

NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE POST 2015 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – ‘THE FUTURE WE WANT’

Final Report¹

Introduction

Uganda has been implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a central plank of her development strategy since 2000, which has led to realization of significant achievements across the country’s development spectrum. Over time it has become clear that the implementation of the MDGs has affected different regions, constituencies and interest groups differently; lessons have also been learned over what works, what does not work and what needs to be done differently to achieve better development results. As Uganda and the world reach the 2015 target deadline to achieve the MDGs, consultations are taking place to review progress made towards achieving the MDGs and to discuss options for the Post 2015 international development framework.

This report details the consultations that have been going on in Uganda on the Post 2015 international development framework, and articulates the diverse perspectives and recommendations arising out of these consultations. It comprises five sections: this introduction, the background to the consultations, details of the consultations, key issues arising from implementation of the MDGs in Uganda, recommendations on the Post 2015 international development agenda, and a conclusion.

Six attachments are appended to the report as follows:

Annex 1: Matrix summarizing the Post 2015 consultations in Uganda

Annex 2: Concept note for the Post 2015 consultation meeting (April 22, 2013)

Annex 3: Communication strategy for Post 2015 consultations

Annex 4: List of participants at the Post 2015 national consultation meeting (April 22, 2013)

Annex 5: Number of countries supported by the UN to conduct Post 2015 consultations

Annex 6: Participant breakdown in Uganda’s Post 2015 consultations

Background

Since July 2012 consultations have been taking place globally to define the new international development framework that will replace the MDG agenda after 2015. This process was initiated by the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, to ensure that shaping of the Post 2015 global development agenda is informed by inclusive, open and transparent consultations

¹ Prepared by Dr. John Kiyaga-Nsubuga

with a broad range of local and national stakeholders including government, civil society organisations, marginalized groups (i.e. women, youth, the elderly and persons with disability), academia, ordinary citizens, opinion leaders and the private sector.

As part of this consultation process, the UN Secretary General tasked a High Level Panel of 27 ‘eminent persons’, co-chaired by the Premiers of Indonesia and the United Kingdom and the President of Liberia, to advise on the global development framework beyond 2015 basing on the views and recommendations from the global consultative process. This process comprises multiple consultations including:

- a) The work of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals, a 30-member group mandated by the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20) to prepare a proposal on sustainable development goals for consideration by the United Nations General assembly (UNGA) at its 68th session;
- b) Regional consultations by Regional Economic Commissions, which will result in a report on regional perspectives on the Post-2015 Development Agenda;
- c) Inputs from the Sustainable Development Solutions Network set up by the UN Secretary General in August 2012 to support global problem solving in eleven critical areas of sustainable development, namely: inequalities; health; education; growth and employment; environmental sustainability; governance; conflict and fragility; population dynamics; hunger, food & nutrition security; energy; water; and sanitation);
- d) Input from businesses and the private sector through the UN Global Compact; and
- e) Multi-stakeholder national consultations in 51 countries around the world, including Uganda, which the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) is providing with technical and financial support to ensure broad stakeholder participation and to capture the voices of ordinary citizens.

The UN Secretary General will present the recommendations from all these consultations to the UN General Assembly in September 2013, following which the inter-governmental negotiations will commence – to culminate by 2015 with an agreement on the Post 2015 International Development Framework.

Post 2015 Consultations in Uganda

The consultations in Uganda have been informed by (i) Vision 2040 which outlines where Uganda wants to be in the next 30 years, (ii) the Rio+20 process through which Uganda concretized her position on the global development framework, (iii) the experience with implementation of the MDGs, and (iv) the international conference on population and development (ICPD). These consultations are expected to inform Uganda’s position in the global negotiations that will take place from September 2013 up to the end of 2015, leading to

development of the new Post 2015 international development framework. A summary of those consultations is provided below.

- a) *Rio+20 National Consultations:* The Rio+20 consultations aimed at producing a national report for presentation at the Rio+20 Conference in June 2012. The national report was prepared through two related processes co-led by the Ministry of Finance, planning and Economic development (MoFPED) and the National Environment Management Agency (NEMA) – the focal institution. First, four stock taking reports were prepared on the three main Rio+20 pillars of sustainable development in Uganda (i.e. environment, economic and social), and on institutional and governance issues. The stocktaking reports detailed Uganda’s progress towards achieving sustainable development, the challenges encountered, lessons learned and recommendations for improving performance under each pillar. A 5-day retreat was held from 20th to 25th February 2012 to validate and provide further input into the reports, attended by various stakeholders from government, CSOs, the private sector and development partners.

Second, a national synthesis report based on the stock taking reports was prepared and discussed at a national multi-stakeholder meeting at hotel Africana in Kampala on May 12, 2013, with the purpose of determining Uganda’s position at the Rio+20 global conference (June 20-22, 2012). A national preparatory core team (NPCT) guided the two processes, with support from the United Nations Development programme (UNDP), UNICEF through U-Report consultations on the views of Ugandan Children and Youth on Rio+20 and the participation of a U-Reporter in Rio, as well as the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). The NPCT comprised representatives from MoFPED, NEMA, the Ministry of Water and Environment (MoWE), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), and the National Planning Authority (NPA) – all of whom had previously participated in the African Union meeting in Addis Ababa during preparation of Africa’s position on the green economy.

The hotel Africana meeting was attended by 135 participants representing development partners and diplomats, central and local governments, the private sector, civil society, traditional institutions and religious organisation. The meeting noted that (i) the dominant issues in the discussions leading to Rio+20 included poverty, growth, inequity, and gaps between commitments and implementation at local and global levels (ii) the future we want can only be achieved by sustainable utilization of resources, and (iii) although some achievements towards sustainable development had been registered, Uganda’s capacity for implementation of sustainable development commitments was still weak. The following came out of the meeting as Uganda’s position at the Rio+20 conference:

- Rio+20 should focus on the green economy in the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication, and institutional framework for sustainable development.
- Rio+20 should focus on intergovernmental processes and country efforts towards eradicating poverty, creating an equitable society as well as sustainable management of natural resources.
- There should be renewed political commitment and countries should work together towards achieving Sustainable Development.
- More progress should be made on implementing sustainable development programmes, fast tracking technology transfer backed by long term, new and additional, predictable and adequate funding channeled through existing country mechanisms.
- The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) correctly conceived the ‘green economy’ as resulting into improved human wellbeing and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities; and as being driven by public and private investments, leading to growth in income and employment, reduced carbon emissions and pollution, energy and resource efficiency and prevention of loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- The Rio+20 conference should consider ‘green growth’ as the path to efficient utilization of natural capital to bring about development and to diversify income and livelihood opportunities beyond the primary production sectors; emphasis should be placed on the promotion of green investment in the agriculture, water, waste management, forestry, energy, tourism, transport and education sectors.
- The Rio+20 conference should uphold the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in advancing the realization of past development commitments, including the MDGs; specifically with respect to transfer of technologies for the transition to modern production methods, financing for development, capacity building, and reform of the world trade regime.
- Uganda upholds the right of nation states to self-determination, believes in the principles people-centered development, and calls upon the conference to reinvigorate support and respect for national democratic and accountable governance processes, the rule of law and planning processes associated with determination of national development objectives. Uganda accordingly calls for the re-affirmation of the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and those of the Accra Agenda for Action, and urges the conference to expedite support for the establishment and promotion of National Councils for Sustainable Development.
- At regional level, Uganda affirms the maintenance of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) as Africa’s Sustainable Development framework, and recognizes that NEPAD requires revitalization of its

implementation frameworks and calls on the conference to lend its support to this cause. Uganda emphasizes the need to expand the Africa Peer Review Mechanism process to include the monitoring and evaluation of the balanced integration of the three pillars of Sustainable Development.

- Uganda believes in the need for effective global framework for coordinating international action on Sustainable Development, and recommends the establishment of a specific global institution to spearhead the coordination of international action on Sustainable Development based on the review of the current framework.
- With respect to international environmental governance in the context of Sustainable Development, Uganda upholds the Africa Union position as contained in the Malabo Declaration, to transform UNEP into a specialized international institution for environment based in Nairobi, Kenya; and enjoins the conference to support this transformation of UNEP for greater operational presence and impact in member countries.

Uganda was represented at the Rio+20 Conference by a 30-strong delegation comprising officials from parliament; government ministries, departments and agencies; and the media. Uganda presented a statement to the Conference outlining the key economic, social and environmental achievements she had made since the Rio Earth Summit in 1992; presented her position above; endorsement the Rio+20 outcome document; and stated her commitment to developing a national post Rio+20 action plan. The Conference renewed commitment to sustainable development and to ensuring promotion of an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future for the planet and future generations. Emphasis was placed on promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth; creating opportunities for all; reducing income inequalities; promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that support economic, social and human development; and putting in place a robust global institutional framework for sustainable development. These same themes have provided the backdrop to, and constitute bedrock of, the current consultations and recommendations on the Post 2015 international development agenda.

Following the Rio+20 Conference Uganda formed a national task team to spearhead development of a national post Rio+20 action plan, comprising NEMA, MoFPED, NPA, MoH, MoES, MoWE and the Ministry of Energy. The task force agreed on the following actions: (i) mobilizing resources internally and externally for implementing the post Rio+20 commitments (ii) raising awareness about the Rio+20 Outcomes and the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in their achievement (iii) capacity building and institutional harmonization and strengthening (iv) setting an agenda for a comprehensive integration of Rio+20 outcomes and recommendations into national development policies, strategies, plans, programs, projects and budgets at both national

and local government levels; and (v) effective participation by Uganda in post Rio intergovernmental processes at regional and global levels.

- b) *Vision 2040*: The Vision 2040 consultation and validation process covered the whole country and led to a common position that Uganda aims to transform from a low income with per capita income of USD 504 to the middle income segment by 2017, and to reach per capita income of USD 9,500 by 2040 – a 30-fold GDP increase within 30 years. Among the key indicators of this transformation, the population living below poverty line is expected to reduce from 24.5% to 5%; life expectancy is expected to rise from 51.5 to 85 years; and infant mortality and maternal mortality rates are expected to decline from 63 to 4 and from 438 to 15 respectively. Under the likely growth scenario, economic growth rate is expected to rise from 5.7 % to a 5 year average of 8.4% per annum by 2025 before gradually declining to average of 7.8% in the last five years of the Vision. The services sector is expected to remain the largest contributor to GDP at 58% followed by industry at 31% and agriculture at 10%. Such a transformation will require heavy investment in human resource; education; health; social protection; transport infrastructure; energy; science, technology, engineering and innovation; urban development; land reforms; and peace, security and defence.

In developing Vision 2040 the National Planning Authority (NPA) consulted a wide range of stakeholders across the country – government, parliament, civil society organisations, business, labour, professionals, academia, opinion leaders, etc. – on where Uganda should be in 30 years and how to get there. The consultations took a variety of forms including workshops, public discussions, meetings with specific representative bodies and interest groups, and media campaigns – among others. The same stakeholders, including local governments, participated in validation of the draft Vision 2040 document. The validation exercise for local governments took place across the country in January 2013 and covered 105 districts and Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA). The outcome of the various consultations on Vision 2040 was instrumental in shaping Uganda’s position on Rio+20, as realization of Uganda’s development vision is highly contingent on the nature of the Post MDG international system. ²

- c) *Consultations on Population Development*: MoFPED, through its Population Secretariat (POPSEC), and with technical and financial support from UNFPA, is leading the review of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) programme of action as part of the ongoing effort to develop a system-wide vision and road map for the Post 2015 agenda. The process started in March 2012. Since then seven consultative

²National Planning Authority, **Consolidated report on the validation of the draft National Vision 2040 at the district local government level**, January 2013

meetings have been held, attended by 30 participants from 24 civil society organizations, 18 participants from 9 faith-based organizations, 39 cultural leaders from 23 cultural institutions, 26 participants from 21 media institutions, 35 parliamentarians, 36 young people (including individuals living with HIV and teenage mothers), and 15 staff members from 10 UN agencies. Other groups representing women, vulnerable children and populations most at risk were also represented. A one-day national validation workshop was held in December 2012 to review the country report. The workshop was attended by 67 participants, including members of civil society and faith-based organizations, cultural leaders, the media, parliamentarians, and academicians, along with representatives from government, districts, the private sector, UN agencies and bilateral partners (the USAID, EU and Sweden). A national report based on the information collected by consultants during the review process has just been finalized and will enrich the SADC and continental reports. The expected outputs of the process is a comprehensive global report on the state of P&D reflecting population trends, data and information from national, regional sources and a report of the Secretary-General containing the main messages from the global to be submitted to the 47th session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) in 2014 and the UNGASS on the ICPD Beyond 2014 in 2014.

- d) *Civil Society Consultations:* Various CSOs across the country are involved in consultations on the Post 2015 agenda under the coordination of the Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF). In Uganda, the Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) has held two sub national consultation meetings: one in the west (Mbarara) on March 7, 2013 attracted 154 participants; and another in the north (Gulu) on April 8, 2013 attracted 80 participants. It emerged from the two meetings that limited knowledge of MDGs by civil society actors has contributed to the low level of citizen engagement and monitoring of the MDGs, and lack of an effective strategy for coordinating implementation of the MDGs by key stakeholders has contributed to poor documentation of progress on the some of the MDGs. The key messages coming out of these consultations were that the post 2015 international development framework should shift focus from mere tracking of enrollment under universal primary education to ensuring quality universal education; inequality and social exclusion should be effectively addressed; and more efforts is required to strengthened good governance and democracy.

UNNGOF is planning to expand its consultations to reach a much larger population as part of the process of developing a strong post 2015 position by CSO in Uganda, using its national infrastructure of 35 district networks and 3065 member organizations. Consultations will be held in two more regions and at national level and will be organized in the form of roundtable dialogues in a workshop setting, complemented by a media strategy involving radio talk-shows and ‘citizen voices’ in the form of sound bites that can be shared on CD and other media formats. The consultations will target grass root

organizations and groups, the environment and other development sectors, human rights activists and practitioners, and representatives of women's organisations, social movements, people with disabilities, faith-based organisations, academia and think tanks, and local governments. Development partners will also be included. A synthesis report covering the process and key messages and recommendations will be produced to highlight the outcome of these consultations, and inform CSO advocacy for the post 2015 agenda at national, regional and global level.

- e) *Consultations with the Youth:* Since Rio+20 U-report, operated by UNICEF Uganda³ in partnership with the UNDP Millennium Challenge team, has been engaged in various conversations relating to the MDGs at the request of the Ministry of Water and Environment. U-report is a free SMS service designed to give young Ugandans a chance to voice their opinions on issues they care about. Users register for free by texting "join" to short-code 8500 and are then asked a series of questions whose responses assist in targeting messages to them. The service was launched in May 2011 and now has approximately 150,000 members with an average age of 24, 51% of whom are female. Each week a SMS poll or alert is sent to all of the U-reporters asking for their opinion on a given issue using quantitative and qualitative questions as needed. The responses are analyzed in real time using the U-report data platform (www.ureport.ug) and data is mapped to each district and compiled nationally. The results are shared with all U-reporters and issues arising are often explored further with additional questions and responses, continuing the dialogue. Each month U-report results are publicized in the national media and within parliament to ensure that decision makers have access to information regarding their districts or ministries. The six top issues of concern to the youth that have been identified through U-report are: (i) job opportunities (ii) access to education (iii) access to health (iv) accountable and responsive government (v) access to electricity, and (vi) protecting the environment.

Further consultations have been carried out by the United Nations Association of Uganda (UNAU) with youth from universities, secondary schools and the slum areas around Kampala. In all 270 youth took part in the consultations on the 16 areas of focus agreed at RIO+20 in June 2012: 20 each came from Kampala International University, Makerere University Business School, Kyambogo University, Makerere University, Ndejje University and Mulago School of Paramedics; 30 each came from Kololo, Nakasero and Old Kampala secondary schools; and 30 each came from Kamwokya and Kisenyi slum areas which are highly affected by high unemployment and drug addiction. The youth were divided into groups among their respective categories and asked to discuss issues affecting them most in their home areas. The views of the youth from the slum areas

³ See: UNICEF Uganda, **A community approach to the Future We Want: Using SMS to understand community opinions on the MDGs and their successors** (n.d.).

closely mirrored those from the educational institutions. All prioritized six pressing issues, namely: better healthcare, protection against crime and violence, a good education, better job opportunities, better transport and roads, and need for action on climate change.

- f) *Consultations with Labour and Employers:* Employers and labour organisations have been engaged in tripartite consultations with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) through their main umbrella organisations, namely: the National Union of Trade Unions (NOTU), the Central Organisation of Free Trade Unions (COFTU) and the Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE). The three held a joint meeting on 20th February 2013, but they have also held consultations with their individual memberships. NOTU, with 20 trade unions representing close to one million workers, held three consultative meetings in October and November 2012, and January 2013. COFTU, also representing 20 trade unions, is planning a major consultation with its member organisation on April 20, 2013. FUE, which has a membership of 460 national organizations and 20 sectoral associations, is involved in consultations at two levels. On the one hand, it is linked through ILO to the Geneva-based International Organisation of Employers (IOE), and through UNDP to the UN Global Compact – for which it is the Uganda focal point. On the other hand, each of its regional offices in the central, east, west, north and Kasese sub-regional offices is consulting with employers in those areas. Following the regional consultations FUE organized a national consultative meeting on 19th March 2013 at Eureka hotel in Ntinda, Kampala.
- g) *National Consultation Meeting (April 22, 2013):* The Parliamentary Forum on MDGs and the Parliamentary Forum on Children organized a one-day national consultation meeting on the Post 2015 international development agenda on April 22, 2013 at hotel Africana in Kampala, in order to consolidate the views emerging from all the above consultations into one report. The meeting was officially opened by the Speaker of Parliament, the Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, and was attended by 249 participants from parliament (75 MPs), government, 35 CSOs, 27 media organisations (radio, TV and print), private sector representatives, UN agencies in Uganda, the World Bank, the EU delegation, and the embassies of Germany, Denmark and Ireland.

The following section highlights the issues emerging from the above consultations, including the national consultation meeting, which give rise to the recommendations enumerated thereafter.

Issues emerging from the consultations

Uganda aims at transforming from a low income country with per capita income of USD 504 to middle income segment by 2017 and to reach a per capita of USD 9,500 by 2040, i.e. a 30- fold

increase in GDP in next 30 years. This will require significant economic structural transformation to bring the contribution of the service sector to GDP to 58%, the industrial sector to 31% and agriculture to 10%. For this to happen, major investments will have to be made on the fundamentals, namely: human resource; transport infrastructure; energy; science, technology, engineering and innovation; urban development; land reforms; peace, security and defence. Major investments will also have to be made in health, education and other social programmes – including social protection for the most disadvantaged (i.e. children, women, people with disabilities and the elderly). Strong measures will have to be taken to protect the environment and to use renewable and non-renewable resources sustainably, to ensure that the transformation sought is not achieved at the expense of future generations. This is even more urgent now that Uganda has discovered oil and gas and is about to start production.

Uganda's experience indicates that although considerable progress has been made towards achieving some of the MDGs (details to be provided here) there are still a number of challenges to be overcome. Among other things:

- In Uganda, Post 2015 discussions should be informed by Vision 2040 and discussions around this document.
- Significant progress has been made in putting children in school but there are concerns over high drop-out rates, especially for the girl child, the quality of education and the general lack of child protection systems.
- The post 2015 agenda must explicitly include issues of child protection. These were omitted in the MDGs and should be non-negotiable in the Post-2015 Agenda.
- Need to take into account the specific needs and challenges faced by vulnerable groups of the population (e.g. children, elderly, people with disabilities, etc.).
- The post 2015 agenda must explicitly include issues of child protection. These were omitted in the MDGs and should be a non-negotiable in the Post-2015 Agenda.
- Engagement of citizens and real time monitoring of progress should be at the heart of assessing what the post-2015 agenda should be, and how it is delivering.
- Corruption needs to be part of Post2015 deliberations; this will be essential in promoting accountability and integrity in the management of public affairs
- Aid should be aligned to national priorities and not donor priorities.
- The importance of values – such as integrity, national pride and ambition – and changing mindsets as an intangible driver of development should be emphasized
- Achieving full and production employment for all, especially the youth, needs to be a central part of the Post2015 international development framework

- Need to keep on working to achieve those MDG goals where progress has been slow or where Uganda has actually experienced a reversal (HIV, nutrition, natural environment, maternal health).
- Environmental sustainability should be a key element of the Post 2015 International development framework
- Mechanisms for managing conflict should be strengthened because of its negative impact on development
- The global trade regime should be fairer and more equitable to address the challenges of developing countries

Addressing these issues requires a more conducive international development framework beyond 2015.

Recommendations

Arising out of the above, the following are recommended for the 2015 international development agenda.

1. International development

1.1 Make the international system more just and equitable in terms of trade regimes, investment in developing countries and technology transfer.

1.2 Base development assistance on the Paris Declaration principles and the Accra Plan of Action, and align it to national rather than donor priorities.

1.3 Forge a global partnership to provide developing countries with more access to information and communication technology (ICT) from industrialized countries, to enhance their growth and opportunity.

2. Youth and children

2.1 Take strong measures to protect children against violence, child labour, early marriages, child sacrifice and trafficking. Enhance justice for children and forge measures to protect children with disabilities and to include them in national development.

2.2 Promote youth empowerment and active participation in development by enhancing youth access to reproductive health information and services, creating employment opportunities, developing skills and talents, providing the youth with guidance and mentoring, and combating drug abuse.

2.3 Strengthen birth and death registration systems to provide accurate statistics for national planning and age determination, and to ensure that children access their rights as citizens.

2.4 Give greater focus to early childhood development by, among other things, buttressing and scaling up nutritional programmes for children below five years to prevent stunting.

2.5 Tackle HIV/AIDS more combatively by directing focus on cross infections, mother-child transmission, and on infected children.

2.6 Combat child mortality more forcefully by focusing on children's first 24 hours and 30 days.

3. *Women*

3.1 Provide adequate budgetary resources for women's issues and strengthen implementation of policies and laws affecting women.

3.2 Invest in effective and affordable maternal health programmes to ensure that pregnant women are properly monitored and get access to appropriate information, support and care before, during and after delivery including access to family planning information and services.

4. *Labour and employment*

4.1 Make achievement of employment for all a central plank of international development

4.2 Enforce international conventions on labour and employment to eliminate labour exploitation everywhere, and to ensure that countries implement all international laws and conventions to which they have acceded

4.3 Develop and make accessible frameworks for international market information; and promote skills development for international markets and transparency in recruitment

4.4 Promote entrepreneurship development and business sustainability

4.5 Develop frameworks and mechanisms for enabling employers to participate actively in public sector reforms due to their positive impact on labour and overall national development

4.6 Give special attention to youth and women employment to ensure that both women and the youth are engaged positively and effectively contribute to national development

4.7 Promote social security and social protection

4.8 Promote labour exchange and competitiveness

4.9 Countries should set up stand-alone ministries of labour with adequate budget allocation

5. *Environment*

Make sustainable development the bedrock of global development by strengthening institutional frameworks and mechanisms for managing (i) the environment (ii) renewable and non-renewable energy (iii) natural resources (iv) eco-systems (v) waste and, (vi) the impact of populations on the environment. This will require transfer of technology from industrialized nations to the rest of the world, together with appropriate capacity building.

6. *Communicable and non-communicable diseases*

Develop effective global mechanisms for combating HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases – especially malaria, cancer, diabetes, and heart disease – which have become a major threat to national and international progress.

7. *Public management*

7.1 Place greater emphasis on public sector reforms, including civil service reforms, to make governments more effective in managing development. Intensify action that promotes transparent, accountable, and responsive government, combats corruption more decisively, and enhances the values of integrity, hard work, ambition and national pride.

7.3 Forge mechanisms for promoting effective partnerships between governments, civil society, the private sector, citizens and communities in national development

8. *Education*

8.1 Invest more in skills development to meet individual and national needs. Particular emphasis should be placed on curriculum reform, the girl child, skills-based education for women and functional adult literacy – to ensure that women and the elderly are provided with necessary tools to succeed in life.

8.2 Beyond access, education should also be focused on quality

9. *Food security*

Promote food security by combining strategies for increasing agricultural production and for reducing post-harvest losses.

10. *Population*

Invest in population censuses to facilitate effective national planning

11. Conflict management

Give good consideration to conflict management due to the proliferation of conflicts and its negative impact on development.

12. Social protection

Design specific and targeted interventions for the most vulnerable especially women, youth, persons with disabilities and the elderly.

13. Persons with disabilities

13.1 Support the empowerment and active participation of persons with disabilities in all development programmes through allocation of adequate budget allocations and provision for their representation in all national decision making and planning processes.

13.2 Promote access by persons with disabilities to education, reproductive health information and services, and employment opportunities.

13.3 Promote the generation and disaggregation of disability data and statistics to enable effective planning for and mainstreaming of persons with disabilities in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all development programmes at all levels.

Conclusion

The national consultations in Uganda on the Post 2015 international development framework have attracted a very broad range of stakeholders, indicating increasing appreciation among Ugandans of the positive impact of the MDGs, and the challenges that still have to be overcome to transform the livelihoods of Ugandans for the better. The preceding national consultations on Rio+20 and the process of formulating Vision 2040 contributed greatly to this wide understanding, because they directed scrutiny to the internal measures Uganda needs to take to accelerate her development, as well as the ideal international conditions for Uganda to make that transformation.

The national consultations have re-affirmed the critical requirements of sustainable development: education; health; water and sanitation; environmental management; effective management of climate change; skills development; decent and meaningful employment for all, especially women and youth; increased productivity; equitable international development; transfer of technology to developing countries; and ratification and enforcement of international conventions – among others.

The recommendations that have been generated from the consultations reflect good understanding of how the MDG experience has impacted on different segments of Ugandan society in terms of the achievements registered, the challenges encountered, lessons learned, and what needs to be done differently in order to lead to sustainable development for the benefit of current and future generations. Ugandans hope that inclusion of the recommendations in the Post 2015 international development framework will greatly contribute to realization of the future we all want.