headed by men own their dwellings and have the full right to sell.



In particular, the findings suggest that urban and peri-urban poor communities lack security of tenure (ownership of their accommodation) - more than 60 % of households interviewed in these settlements rent their accommodation (See Figure 3).

As a result of the increasing cost of living both in rural and urban areas in Uganda, most of the vulnerable and marginalised households cannot afford good quality houses due to high rent dues. This is more pronounced in urban areas as there are limited alternatives beyond renting. Consequently, many of these households have resorted to living in slum areas where housing is more affordable, but of poor quality. As observed in Bwaise, residing in slum areas present many challenges for households. These include lack of access to safe and clean water, poor sanitation where several households share one pit latrine, and security problems due to rampant theft and robbery of household items.

Community leaders in Bwaise indicated that owning a house in the area is impossible for most residents as land is primarily owned by the Kakungulu – an absent landlord who was a representative of the colonial government and Kingdom of Buganda - whereas privately-owned land makes up a small percentage of all the land in the area. The development of housing remains low as most residents do not have the land nor the capacity to lease large portions of land for houses and other developments.

“It is hard to own a decent house in Bwaise because the land is swampy. Even people who own houses have challenges of flooding during the rainy season. Most of us in the area are poor and cannot afford to construct our own houses”,

...said the chairman of Local Council One.

The residents also reported the challenge of poor sanitation and hygiene in the Bwaise area that was evidenced by the poorly disposed garbage. Many households are dumping rubbish in the wetlands, drains, and along the roadsides.

The majority of the residents in Kisaasi rent houses from private owners. This is mainly because most of the people do not own land on which they can construct their own houses. In addition, Kisaasi is a growing peri-urban area where the participants in the study reported ever-increasing costs of rent, rendering it unaffordable for most of the residents.

Social safety nets

Despite the high number of households completely lacking regular sources of income, the findings showed that social protection assistance is likely not to reach most of the households in poor, vulnerable, and marginalised communities. Uganda has various programmes aimed at reducing poverty, such as the Social Assistance Grant for Empowerment (SAGE), Youth Livelihood Programme (YLP), Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Fund (UWEP), Special Grant for Persons with Disabilities, labour-intensive public works programmes, and agricultural input supplies. However, 81% of the respondents claimed not to have received any form of social protection assistance from the government. In particular, the proportion of households deprived of social protection assistance programmes is high across all the three districts - with almost all households (95%) in Bwaise and 97% in Kisaasi communities reportedly not receiving any social assistance from the government (See Table 2). In Aisa, 22% reported that they received farming inputs and 21% received cash grants.

Table 2: Types of government assistance received by households interviewed (%)			
Type of social assistance received	Ward / community		
	Aisa (n=171)	Bwaise (n=230)	Kisaasi (n=203)
Food parcels	23	0.4	1
Food subsidy	0	0.1	0
Cash grant	21	4	1
Farming inputs	22	1	0.5
Public works programme part-time job	8	0	0
Public works programme full-time job	11	0.4	0
No-one receives any government social assistance	68	95	98

Through the Social Assistance Grant for Empowerment (SAGE), with support from development partners – the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) and Irish Aid - the Ugandan government tested various social transfer mechanisms. Between 2010 and 2015, the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MGLSD) piloted SAGE in 15 districts. The pilot districts were selected using an index based on share of specific demographic groups (children, elderly, orphans and vulnerable children) as well as on health and education criteria. The pilot districts were Kyenjojo, Nebbi, Zombo, Kyegegwa, Kiboga, Kyankwanzi, Apac, Kileleshwa, Katakwi, Kaberamaido, Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit, Amudat, and Yumbe. Beneficiaries of the pilot programme were the elderly: in Karamoja region these were identified as person older than 60, while seniors older than 65 years were targeted in rest of the selected districts.

Following the successfully implementation of Senior Citizens Grants (SCGs) during the SAGE pilot programme, the government of Uganda decided to roll out a second phase of SAGE, targeting the 100 oldest people per sub-county in 40 new districts. Under phase II, 20 districts were targeted in the 2015/16 financial year, while five new districts were added per subsequent financial year. By the end of the 2018/2019 financial year the Ministry had extended the grants to 61 districts - reaching 210,862 beneficiaries - and had transferred a total of UGX 268.390 billion (approximately USD 73 million) to these beneficiaries.

At the 1 October 2019 International Day of Older Persons celebrations held in Kumi district, the Ministry announced the rollout of SAGE to all elderly in the country. In this new development, the minimum age for beneficiaries to qualify for the monthly grant of UGX 25,000 was increased from 65 (as in the pilot) to 80. With a budget of UGX. 32 billion, SAGE is set to be implemented nationally between January – March 2020.

Cash transfers have an impact on both the benefiting household and the communities in which they reside. The grants improve income, health services, agricultural productivity, and access to credit for investment in small businesses. While the 2016/17 Uganda National Household Survey revealed an increase in national poverty from 19.7% in 2013 to 21.4% in 2016, a UNICEF study using the same data set indicated that poverty fell from 31.1% to 30.8% in SAGE-benefiting districts.

Community members in Kisaasi expressed their dissatisfaction at these government programmes that target only selected vulnerable people in a few areas – particularly rural ones - and omit those in urban areas in spite of them encountering the same challenges. This too was the case in Bwaise and Aisa, where the Social Assistance Grant for Empowerment had not yet been implemented.

Moreover, SAGE only caters for the elderly, leaving out other marginalised groups such as orphans and people with disabilities; and the amount is not sufficient to cater for the basic needs of the recipients for a whole month given the cost of living.

In Aisa, a participant said that *“We have families being headed by elderly people and those families are extended families with over eight people on average. How can they survive on UGX. 25,000 shillings a month including medical care? That amount is less than USD 10 for heaven’s sake. More so, the payment is not regular at all - some beneficiaries go for three or so many months without getting the money. If the programme is not a political joke, then I don’t know how to call it.”*

The participants acknowledged the relief that the grant brings to disadvantaged households, but also expressed dissatisfaction with the criteria used to select beneficiaries, the very few people who receive it, and the nepotism and patronage surrounding selection as it is biased towards relatives and supporters of the National Resistance Movement.

The government of Uganda also provides a social safety net to persons with disabilities (PWDs) through a special grant, which can only though be accessed by PWD groups wishing to invest in small businesses. Respondents from Bwaise, Kisaasi and Aisa never mentioned this grant, and could very well not be aware it.

Similarly, the Ugandan government - with support from the World Bank - is implementing labour-intensive public works programmes through the Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF) III. Implemented through the Office of the Prime Minister, the programme aims to provide effective household income support to and build the resilience of poor and vulnerable households in northern Uganda. However, this programme is limited to only selected districts and offers only temporary employment. Respondents in Bwaise, Aisa and Kisaasi were not aware of this initiative, and consequently none of them reported benefiting from it.

In addition to the aforementioned safety nets, the National Health Insurance Scheme Bill - aimed at improving the provision and access of health services to all Ugandans – was recently approved. Currently, over 41% of total expenditure on health services is out-of-pocket expenditure by households, while 42% is contributed by international donors and 15% by government. The scheme will therefore ensure that citizens have access to equitable, affordable and quality healthcare services. However, it is important to note that the scheme has not yet been implemented as the bill is in Parliament for discussion or debate.

Goal 4 - Quality education for all

Agenda 2030 calls for equitable access to and successful completion of education, starting from early childhood education (ECD), through primary, secondary, and to tertiary education. Transitioning from improved access to improved completion requires a schooling system that retains school-going children while ensuring significant improvements in educational outcomes (numeracy, literacy, and skills).



The focus **targets** for this report are:

- 4.1 - By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable, and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes; and
- 4.a - Build and upgrade education facilities that are child-, disability-, and gender-sensitive; and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive, and effective learning environments for all.

The proxy **indicators** used to measure this goal are:

- Access and completion, by measuring whether school fees and the associated costs of schooling limit access to education. It also considers whether there are other factors that limit access and completion of schooling; and
- School facilities related to access and disability- and gender-sensitive elements.

Access to schooling

The survey reveals that

- in Aisa, 30% of school-going aged children and youth from female-headed households and 32% from male-headed households do not attend school;
- in Bwaise, 35% of school-going aged children and youth in female-headed households and 25% in male-headed households do not attend school; and
- in Kisaasi, 20% of school-going aged children and youth in female-headed households and 32% in male-headed households do not attend school.

Table 3: Member of household under the 18 not attending school

	Rural: Mbale		Urban: Kampala		Peri-urban: Wakiso	
	Aisa, female (n=99)	Aisa, male (n=125)	Bwaise, female (n=80)	Bwaise male (n=154)	Kisaasi, female (n=60)	Kisaasi, male (n=137)
<i>Are there any members of your household who are under 18 and not in school?</i>						
No (%)	69	68	65	74	80	75
Yes (%)	31	32	35	26	20	25
<i>Are you required to pay school fees for those members of your household still going to school?</i>						

No (%)	11	23	28	41	8	10
Yes (%)	89	77	72	59	92	90

In terms of school fee requirements, 92% of female-headed households and 90% of male-headed households in Kisaasi reported that they are required to pay school fees. It is slightly lower in Aisa, where 89% of female heads of household and 77% of male heads of household reported that they are required to pay school fees. In Bwaise, an urban slum, 72% of female heads and 59% of male heads reported the requirement to pay. More female than male heads of households in Aisa and Bwaise reported that they are required to pay school fees. Generally a higher percentage of households in Kisaasi and Aisa indicated that they are required to pay school fees.

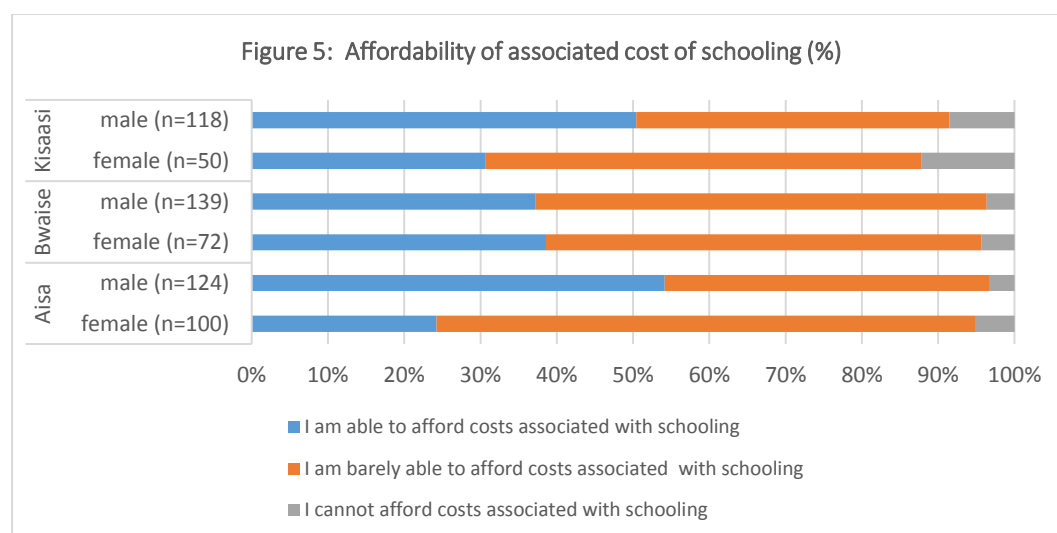
The top three reasons for not attending school of children and youth are: the lack of resources and/or affordability, pupils who got married and/or fell pregnant, and children with learning difficulties. Except for in rural Aisa, the distance to school is not a significant impediment to access education facilities.

Table 4: Reason for household member to attending school (multiple responses)						
Reason for household members who are not in school (% multiple responses)	Aisa		Bwaise		Kisaasi	
Head of household	Female head	Male head	Female head	Male head	Female head	Male head
Behavioural problem(s)	34	15	11	1	15	6
Learning difficulties	43	38	18	24	8	22
Ill health	34	21	14	0	15	22
Lives with disability	43	17	14	10	23	9
Got married	37	23	11	5	0	0
Is pregnant	57	32	39	29	15	31
We cannot afford to send them to school	37	34	64	44	62	34
The schools are too far from where we stay	14	4	4	2	0	0

Participants in the Citizens Hearings reported that schools generally lack facilities for special needs students, and that this is a deterrent to accessing education. Parents have resorted to leaving children with disabilities at home, rather than enrolling them in inadequately equipped schools. This is the case in Kisaasi, where about 10% of the children have some form of disability. The community said that they are aware of one special needs school in Ntinda - Ugandan School for the Deaf – that offers primary education with pre-vocation skills in carpentry, tailoring, home science and agricultural practice. It is a government-aided primary school that brings together all categories of deaf children, including those with multiple disabilities.

It is important to note that most of the schools are supposed to be inclusive in nature to cater for children with disabilities. Schools are required to have ramps and rails such as that of Kalinaabiri primary school in Ntinda for Kisaasi residents. Generally though, inclusive schools are not inclusive enough in most of the schools in the areas studied: most schools still lack inadequate facilities and programming for children with special needs, contributing to high drop-out rates.

Almost all households interviewed across the three communities agreed that they bare all-school related expenses including stationery (books, papers, pens, etc.), text books, uniform and shoes, transport, events, activities and excursions.



In terms of the affordability of the associated costs of schooling, female-headed households are more likely than their male counterparts to face challenges. More than half (56%) of female-headed households in Kisaasi, 55% in Bwaise and 70% in Aisa reported that they find it difficult to meet the costs associated with schooling, while 41% of male-headed households in Kisaasi, 58% in Bwaise and 41% in Aisa reported the same problem.

The data from the three communities show that, in Aisa, 44% of the female-headed households and 50% of male-headed households indicated that school fees and associated costs of schooling prevented children from attending school during the 12 months preceding the survey. The highest percentage was found in Kisaasi, where 69% of female-headed households and 48% of their male counterparts reported this. In Bwaise, 63% of female-headed households and 61% of male-headed households reported the same.

Table 5: Have school fees and additional school costs prevented you or other people in your household from attending school anytime in the past 12 months?

	Rural - Mbale district		Urban – Kampala		Peri-urban- Wakiso	
	Aisa, female (n=98)	Aisa, male (n=125)	Bwaise, female (n=76)	Bwaise, male (n=134)	Kisaasi, female (n=51)	Kisaasi, male (n=115)
No (%)	56	50	37	39	30	52

Yes (%)	44	50	63	61	69	48
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While programmes such as Universal Primary Education (UPE) and Universal Secondary Education (USE) are being implemented to increase access to education in Uganda, the citizens interviewed claimed that - though public schools are meant to be no-fee institutions, parents still have to contribute some school fees and other requirements. This prevents some children from attending school.

The Citizen's Hearings revealed that access to quality education is not only limited due to high costs, but due to insufficient numbers of schools. In some areas, there are too few or no public schools, forcing parents to send their children to private schools. Even where there are public schools, participants of the Citizens Hearings reported that they are required to contribute more than UGX 100,000 (approximately USD 27) per child, which is not different from private schools where fees are around UGX 150,000 (approximately USD 40). This results in vulnerable and marginalised households being excluded from the education system, in spite of programmes aimed at supporting universal primary and secondary education.

The participants also stated that associated costs of schooling such as feeding, books, uniform, study tours prevent children from attending school. Other factors such poor public service also affect attendance, as in Bwaise where the poor drainage systems floods the area and roads during the rainy seasons, preventing children from moving.

This is also the case in Aisa, where the local councillor pointed out domestic violence and child abuse as contributing to attrition. In some households girls have to do a lot of domestic work, including agricultural work such as weeding as well as cleaning and cooking for other members of the households. This results in them being late for school and being unable to concentrate on school work, often leading to the girls being punished for poor marks and/or dropping out.

In addition, participants of the Citizen's Hearings reported dissatisfaction with the quality of education offered at both public and private schools as they still use an outdated syllabus developed in the 1980s, thereby not in line with modern education standards nor addressing current local and global issues.

There was also an issue of public schools lacking enough facilities. For example, there are insufficient classrooms to accommodate all children. This is especially true for public primary schools and rural areas such as Aisa. The child to classroom ratios are very high - to the extent that more than six children share a desk designed to seat four. Some schools lack libraries and laboratories and those that do so, they do not have enough books in the libraries and equipment in the laboratories. Kisaasi residents credited the Ugandan government for reduced absenteeism in public schools. This they primarily attributed to government's increasing role in monitoring teacher attendance.

Goal 5 – Gender Equality

Agenda 2030 set a global norm for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. It underscores that women and girls must enjoy their full human rights and opportunities, including equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation; as well as equal opportunity for employment, leadership, and decision-making at all levels.



It should be noted that some of the targets under this Goal are crosscutting. These include safety and gender-based violence, participation in decision-making, asset ownership, employment and economic opportunities, as well as education.

For this report, the focus targets are:

- 5.4 - Recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure, and social protection policies; and
- 5.a - Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property.

The indicator measured is the time spent by the head of household and boys and girls under of age of 18 on domestic work and care;

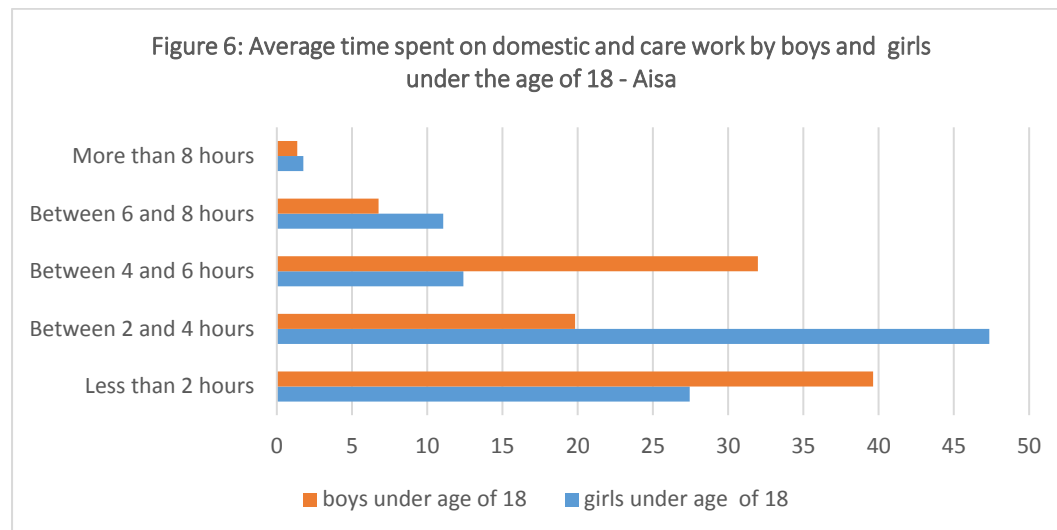
Data has been disaggregated by gender of the household head and, therefore, provides information on various aspects related to Goals, 4, 8, and 16.

Methodology Note

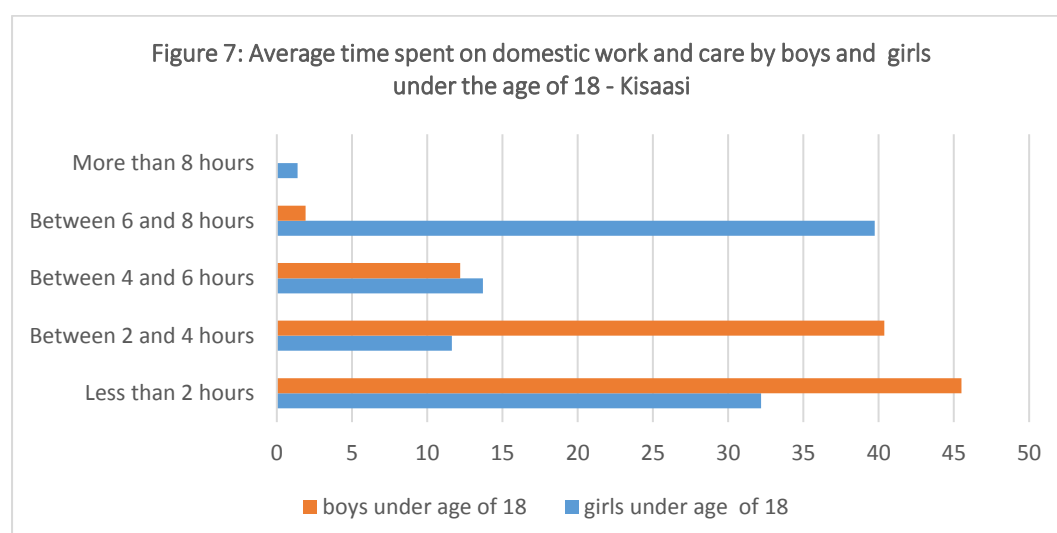
Unpaid domestic work and care are activities (listed below) undertaken to look after the welfare of the family and community without direct cash payment:

- Cook
- Grow or collect food for the family
- Fetch water
- Wash clothes
- Collect fuel like firewood
- Clean the house and yard
- Remove household rubbish
- Help children with homework
- Care for sick household members
- Care for sick people in the wider family or community
- Care for small children in the household
- Care for small children in the wider family or community
- Care for elderly people in the household
- Care for elderly people in the wider family or community
- Build or repair things around the house

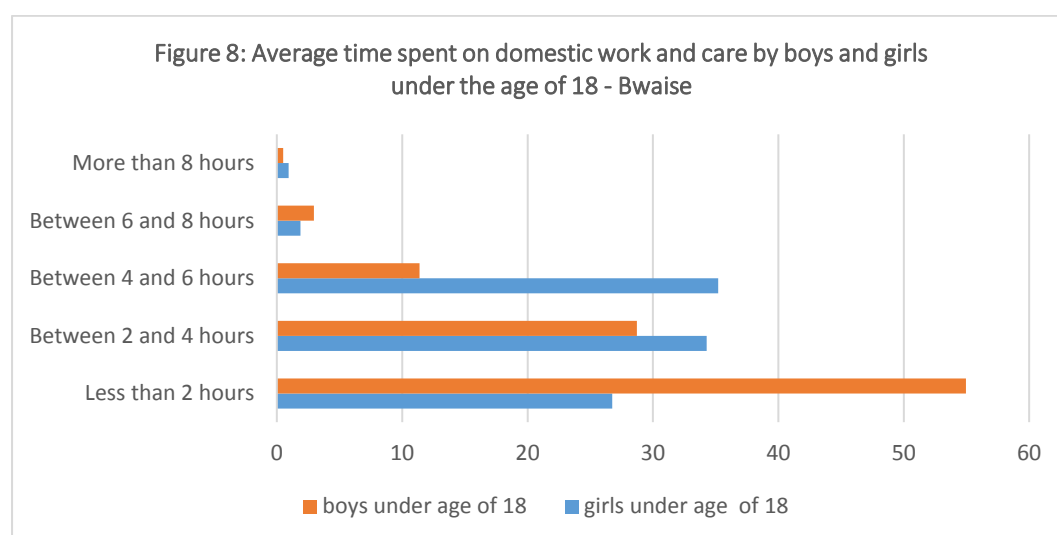
The respondents to the citizen’s survey reported that girls under the age of 18 spend more time on domestic work and care (DWC) than boys of the same age group.



In Aisa, a rural community, 11% of respondents agree that girls under age 18 spend between 6 and 8 hours on domestic care and work, and that only 7% of respondents indicated that their male counterparts do. 12% of respondents agree that girls under the age of 18 spend between 4 and 6 hours on DWC while for boys it is 32%. A clear pattern emerges, as 47% of respondents agree that girls under the age of 18 spend between 2 and 4 hours, while the comparable figure for boys is 19%. Furthermore, 27% of respondents reported that girls under the age of 18 spend less than 2 hours in DWC compared to 40% for boys.



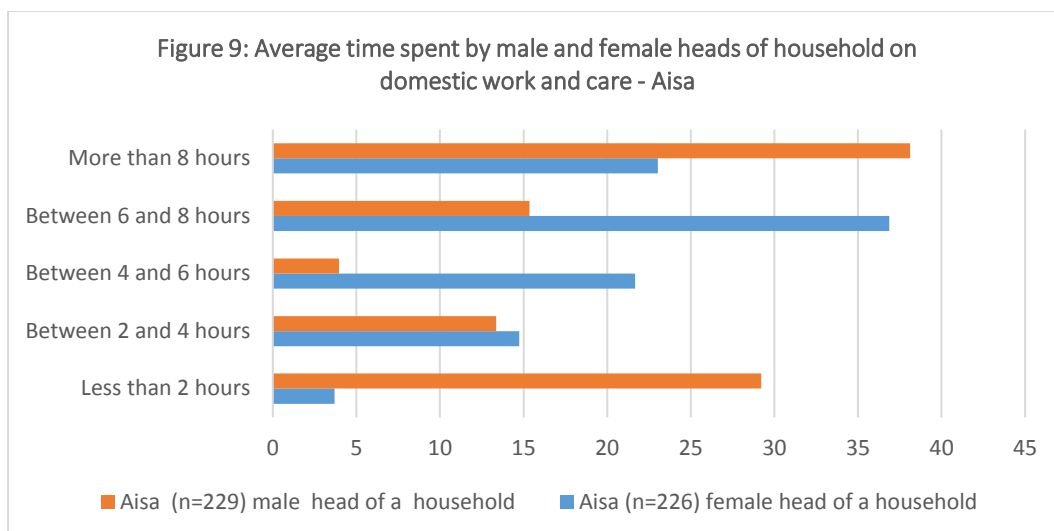
In Kisaasi, a peri-urban area, a definite pattern is observed (Figure 7) whereby 85% of respondents agree that boys under 18 spend less than 4 hours per day on DCW, while only 43% respondents agreed that girls of the same age group fall into the same time category for domestic work and care. Thirteen per cent of the respondents agreed that girls under the age of 18 spend between 4 and 6 hours on DCW, while the corresponding figure for boys is 12%. Nearly four out of ten (39%) respondents agree that girls under the age of 18 spend between 6 and 48 hours on this type of work, while for boys it is 2%.



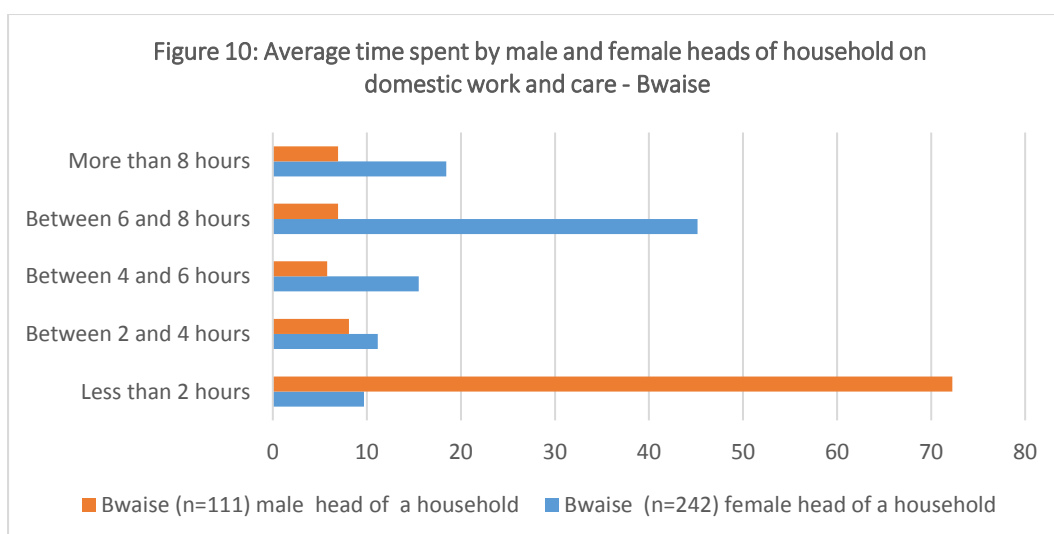
In Bwaise, an urban slum, 35% of respondents agree that girls under the age of 18 spend between 4 and 6 hours on DCW while 11% of respondents agree that boys of the same age group spend same time on domestic work and care. A third (34%) of the respondents agree that girls under the age of 18 spend between 2 and 4 hours on DCW, while 29% indicated the same for boys. Furthermore, 27% of respondents indicated that girls under the age of 18 spend less than 2 hours in DCW compared with 55% of the boys.

The time spent on domestic work and care for both boys and girls increases when we compare urban, peri-urban, and rural settings. The gap in time spent on DCW increases as we move from rural to urban settings, in that boys tend to become less involved in this kind of work.

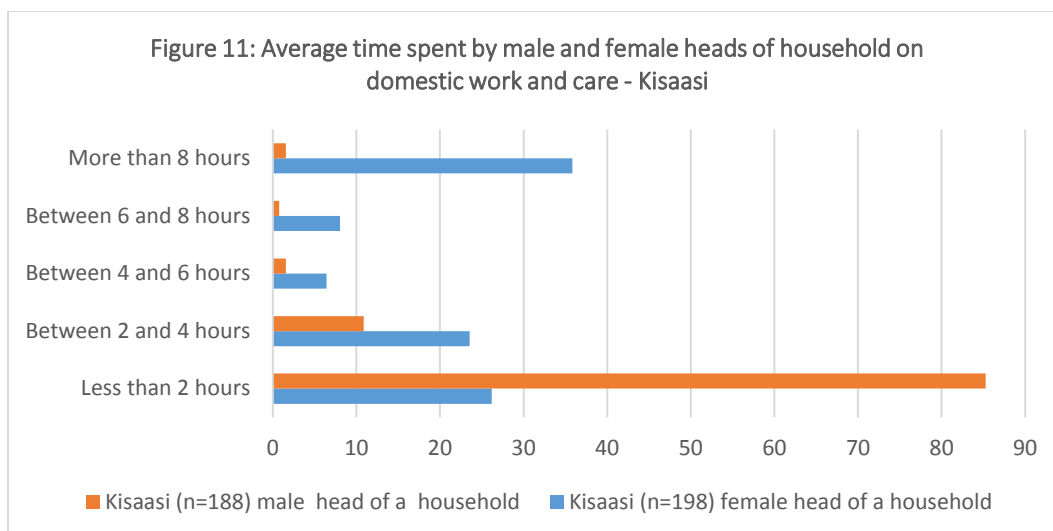
When we compare the time spent by female and male heads of household, it is clear that female heads of households spend more time on these tasks (see Figure 9).



In Aisa, a rural community, 23% of female household heads reported spending more than 8 hours on DWC, while 38% of male household heads indicated that they spend more than 8 hours in DWC. This figure is exceptionally high and relate to the demands of living in rural areas. Slightly more than a third of female heads of households (37%) reported spending between 6 and 8 hours on domestic care and work, while only 15% for male heads of households spend the same time on DWC. Furthermore, only 4% of female heads of household spend less than 2 hours in DWC compared 29% percent of male-headed households.



In Bwaise, an urban community, 72% of male household heads reported spending less than 2 hours DWC, while only 10 % of female household heads reported the same. In all other time brackets, women exceedingly spend more hours on DWC. It is clear that male household heads spend less time and participate in less categories of DWC in urban than in rural areas.



In Kisaasi, a peri-urban community, 36% of female heads of household spend more than 8 hours on DWC, while 2% of their male counterparts do the same. Eight percent (8%) reported that female heads of households spend between 6 and 8 hours on domestic care and work, while only 1% of their male counterparts do the same. Furthermore, only 26% of female heads of household spend less than 2 hours in DWC, compared with 85% of male household heads.

Women continue to experience gender inequality in the three communities sampled. This is manifested by the lack of opportunities for women in labour markets, rampant domestic violence, human trafficking, gender-based violence, early and forced marriages, lack of property such as land, unpaid care and domestic work, and very little presence in decision-making spaces such as local and district councils.

The Citizens Hearing in Kisaasi noted that women continue to be responsible for taking the lead in looking after their households. Most are powerless as evidenced in community meetings held: many women did not feel free to express their problems in the presence of men in public. One of the women in Kisaasi community said, *“If you want to hear what women go through in their houses, it is better to give us papers and pens to write on the responses to avoid issues that will arise with the men, especially our husbands.”*

Culture has also contributed greatly to gender inequalities in Uganda. For example, some cultures do not allow women to inherit land, leaving women without the collateral necessary to secure land titles and bank loans. Several examples of gender inequality were also cited in other study areas, as shared by participants in Citizens Hearings.

“Here, you cannot separate poverty from land ownership as well as marginalisation of women. By cultural practices here, only men do inherit land and do not give it to their daughters at all; they only give to their sons. Financial institutions require land ownership agreements or titles to access serious loans, so women in that way are always left in poverty. Even though women access this land which belongs to their husbands or fathers, they can only use it for family subsistence agriculture which can never have serious economic improvement - be it at individual, family or community levels.”

These cultural practices continue to disenfranchise women and result in landlessness and limited access to land, which is one of the factors of production and development. Such beliefs also make women feel inferior to males as they don't have equal chances of inheriting property even if their parents were wealthy.

Goal 8 - Inclusive economic growth and decent work

The realisation of Agenda 2030 requires that economies are transformed into catalysts for inclusive growth: that decent employment is ensured, local economies are revived, and economic opportunities are increased for all. This study focussed on aspects of this goal relevant to excluded and marginalised communities, including creating decent work, reducing unemployment, and development-oriented policies that support productive activities and entrepreneurship.

This study focusses on the following targets:

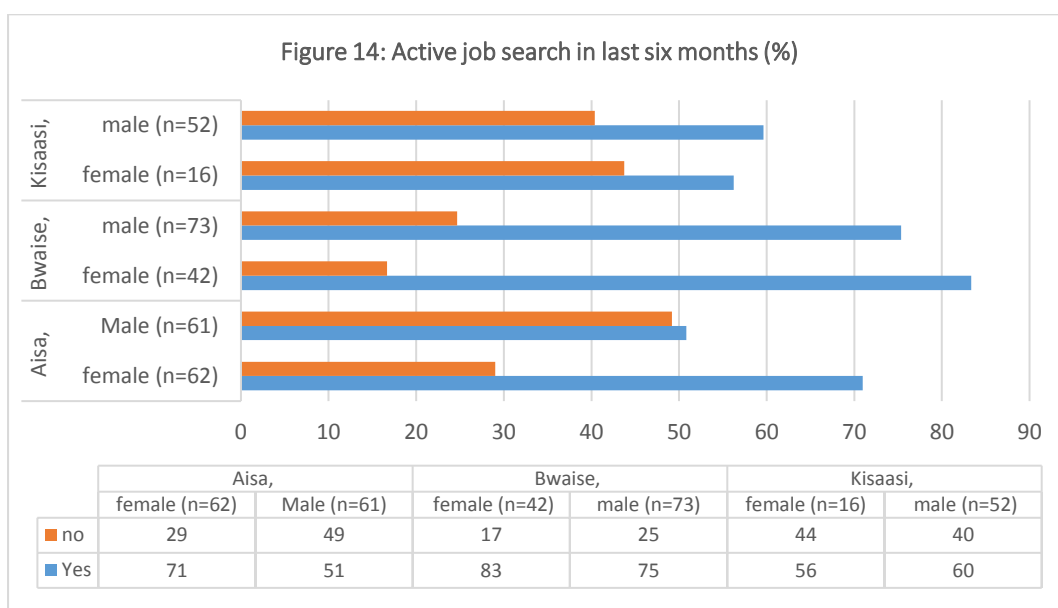
- 8.3 - Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity, and innovation;
- 8.5 - By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value; and
- 8.6 - By 2030, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education, or training.

The proxy indicators used to measure include those related to employment and decent work; and public services that create employment and promote entrepreneurship. According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives. It involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income; security in the workplace and social protection for families; better prospects for personal development and social integration; freedom for people to express their concerns, organise and participate in the decisions that affect their lives; and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.

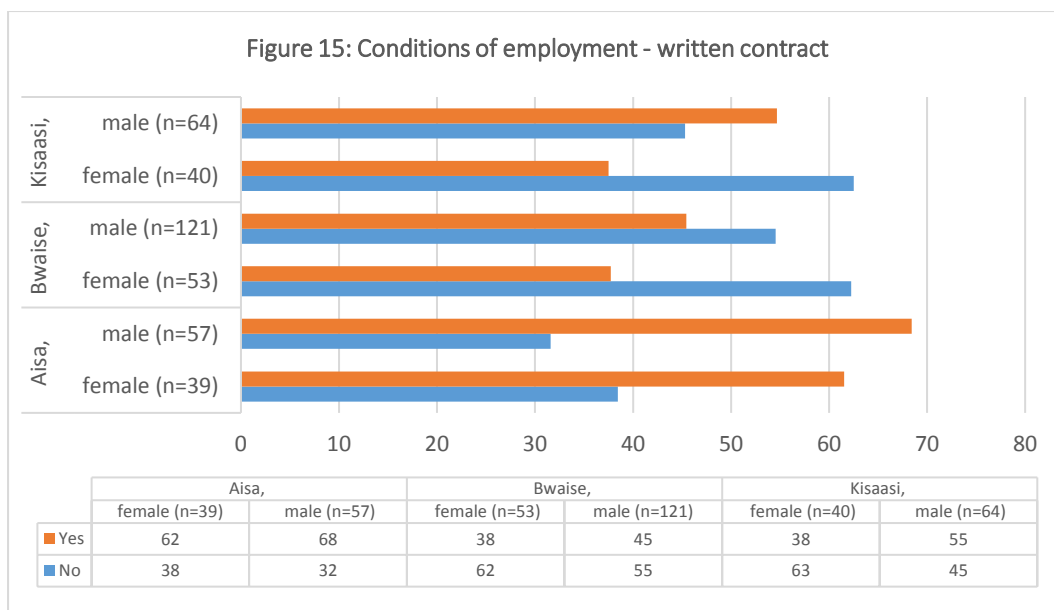
The table below (figure 13) shows employment type by ward sampled. In Aisa, a quarter of individuals (25%) reported permanent employment, 22% in Bwaise, and 16% in Kisaasi; while temporary employment prevails in Aisa (49%) and Bwaise (48%). In terms of unemployment, 50% of respondents in Kisaasi reported being unemployed, 25% in Aisa, and 30% in Bwaise, with the unemployment rates of men higher than for women in Kisaasi and Aisa.



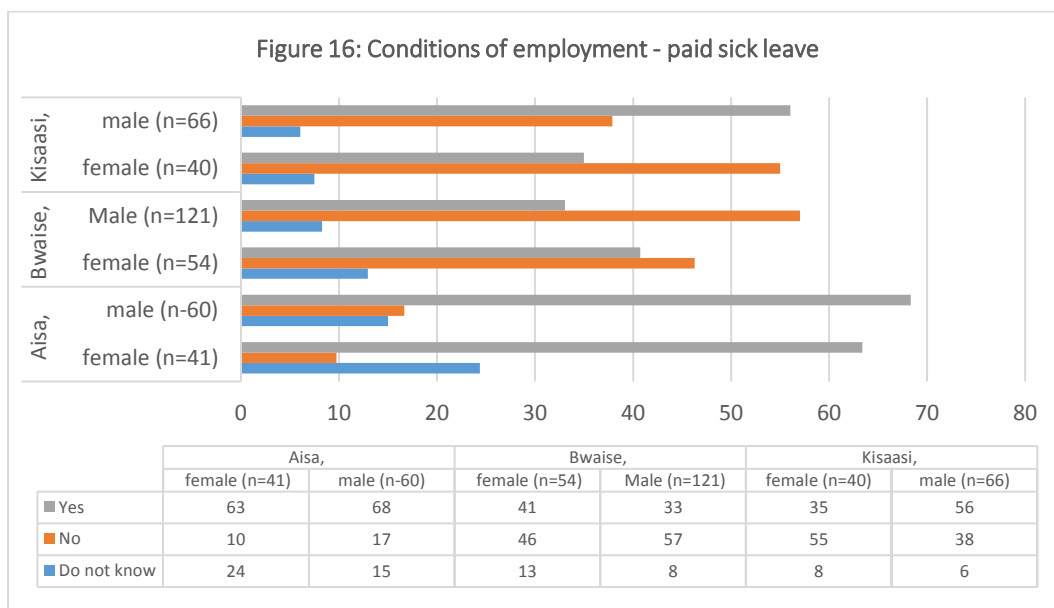
Among the unemployed participants, 83% of respondents in Bwaise had actively searched for employment in the six months preceding the survey, and 60% and 58% had done so in Aisa and Kisaasi respectively. In Aisa and Bwaise, women were more likely to have actively searched for employment.

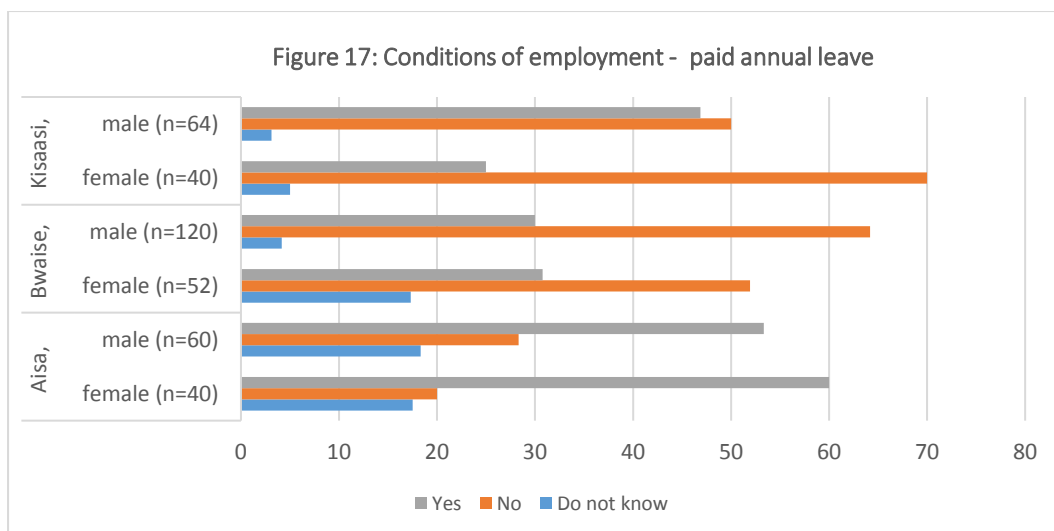


For those who are employed, when asked whether they have a written contract for their job, 48% of respondents in Kisaasi, 43% in Bwaise and 65% in Aisa reported that they do. Females are less likely to be employed with written contract than males. (See Figure 15 below).

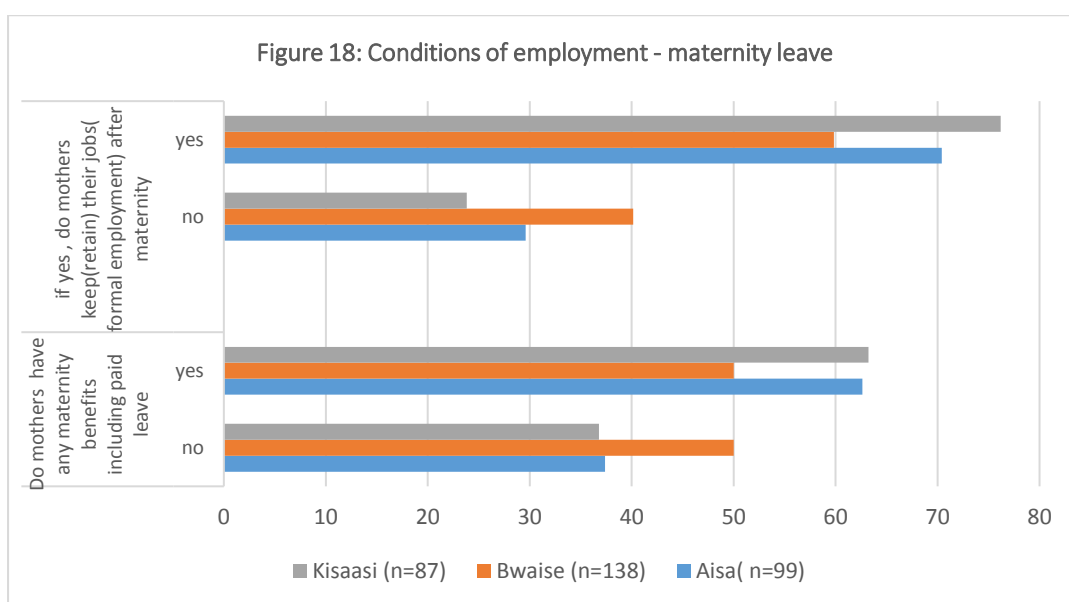


Part of decent work is the ability of an employer to offer sick leave in case the employee cannot work due to illness; and fair income entails payment of sick leave to employees. Figure 16 below shows that 38% in Kisaasi, 30% in Bwaise and 56% Aisa had access to paid leave; while 48% in Kisaasi, 35% Bwaise and 66% Aisa reported that they do not.





The right to maternity leave also must be taken into consideration as a condition of decent employment. In this respect, the survey indicates that more than 60% of the respondents have this benefit, and that more than 60% return to work after maternity leave.



As far as decent work is concerned, findings from Citizens Hearings carried out in Bwaise, Kisaasi and Aisa revealed that the formal employment secured by youth do not meet the criteria for decent work. This is evident by the low salaries paid and lack of social security. In case of any injuries, workers are not paid workers' compensation, and some lack protective gear - especially those who work in factories, waste management companies, and cleaning streets. As result of increased use of casual labour in formal employment, employees do not benefit from most of the above-mentioned benefits in their workplaces.

During the Citizens Hearings, participants in all three communities indicated that there were high unemployment rates and that women are more likely to be unemployed than men. The respondents

attributed this to several factors that include but are not limited to a lack of academic qualifications and limited access to finances to invest in small and medium enterprises, among others. Women have remained mainly in subsistence farming, domestic work and other work in the informal economy such as street and market vending.

Participants in Mbale also pointed out that they lacked educational qualifications: the highest level of education most have obtained is Ordinary Level, while employers want applicants or employees to have a diploma or above. Those who have higher education qualifications often have the challenge of skills mismatch as what they learn in school is not what employers require. Participants also mentioned the issue of patronage in getting a job. This was highlighted by a respondent from Kisaasi who said, “You must know people in order to find employment. Skills and experience do not matter.”

Some women have been forced to resort to other forms of earning a living. For example, in Bwaise community, young girls have resorted to prostitution as a livelihood, particularly in Kimombasa, an area known for having a lot of sex workers. This activity has led to several effects such as orphans and increasing rates of HIV/AIDs infections among men and women in the area. Similarly, male youths were reported to resorting to gambling and criminal acts such as theft.

Similarly, persons with disabilities have found it difficult to secure employment in Uganda’s labour market. Research findings from Bwaise, Kisaasi and Aisa revealed that employers have a negative perception of persons with disabilities with the belief that they are weak and cannot deliver like persons without disabilities. Those who have been able to find employment have difficulties accessing their workplaces: most workplaces do not provide the physical infrastructure - ramps, rails, elevators and special latrines – required for people with disabilities to enjoy work as expected. As a result, some PWDs have resorted to very low paying economic activities such as opening small businesses on streets, shoe shiners and repairers, among others, especially those in the peri-urban settings.

With the challenge of high unemployment rates, especially amongst the youth, the government is mandated to establish programmes that are focused on creating employment opportunities, as well as supporting small-scale businesses. The study sought to measure the extent to which this is taking place, and whether these programmes reach their intended beneficiaries.

Table 6: Public programs focused on creating employment and support for small businesses (multiple responses) (%)

	Aisa		Bwaise		Kisaasi	
	female	male	female	male	female	male
Public sector employment	29	44	9	15	5	9
Government employment or employment guarantee programmes	19	25	4	5	1	3
Agricultural inputs	35	32	8	6	8	3
Small business training and support	27	27	14	11	12	9
Unemployment and disability insurance	6	5	1	1	0	0
Public works programme	18	18	6	7	0	1
Internship or apprenticeship	14	12	1	2	3	4
Community service	16	11	11	7	13	5

Of the three communities, residents of Aisa have better access to public programmes focussed on creating employment, having reported higher participation rates in public sector employment, government employment or employment guarantee programmes, and small business training and support. Male-headed households tend to have better access to the employment initiatives; while female-headed households report slightly have better access to agricultural inputs, small business training and support, and community services.

Youth Livelihood Programme (YLP) and Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme (UWEP) are examples of some of the initiatives implemented by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. These two programmes are aimed at improving the livelihoods through interest-free loans to invest in existing projects such as poultry, agriculture, welding, hand and craft, etc. The programmes target only those persons that have formed groups of 15-30 persons registered with government authorities at sub-county and district levels. The loans are revolving in that repayments are used for microcredit to other organised groups in the country.

However, interaction with communities in Aisa, Bwaise and Kisaasi revealed a number of challenges accessing these funds. For example, both youth and women have formed groups but have not accessed these loans as a result of the bureaucracy and limited funds available for small scale loans. The high levels of bureaucracy make it hard to follow-up with the documents at various local government levels and in the end many of the potential beneficiaries ending giving up.

Furthermore, citizens have not been well informed on neither the benefits nor the procedures and processes of the programmes. As a youth in Kisaasi said, *"I am not about to join any of the groups they are telling us to form to benefit from the youth livelihood funds because I am not aware of the benefits and also accessing these funds a person has to suffer from the bureaucratic processes."*

Based on comments from the respondents it is clear that they believe that the YLP and UWEP are mishandled by authorities, especially at the local government levels. In order for the groups to access their funds, once approved, respondents complained that it is necessary to bribe the officials. Many beneficiaries report not being able to repay the loans as most of the funds disappear at time of being transferred to their accounts, and the little that remains is shared among group members. Projects either do not come to fruition as a result, or do not perform well because of untrustworthiness and an absence of common goals or interests amongst group members.

The Chairperson of Kisaasi noted, *"Authorities from Nakawa division organise meetings to introduce government programmes such as women entrepreneurship funds. Women form groups and among them leaders are selected to go to division and get more information as well as application forms. However, the challenge is [that] when leaders get funds they select the beneficiaries who are their friends or relatives. Women are also excluded because most of them are not business-oriented. Women are given loans without [having] skills of investing them in business. Loans have ended up being used to look after needs in their households. This calls for financial literacy skills to avoid misuse of credit, especially loans."*

One of the suggestions that came out of the Kisaasi Citizens Hearing was that, instead of government giving loans to youth and women, government and non-state actors should assist in connecting women

and youth to employment opportunities in general and to those in line with their education qualifications or skills.

The study also looked at access to financial resources through institutions and savings and credit cooperative organisations (SACCOs). Non-state actor such as non-governmental organisation Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC) and Pride Microfinance also have supported community members with access to microfinance as well as training on how to form SACCOs. These have been mainly utilised by women to pay school fees and start small- and medium-sized enterprises such as retail shops and restaurants.

Some organisations have trained communities to organise themselves into groups to form SACCOs to access credit and savings. For example, in Bwaise, the National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda was identified as a key player in mobilising savings groups to provide cash loans to sustain livelihoods.

However, men have not embraced these SACCO programmes as much as women have. According to the groups interviewed, this has resulted in domestic violence in that when women get the finances, men tend to take part of the loan money for alcohol instead of investing it or using the money for basic needs in their homes. A woman in Kisaasi reported, *“They have cash rounds in which they sit every Sunday to get the credit. However, after getting money they run away and disappear. They never contribute again to savings scheme as well as attending future meetings.”* Similar cases were reported in both Aisa and Bwaise, where group leaders stole money from the saving circles.

While the savings circles do not accrue any interest on the money invested and do not cater for inflation, women still prefer these informal community arrangements to banks. One of the reasons for this preference is that an identity document (ID) is required to open a bank account, and many people do not have valid documentation – either due to mistakes that need to be corrected or due to general slow responses from the relevant authorities. Banks are also regarded as the domain of educated people, and people who are not educated fear them.

The government of Uganda is currently promoting industrialisation, with a focus on manufacturing as another strategy to combat rampant youth unemployment in the country. This is evidenced by the financial allocations to factories and establishment of industrial parks in different parts of the country to generate employment opportunities specifically targeting the youth.

Goal 10 - Reducing inequality within and between countries

Agenda 2030 recognises the need to reduce inequality within and between countries. It commits to reducing income inequality, social exclusion, and all forms of discrimination towards women, children, youth, the aged, disabled, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable groups. The plan encourages member countries to promote equal societies, and end discrimination and marginalisation of minorities and vulnerable groups.

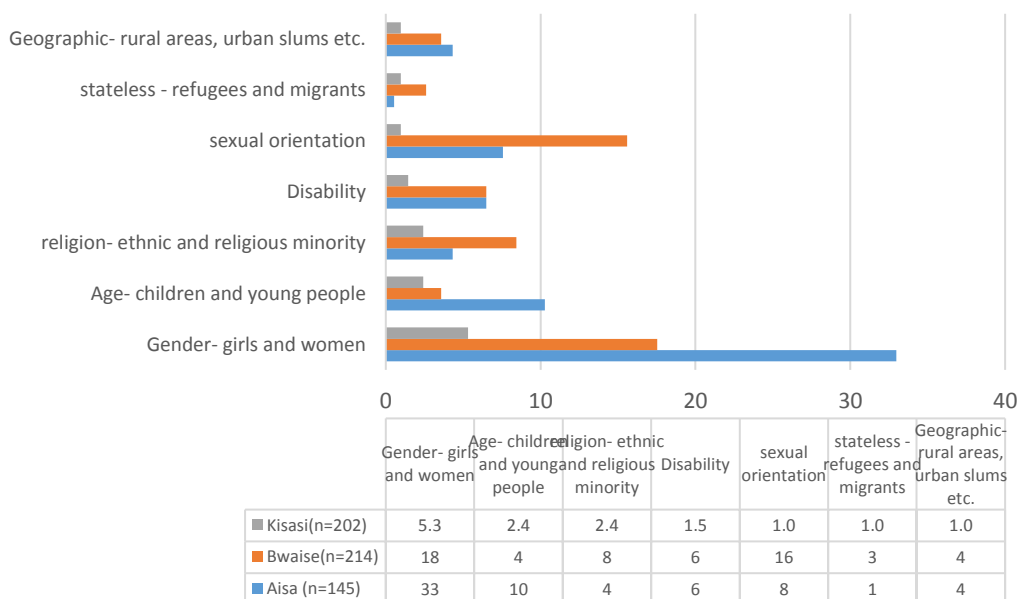
In this report, we specifically focus on **target 10.3**: *ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.*



To measure the extent of discriminatory practices, the survey polled community members on their experiences and what the bases of such discrimination are.

Sixty percent (60%) of respondents in Aisa reported a form of discrimination or harassment in the last 12 months – primarily based on gender, age, and sexual orientation. In Bwaise, figures were slightly lower at 44%, with respondents citing gender, sexual orientation, religion, and ethnicity as the main reasons; while 15% of Kisaasi participants reported discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion, and age the main reasons for discrimination.

Figure 19: Have you experienced discrimination or harassment in the last 12 months?



In Aisa, gender inequality was manifested in land ownership and the ability to support children to attain higher education levels, as well as ownership of assets such as a motorcycle, car, or cattle. During the hearings, one participant commented, *"Few people here are able to take their children to university; in fact, in a village of 200 households, you find less than five. Those five you find are the ones with at least a motorcycle doing Boda-Boda business which brings in daily income, have cattle which they can sell for school fees."*

Another participant added that *"[the] majority of us have access or own really small pieces of land which we only use for subsistence farming. A few have big pieces of land in acres so they can even do commercial farming, as apposed many who live on an average in half an acre with an extended family. This sort of inequality is keeping all of us behind."*

This scenario as also evident in Bwaise and Kisaasi, as citizens indicated that only the rich find it possible to get richer due to the advantage they have in accessing financial loans. Here again, women and young people were most vulnerable because they were either ill-educated and intimidated to approach loan facility institutions, or did not have the collateral securities such as land titles and key assets. A participant said, *"The inequality here in Bwaise is very clear; women have resorted to prostitution because the security required to do that business is self, which is not the case for other businesses which require land titles, car log books, houses, sound bank account statements, etc. We have left that to men. So they can access the loans, develop and we sell ourselves to them through sex. That's all."*

The participants in Bwaise also stated that the quality of structures in the area was proof that the majority of people in the area live in poverty.

Goal 16 – Equal, Peaceful and Inclusive Society

SDG 16 calls for promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.



For this report, the focus is on community safety, reducing corruption, effective service delivery, and participatory decision-making. The targets are therefore:

- 16.1 - commitment to reduce all forms of violence and creating a safe environment for communities;
- 16.5 - commitment to reducing corruption - particularly the proportion of people who have had to pay a bribe to a public official to access services - how it has become a social malaise, and its disruptive impact on service delivery;
- 16.6 - effective, accountable institutions, i.e. measure satisfaction of citizens with government services received; and
- 16.7 - responsive, participatory governance.

The proxy indicators considered include:

- perceptions of community safety, with a specific focus on women and girls;
- perception of the pervasiveness of corruption;
- satisfaction with service delivery;
- participation in decision-making; and
- perception of representation at local government level.

Community safety

Respondents across all the three localities feel significantly less safe at nighttime, and agree that women and girls are more at risk than other members of the community.

Kisaasi emerged as the safest community, both in general and in relation to women and girls – a perception shared by both female and male heads of households, with women (76%) feeling significantly safer at night than their male counterparts (46%). Almost all respondents felt safe during the day in this peri-urban community, but did agree that women and girls were less safe at night.

In rural Aisa, 16% of female heads of households reported feeling safe at night, while 21% of their male counterparts shared the perception; and only 8% reported that it is safe girls and women, while 19% of men felt that way.

Participants in urban Bwaise felt the least safe of the three communities polled, and both men and women equally agreed that the community is not a safe space for the women and girls who live there: 5% of both female and male heads of households feel that Bwaise is safe for women and girls at night. Only 5% of women and 8% of men feel safe at night.

Table 7: Perception of safety in communities (%)						
Question	Aisa (rural)		Bwaise (urban)		Kisaasi (peri-urban)	
	female	male	female	male	female	male
Head of household						
Do you feel safe walking around the area you live during the day?	93	96	91	94	98	99
Do you feel safe in the area you live during the night?	16	22	5	8	76	46
Do you think it is safe women and girls in your household to walk around during the day?	87	92	89	94	93	97
Do you think it is safe for women and girls in your household to walk around during the night?	8	19	5	5	62	35

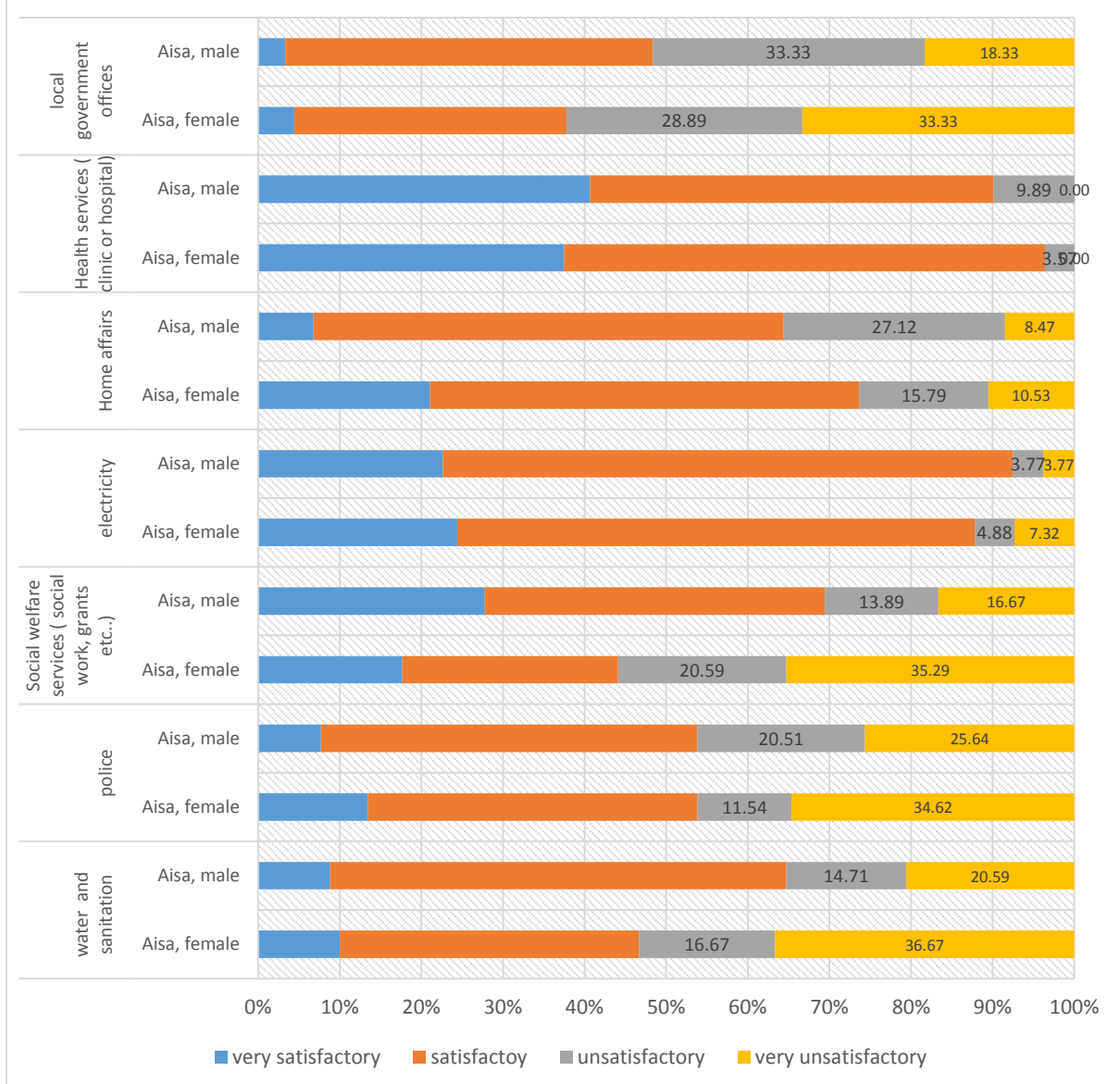
Testimonies from the Citizens Hearings confirm the statistics:

Female participant in Aisa discloses that Safety is a serious issue in the community, especially with regards to abuse of girls in homes by relatives. Frequent Sexual assault on public place such as at water wells. There are incidents with Boda-Boda including some police officers who have abused those who have gone to police to report suspects. The participants in Kasaasi also commented that crimes such as kidnapping are on a rise and that while government has started installing cameras in the city, these cases are happening in the suburbs where there are no cameras. Robberies are also on an increase. They also stated that there is some level of safety during the day, but in the evening the bayaye (slum gangs) take over with pick-pocketing, theft – particularly from strangers, and harassing girls.

Public service delivery

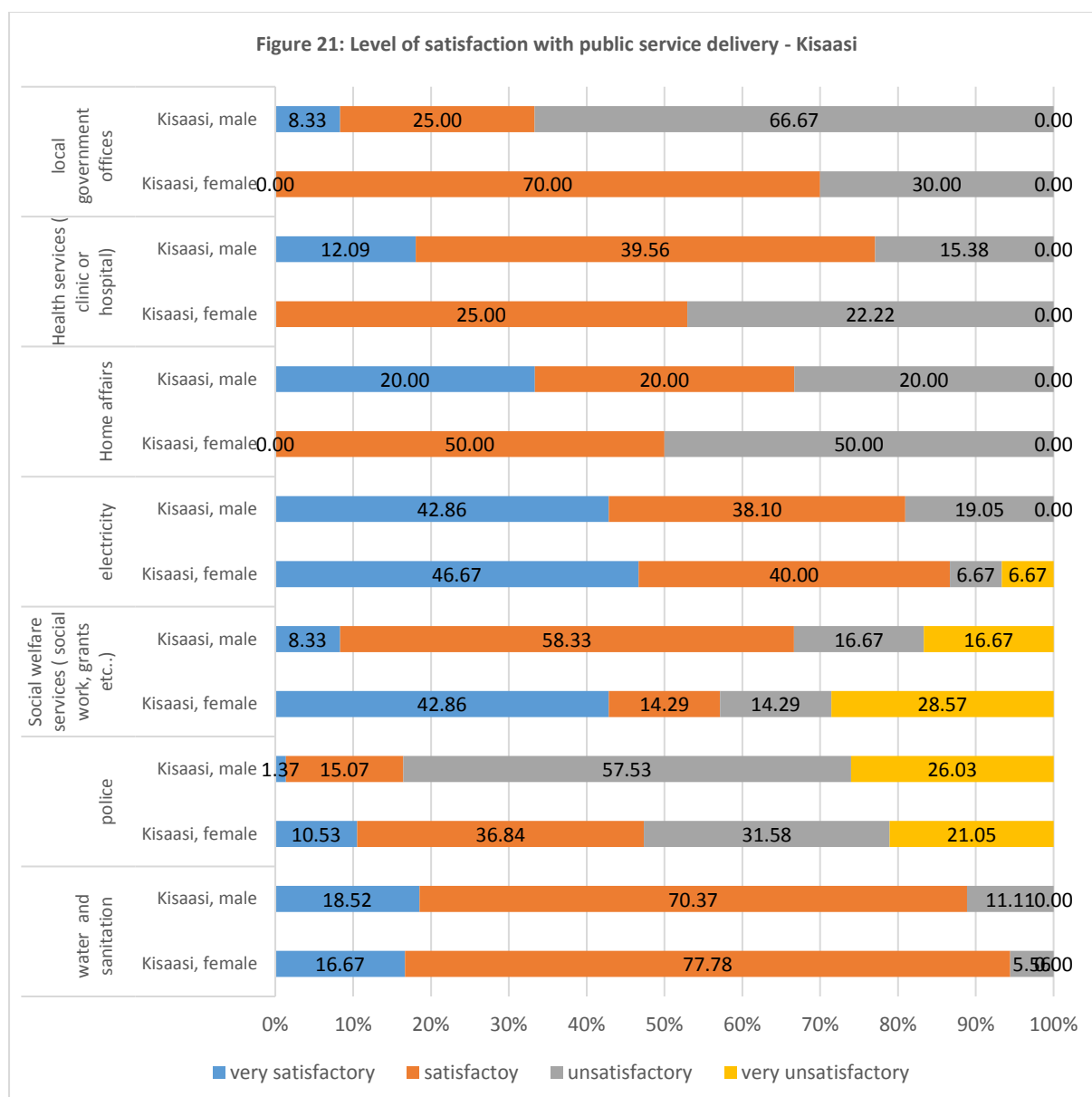
Citizens often have challenges in accessing services rendered by government: healthcare, social welfare, police, water and sanitation, electricity, municipal services, etc. Effective public service requires, among others, capacitated citizens who are active and assist in finding solutions. In this regard, the study sought to assess the degree of satisfaction with public service delivery.

Figure 20: Level of satisfaction with public service delivery - Aisa



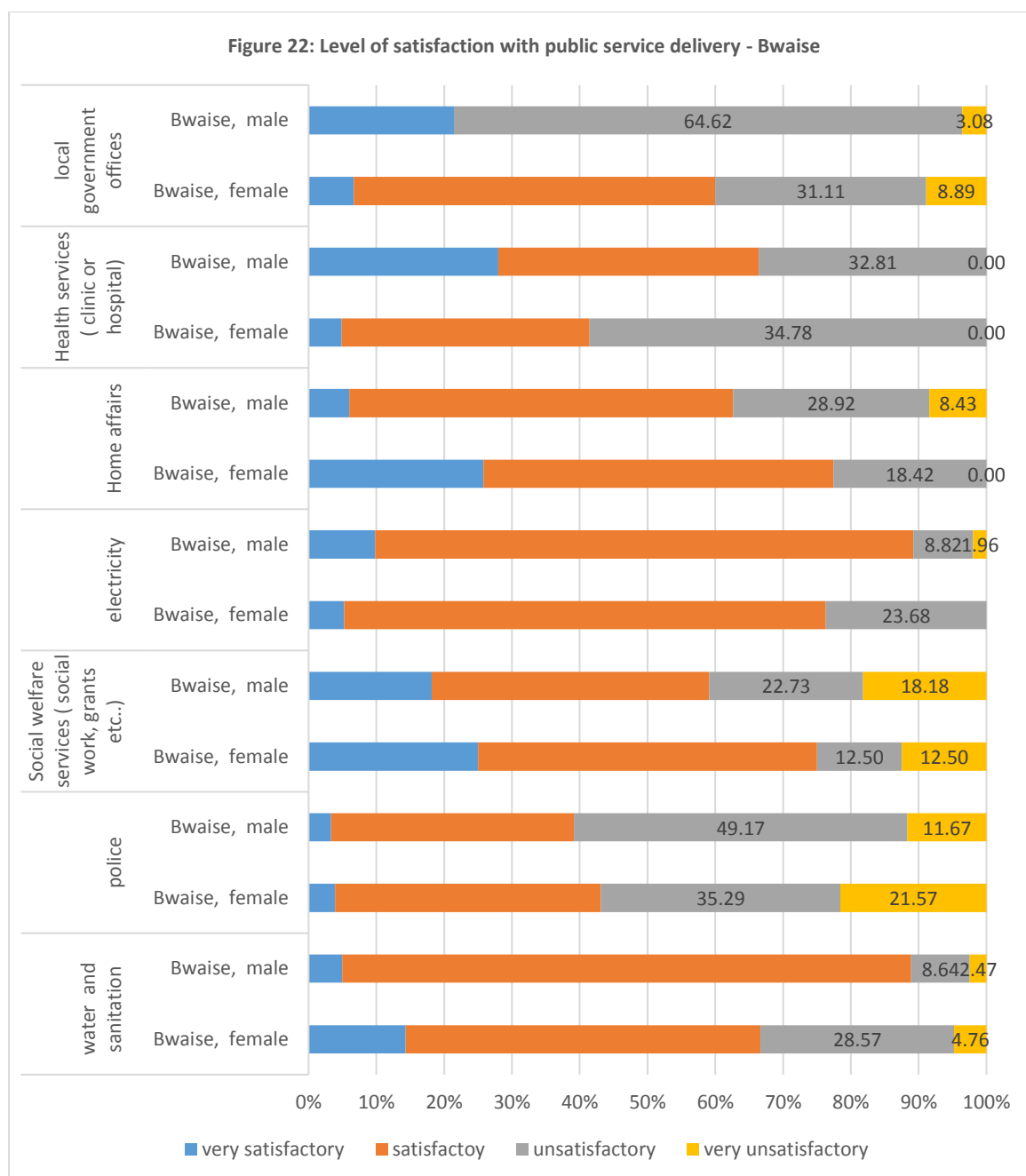
In rural Aisa, both male and female heads of households were dissatisfied with public service delivery. Sixty-two percent (62%) of women and 51% of men reported their dissatisfaction with local government offices. For social welfare services, figures were 55% and 31% for female and male heads of households respectively; and 52% and 34% for water and sanitation.

A participant at the Aisa Citizens Hearings spoke about promises made by candidates during elections campaigns and these are unfulfilled. During every campaign season, candidates promise to work on the community's feeder roads and springs, provide boreholes, and ensure that the health centers have medicines. The only ambulance serving the community was donated by their area Member of Parliament, but is used as a private business or serves those who belong to his political party or camp.



In peri-urban Kisaasi, both male and female heads of households reported that they received unsatisfactory (including very unsatisfactory) services from municipal (local government services), home affairs, and police services. Men were more dissatisfied with their local government offices (66%) and police services (83%) than women were (30% and 53% respectively). Conversely, half of the female heads of households reported dissatisfaction with services they received from home affairs, while 20% of their male counterparts felt that way.

Public health centres in the country do not provide medication to cure most of the diseases and viruses. This forces people to buy medication from pharmacies. A participant in Kisaasi commented that at these centres, doctors arrive late or do not come at all as they also run their private practices, and this leads to people not receiving the services they need or being directed to private clinics owned by the very same doctors who are supposed to be serving them in public health centres.



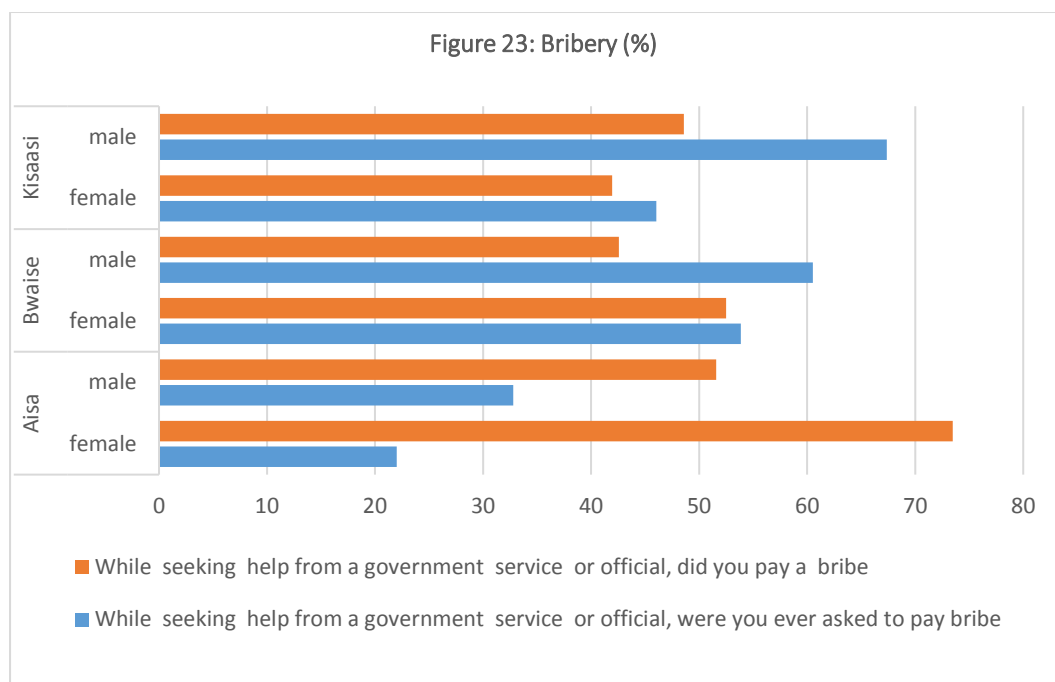
In urban Bwaise, both male and female heads households reported unsatisfactory (including very unsatisfactory) public service. Almost seven out of ten (67%) of male heads of households reported their dissatisfaction with local government offices, while 40% of their female counterparts felt the same. Men were less satisfied with police services than women: 61% of male-headed households and 57% of female-headed households reported being dissatisfied. Women (35%) and men (34%) were equally dissatisfied with health services.

“The biggest challenge and our dissatisfaction is the drainage system, working health centers and security. We are bitter with authorities on these issues because, for example, police patrols only come in once in a while. The city authorities wait until someone dies in the rainy floods before they come with media and pretend to be doing something and then disappear. We have asked for at least mobile toilets

and mobile health centers but very little responses have come in,” said one of citizen’s hearings participant.

Corruption

High levels of corruption is indicated across all the three communities, with urban Bwaise reporting the highest levels of actually having paid bribes that had been solicited. Fifty-four percent (54%) of female heads of household reported to having been asked to pay bribes, 52% actually having paid; and six out of ten men reported being asked to pay a bribe, with 42% reported actually paying. (See figure 23).



In peri-urban, Kisaasi, 46% of female-headed households reported being asked to pay a bribe, with 41% actually having paid; while 67% of men reported having been asked to pay a bribe, with 49% actually paying.

Testimonies at the Kisaasi Citizens Hearings corroborate the statistics:

“When you want to buy land, the local council committees want their 10% of the amount land sale or value as bribe for them to sign the sales agreement. This is corruption, but we live with it because if you kept complaining then no one will ever attend to your needs”.

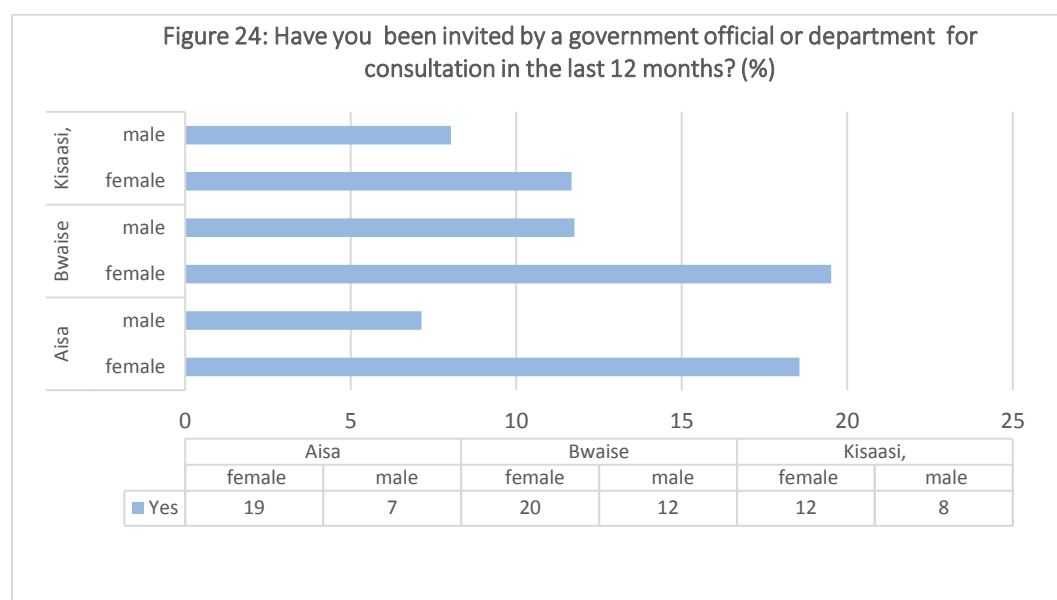
“If your local council has signed your document without you paying a penny for a service which is supposed to be free, then you are different from the rest of us. The fact is that all of us pay a bribe to be served - even in health centers, local government, police, and in schools for our children to get admission. If you have not paid a bribe, raise your hand.”

As in Kisaasi, the respondents in Bwaise reported that they were required to pay for fuel when requesting help with safety in the area and that they were also required to pay the officer in charge.

They also pointed out that it was difficult to access health services as this too required paying bribes, adding to costs with medicines too have to purchased as the state facilities did not stock them.

Participation

Respondents across all three communities reported generally very low participation rates at local government level. Female heads of households were more likely to participate than their male counterparts, as illustrated in Figure 24.

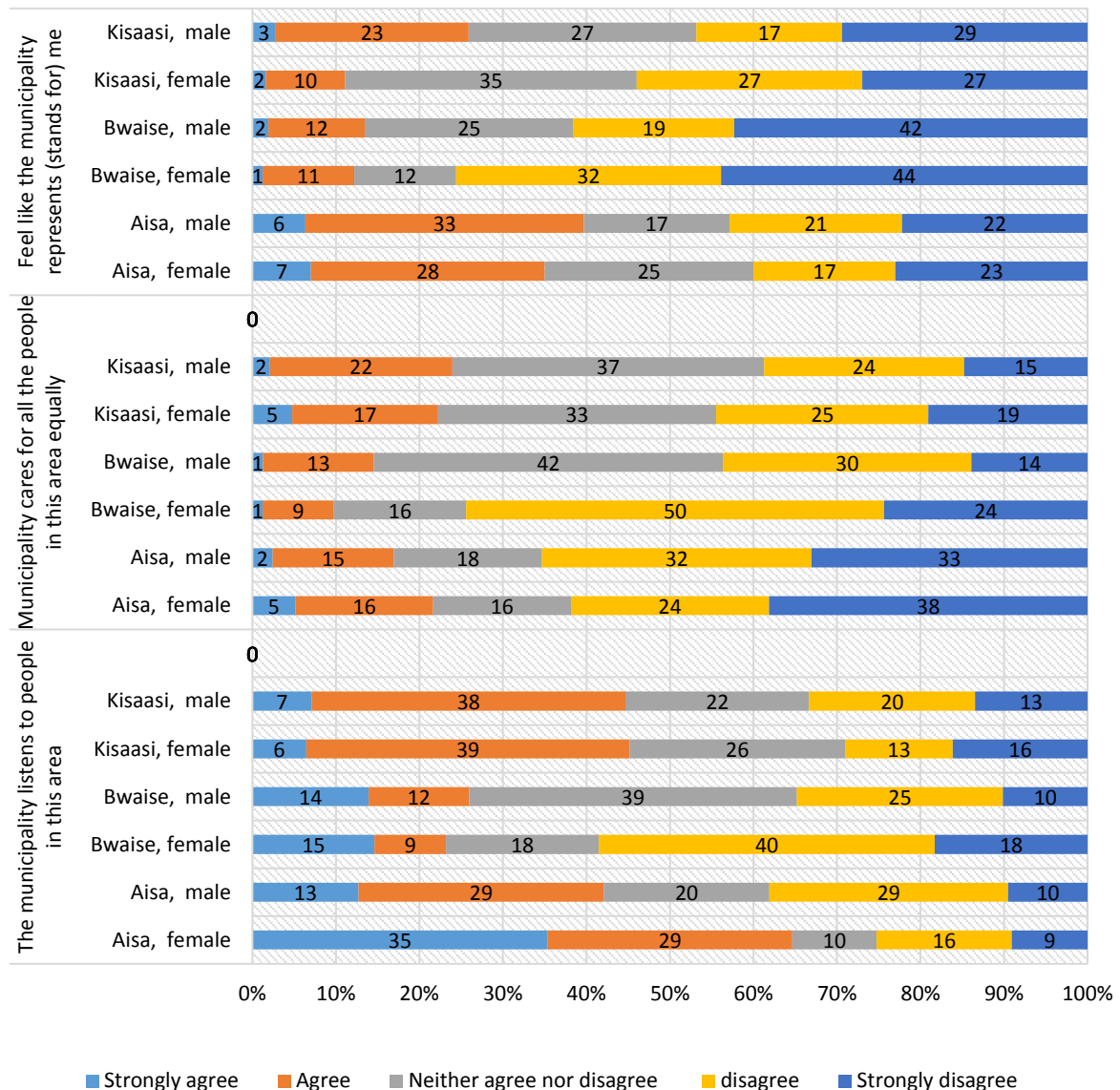


In Aisa, only 7% of male respondents reported that they had been invited to participate in consultations in the 12 months preceding the survey, while more women (19%) had been. Invitation rates to participate in Kisaasi were as low for male-headed households, at 8%, with a slightly higher rate of 11% for their female counterparts. Similarly, 12% of men in Bwaise reported that they had been invited to participate in consultations, compared to 20% of female heads of households.

When respondents were asked whether the local government or municipality listens to them or their suggestions, and whether they feel that the government bodies represent and care for them, there were some differences between female and male-headed households.

In rural Aisa, 64% of female-headed households reported (agree or strongly agree) that their municipality listens to them, while 42% of their male counterparts felt the same. In terms of care and representation, women and men responded similarly: 21% of women and 16% of men strongly agreed that the municipality cares for them equally, while 35% of female heads of household and 39% of their male counterparts strongly agree that the municipality represents them.

Figure 25: Percentage of people who feel that local government listens to and represents its constituency.



In peri-urban Kisaasi, women (45%) and men (44%) responded similarly in terms of their municipality's receptiveness and equal care (22% for women and 23% for men. Women though felt less represented than men, at 11% and 25% respectively.

Participation rates were lowest in urban Bwaise, where 23% of female heads of households and 25% of their male counterparts reported (agree or strongly agree) that their municipality listens to them. Nine percent (9%) of women and 14% of men strongly agreed that the municipality cares for them all equally; while 12% of female heads of households and 13% of their male counterparts strongly agree that the municipality represents them.

Conclusion

Citizen-generated data on specific aspects of sustainable development goals 1, 4, 8, 5, 10, and 16 was collected from three localities: Mbale (Aisa), Kampala (Kisaasi), and Kampala (Bwaise slum), each representing a rural, peri-urban, and urban area respectively. Of the 640 randomly selected households sampled, 35% were female-headed households and 65% were headed by men. In terms of age brackets, 20% of households in the sample were child-headed households, 42% were headed by youth, 23% by an adult, and 13% were headed by a senior (over the age of 65). This age distribution of heads of households is already an indication of the challenges likely to be faced by the different households, especially given the high prevalence of child- and youth-headed households.

For Uganda to attain the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, special measures would need to be undertaken in view of the “leaving no one behind” principles, as well as specific requirements of the poor, vulnerable, and marginalised communities. The findings of this project indicate the “business as usual” public service delivery will not deliver on the commitments of Agenda 2030.

To realise the commitment of Goal 1 - to end poverty - it is important to focus on the main source of income in the three communities, which are either employment in the informal sector or in subsistence agriculture. Targeted support with the aim of increasing productivity in these vital sectors would significantly reduce the level of poverty in the communities. In addition, gender has to be mainstreamed in the existing programmes, which also need to be made more available and accessible at community level.

To achieve Goal 4 - access and completion of quality education - would require increased access and reduced dropouts from the schooling system. The findings of this project point to three main causes that limit children’s access to education: school fees and associated cost of schooling, child marriage and pregnancies, and learning difficulties. National education programmes must address the issue of school fees and associated costs of schooling; and must initiate interventions aimed at reducing the incidence of child marriage and teen pregnancies, and ensure girls stay at school under all circumstances. Support programmes for children with learning difficulties – including a larger number of special needs schools and ensuring that mainstream schools are truly inclusive - must also be implemented.

Achieving gender equality (Goal 5) would require, among other things, due recognition of domestic work and care, asset ownership, access to quality education, access to decent work, safety from gender-based violence, and participation in decision-making processes. There is a clear pattern of unpaid domestic work and services, whereby girls and female heads of household spend more time on unpaid domestic work and care. This affect girls’ performance in schools and the career paths for women. To this end, a society-wide awareness campaign would be helpful.

The findings of this project show low performance for almost all the indicators selected in this study to assess Uganda’s performance in Goals 1, 4, 8 and 16.

The study reveals high levels of unemployment, and, for those who are employed, almost 40% do not work in conditions prescribed for the decent work - access to annual leave, sick leave and maternity

leave. The labour code which govern conditions of employment must be amended to address these shortcomings, and labour inspectors must enforce the requirements.

The three-community study further reveals that there is limited participation at local government level, low satisfaction with policing services, high levels of corruption, and negligible safety for women and girls. Both citizens' participation and the delivery of public services must be improved.

Recommendations

Policy recommendations aimed at accelerating the delivery of Agenda 2030 and related development programmes need to take into consideration the vulnerabilities of poor, disenfranchised and marginalised communities. These households mostly depend on informal sector or subsistence agriculture, with little asset ownership, weak citizen voice and agency. The gender of the household head in most cases largely determines the socio-economic strata that the household belongs to, as reflected by the relative poor performance of female-headed households across all indicators.

1. In operationalising ***"leaving no one behind"*** dictum - the state should ensure:
 - The availability, accessibility, and/or affordability of public services for marginalised communities;
 - That public services are relevant and responsive to the needs of the community, and that beneficiaries are appropriately targeted;
 - That citizens actively participate at local government level; and
 - That gender and youth are mainstreamed in all efforts aimed at implementing SDGs and delivering on the country's commitments to Agenda 2030.
2. The declining investment in social sectors - compared to the infrastructural development and security sector- must be reversed, and increased budgetary allocations must be ensured for programmes such as social protection interventions that deliver impact on vulnerable and marginalised persons.
3. Enforcing the minimum wage would increase citizens' incomes, as well as contribute towards social security. This will not only help minimise risks and vulnerabilities, but also assist in achieving a number of goals related to poverty, inequality, and gender equality, among others.
4. The participation of citizens in all government programmes and interventions should be strengthened starting from design to implementation. Most of the programmes are designed without consultations with citizens - in the end they do not make any impact since citizens' needs were not taken into consideration.
5. All available resources must be used efficiently to implement the government programmes. The pervasiveness of corruption in Uganda calls for strengthening accountability and transparency mechanisms to fight misuse of government resources.
6. Civil society organisations should also become more active in supplementing government services in order to contribute towards achieving the SDGs. In addition, they should monitor government

services to identify areas for improvement, and strengthen their participation in committees and platforms that monitor the implementation of SDGs in Uganda.

7. Citizens should also engage their policy makers, especially the area Members of Parliament, by holding them accountable for programmes and plans, and request increased allocation of budgets to implement the various programmes that contribute towards the achievement of SDGs.

