

Summary of Sida's Assessment of the Development/Progress towards the Strategy Objectives and Implementation of the Contribution Portfolio

Area 1: Democracy, human rights and gender equality

- 1.1 Capacity of CS to improve respect for human rights
- 1.2 Capacity of CS to promote citizens involvement in pol. processes
- 1.3 Enhances rule of law, with focus on access to justice

Objective¹



Portfolio²



Area 2: Inclusive Economic Growth

- 2.1 Strengthened competitiveness among producers and suppliers
- 2.2 Increased productive employment
- 2.3 Increased access to and control of productive resources
- 2.4 Better access to social protection for vulnerable children



Area 3: Improved basic health

- 3.1 Improved access to high quality child and maternal care
- 3.2 Improved access to SRHR for women and men, girls and boys



Area 4: Safeguarding human security and freedom from violence

- 4.1 Enhanced capacity to prevent Gender Based Violence



¹ Assessment of the **development towards the strategy objectives**: Green: Desirable direction; Yellow: Partially desirable direction; Red: Undesirable Direction.

² Assessment of the **implementation of the contribution portfolio**: Green: According to plan; Yellow: Partially according to plan; Red: Not as planned.

Summary

2017 var ett inrikespolitiskt händelserikt år, vilket påverkat genomförandet av Sida's bistånd. Den sammantagna bedömningen är att utvecklingen mot stratgimålen delvis går i rätt riktning och att genomförandet av biståndet delvis genomförs enligt plan.

I samband med att grundlagen ändrades för att den sittande presidenten ska kunna kandidera till nästa val genom att åldersgränsen på 75 år togs bort. Lagförändringen hade ett svagt stöd hos befolkningen i stort och motståndare i parlamentet hanterades med våld av säkerhetsstyrkor. Utrymmet för civila samhällsorganisationer som arbetar med politiska och civila rättigheter stramades åt och press- och yttrandefriheten begränsades när debatten och grundlagen var som mest intensiv. Trots den negativa utvecklingen har Sida's samarbetspartners hittat metoder och förhållningssätt för att fortsätta sitt arbete för mänskliga rättigheter och en demokratisk samhällsutveckling, och därigenom åstadkommit resultat. Det långsiktiga arbetet för ökad jämställdhet och ökad tillgång till rättvisa för fattiga människor har inte påverkats i lika hög grad av den politiska situationen under året och verksamheten har i princip fortskridit enligt plan. Exempel på resultat är lagstiftning och policy utveckling, tillhandahållande av rättsstöd, liksom spridning av kunskap och förståelse för att förändra beteenden på lokal nivå. Under 2017 har ett genombrott skett vad gäller rättslig prövning av sexuellt och genderbaserat våld, genom särskilda domstolsförhandlingar och riktade utbildningsinsatser för berörda myndigheter.

En ekonomisk nedgång skedde under året och jordbruksutvecklingen är i en nedåtgående trend. Inga påtagliga förändringar har skedd på sysselsättningsområdet. Fattigdomen har samtidigt ökat enligt en ny hushållsundersökning. Sida's arbete för att öka konkurrenskraften inom jordbruket och öka den produktiva sysselsättningen har dock gett resultat för de målgrupper som berörts av insatserna. Exempel på resultat är förbättrade jordbruksmetoder som inneburit ökad produktivitet och inkomster för producenter, bättre förutsättningar för företagande genom utbildning och tillgång till finansiering, bättre länkar mellan producenter och inköpare, bättre ramverk för regional handel, skapande av arbetstillfällen inom den privata sektorn, samt användning av förnyelsebara energikällor och energisnåla spisar.

På hälso-området är utvecklingen långsam även om en positiv utveckling har rapporterats på vissa indikatorer, t ex minskad barnadödlighet. Mödradödligheten är fortsatt hög och risken är kopplad till brister i servicenivå, höga födelsetal, tonårsgraviditeter, osäkra aborter och begränsad tillgång till familjeplanering. Sida's stöd har bl a bidragit till en ökning av födselar på vårdcentraler, tillgång till mödravård innan och efter förlossning, samt stärkta hälsovårdssystem i berörda distrikt, varav vissa är flyktingmottagande områden där flyktingar erbjuds samma service som värdbefolkningen. Det politiska motståndet mot ungdomars rätt till att använda preventivmedel och besluta om sin egen reproduktion, förbud mot sexualundervisning i skolan, samt begränsade möjligheter till legal abort utgör ett stort hinder för Sida's arbete för att främja SRHR i sin helhet. Trots detta har Sida's samarbetspartners fortsatt erbjuda service, information och rådgivning till bl a ungdomar, riktade insatser för utsatta/sårbara målgrupper, samt dialog med beslutsfattare och ledare på lokal nivå för att förändra attityder och öka kunskapen om SRHR.

Flyktingströmmen från Sydsudan fortsatte, om än i minskade volymer, och flyktingströmmen från DRK ökade kraftigt mot slutet av året. Uppemot 1.4 miljoner flyktingar befinner sig nu i landet vilket innebär ett ökat tryck på land, naturresurser, och grundläggande service, och ett ökande behov av finansiering. Sida har under 2017 påbörjat en anpassning av biståndet till denna nya situation och arbetat för att stärka sambandet mellan det humanitära och långsiktiga utvecklingssamarbetet för att hitta långsiktiga lösningar för flyktingarna och deras värd samhällen.

1 Overview of the Strategy Context

Total amount for the Strategy: 1,350 MSEK

Disbursed Amount 2017: 291 MSEK

Number of Contributions 2017: 41

1.1 Change in the Context

During 2017 the democratic development was under pressure and the political situation was tense, due to the violent and repressive process by which constitutional amendments regarding the presidency were pushed through without popular support by the government. The “age-limit” for the president including the incumbent was lifted and a term limit was reinstalled for the next president.

The refugee influx from South Sudan continued during the year and towards the end a drastic increase of refugees from DRC was noted and thereported number of refugees in the country is approximately 1,4 million³. The generous refugee response continued despite the intense pressure on land for settlement, water, and available social services for both host communities and refugees. Serious allegations regarding misuse of humanitarian assistance and violations of refugee rights that occurred during 2017 were made public early 2018 and investigations are ongoing.

Widespread corruption has a negative impact on the achievement of development outcomes and reduction of poverty in Uganda. During 2017 a number of large-scale corruption cases were brought to the attention of the media and handled in the courts of the country. Sida has also managed a number of cases in its own portfolio.

During the last year Uganda also saw some worrying developments related to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). A number of important policy documents, such as the revised SRHR policy guidelines and the revised Adolescent Health Policy were “temporarily” halted due to the controversy around access to modern contraceptives for youth. The discourse around SRHR has been controversial mainly due to influence of religious and culture leaders at all levels.

Lastly, a new household survey was published that shows that poverty has increased with 8 percentage points during the period 2012/13 and 2016/17, and 27 % of the population fall below the poverty line. Changing rainfall patterns have been mentioned as one factor behind the negative trend, causing draught and resulting in poor yields and food insecurity.

Table 1. Donor Context

Total development assistance make up 11,5% of the national budget 2017/18	Sweden's share of the total of development assistance constitute %. N/A ⁴
Common donor strategy 20xX - 20XX is signed by [XX] donors. There is no common EU strategy.	There is no common EU strategy. A revised Joint Programming paper expected in 2018.
The five largest donors (organisations and/or countries) are: US, AfDB, World Bank, EU, UK	Sweden is the 6th largest donor and the 3rd largest EU donor.

³ A re-registration exercise is being conducted by WFP and UNHCR between March and September 2018.

⁴ Off-budget ODA data is not available.

1.2 Sweden's Role in the Strategy Context

Sweden's development cooperation has been channeled through civil society, the private sector and multilateral partners, due to restrictions regarding state-to-state cooperation. The policy framework for all development partners in Uganda, including Sweden, is the National Development Plan II and the coordination structures under the Office of the Prime Minister. The main part of Swedish support is off-budget and does not use the national systems for recording/accounting. Sweden and most donors engage in more than three sectors and only two donors were active in sector budget support instruments during 2017 (Austria and Denmark). Sweden is part of the largest joint donor funding mechanism for democratic governance, DGF, and a pooled fund supporting agribusiness, aBi. One of the main contributions of Sweden is the leadership on gender equality and women's rights.

1.3 Synergies with Other Swedish Strategies

Support through CIVSAM to Uganda amounted to 29 772 000 SEK. Fruitful exchanges has been held to discuss dialogue issues with partners funded through global and regional strategies as well as the bilateral, for example the global strategies for human rights, democracy and rule of law and for support through Swedish civil society organisations, not the least related to issues of internal control and follow up. Links have been explored with regional strategies for Sub-Saharan Africa and for SRHR.

Humanitarian support to Uganda amounted to 74 726 000 SEK. The continued high influx of refugees over the year resulted in improved synergies with support under the strategy for humanitarian assistance, as well as a stronger emphasis on the humanitarian-development nexus. Humanitarian support focusing on livelihoods, protection, health, nutrition and water and sanitation indirectly contributed to results within area 2, 3 and 4. The Embassy provided increased support in terms of direct follow up and reporting back to Sida HQ. In line with the CRRF and durable solutions agenda, input from the Embassy also resulted in more long term funding for some of the humanitarian partners in the humanitarian allocation process for Uganda 2018.

Research cooperation to Uganda amounted to 42 278 000 SEK. Close collaboration with other areas of support, political dialogue and promotion activities are on-going.

1.4 Allocation between Areas of Support

RA1: 118 695 000 SEK was disbursed within Democracy, human rights and rule of law of which 80 MSEK to the Democratic Governance Facility. Other contributions are UN Women, Diakonia and HiiL. Our support to Hivos resulted in a net repayment of -2.5 MSEK due to corruption case.

RA2: 46 594 000 SEK was disbursed within economic growth of which 15 MSEK to UNCDF, 10 MSEK to aBi followed by 9 MSEK to Mercy Corps. Other contributions are IRC (Speed), Un Women and the Transfer project.

RA3: 117 888 000 SEK was disbursed within Health dominated by WB with 100 MSEK. Other contributions are CHAU, NTHIC etc.

RA4: 6 024 000 SEK which does not consist of any main contribution but allocated results from UN Women, Diakonia and the inception phase of HiiL

Not specified or allocated consists of various audits conducted as well as legal support due to our on-going corruption cases, especially Nogamu.


2 Results

2.1 Strengthened democracy and gender equality, greater respect for human rights and freedom from oppression

Objective 1.1 and 1.2 are jointly assessed and reported.

2.1.1 Objective 1.1: Greater capacity of civil society to improve respect for civil and political rights

2.1.2 Objective 1.2: Greater capacity of civil society to promote the conditions for citizens to influence political processes and demand accountability

Development towards the strategy objective 

The capacity of the civil society continues to be strengthened through capacity building activities funded by donors and through domestic efforts within the civil society. Still, many organisations are weak and lack both financial and human resources. Some Kampala-based organisations are well funded and skilled, while the large part of organisations around the country still have a long way to go. This is expressed in analyses like the CSO Diagnostic Study, financed through the Democratic Governance Facility Programme.

The political pressure on organisations working with political and civic rights, or more specifically freedom of expression, governance, democratic processes and related issues are under increased pressure from the government. As a result Uganda plummeted ten positions on the Reporters Without Borders index for press freedom.⁵ Political events during 2017, especially the heated discussions on lifting the constitutional age limit for the president, caused major problems for organisations working with governance and human rights issues. Another example is the forced closing of the planned pride event in Kampala.

Over the course of 2017, CSOs and the media have reported numerous incidents of police raids, obstructed access to information, confiscation or destruction of equipment, physical aggressions and intimidation.⁶ This came to a peak in October, when the Bank of Uganda froze the bank accounts of two CSOs with claims of illicit use of finances in support of the anti-age limit campaigns. The accounts were “un-frozen” three months later. Development partners share the perception that the Government is using the legislative framework, specifically the NGO and Public Order Management Acts, as a mechanism to curtail Ugandans’ fundamental freedoms, in violation of Uganda’s constitution and several international treaties to which Uganda is a signatory.

This development is a clear threat to the ability of CSOs to advocate for human rights and democracy, support citizens ability to engage in political processes and demand accountability. On the positive side, many CSOs come together to find solutions and new ways of working in the evolving political

⁵ <https://rsf.org/en/uganda>

⁶ CIVICUS: Joint Statement: Grave concern over recent raids on Ugandan civil society groups < <https://civicus.org/index.php/media-resources/media-releases/2974-joint-statement-grave-concern-over-recent-raids-on-ugandan-civil-society-groups>

context. That is an opportunity for new collaborations and joint efforts to strengthen democracy and human rights.⁷

Portfolio level



The portfolio is well in line with operationalisation plan and annual plan. Due to corruption cases, two partners have been suspended during 2017 (Hivos and International Alert). This has caused disruption in primarily the work on freedom of expression.

There are six contributions delivering on target 1.1 and 1.2. 75 949 000 SEK was disbursed 2017. The portfolio constitutes of contributions with the ability to support a broad range of primarily domestic national and local civil society organisations. UN agencies are also represented. The portfolio gives Sida the possibility to support actors nationwide, reaches key change agents within the civil society and facilitates collaboration with a few important public institutions, like the Uganda Human Rights Commission. It also covers key thematic areas and has the ability to bring a large number of donors together for increased coordination and joint efforts. The interventions aim at both building the capacity of the civil society, promote citizens to influence political processes, demand accountability and advocate for respect for human rights.

All in all, the portfolio is well adapted to contribute to the achievement of strategy goals. The colour coding yellow has been chosen as a consequence of the corruption cases.

Contribution level

Diakonia can show results in terms of increased knowledge of rights and demand for better services, for example in Amuria and Amudat districts in Northern and Eastern Uganda. The use of role model men in Northern Uganda to mediate in domestic violence and discrimination cases have been successful. There are also examples of interventions with women councilors at the legislative level, who engage and advocate for gender responsive budgeting at the sub-county level. Findings from qualitative interviews during the Mid-Term Review of *Diakonia*⁸ indicate an increase in the number of women reporting improvements in their social-economic conditions. These examples show that it is possible to find methods that equip change agents to promote rights and changed attitudes. Results are still limited to small geographical areas, but could probably be replicated and scaled up.

UN Women has engaged several actors to influence the new Gender Policy of the Government. The policy will be adopted during the first half of 2018 and aims to strengthen government efforts to gender equality in a broad sense. UN Women has also facilitated a number of dialogues between key stakeholders to improve gender sensitive legislation and strengthened abilities advocate for change. There have also been successful interventions to promote women's rights to land, to fight violence against women and increase women's participation in politics, especially on local level. This work has been carried out mainly through civil society actors. Another important intervention is on data. UN Women has supported the work on producing SDG 5 related data. The availability of this data will be complimented by a road map – 'Voice to Action' - a guide developed for CSOs to have a coherent approach in holding the Government accountable on critical gender issues affecting women, as well as

⁷ This is evident after several meetings held by the embassy with leading civil society representatives and human rights defenders during 2017 and the beginning of 2018.

⁸ A final draft has been shared with the embassy, but not a final report. Contribution number 51180101

a tool to monitor and track progress in the implementation of SDGs, particularly goal number 5, and for awareness-raising and advocacy.⁹

2.1.3 Objective 1.3: Enhanced rule of law, with a focus on access to justice for people who live in poverty

Development towards the strategy objective

Access to justice continues to be a challenge in Uganda especially for the poor and most vulnerable people. The formal legal system continues to grapple with significant perennial structural and systemic challenges like case backlog, shortage of staff, lack of resources and a dwindling share of the national budget which has since declined by 19% from 5.6% to 4.4%.

Technical barriers and poverty still make access to justice difficult for the poor and vulnerable, particularly women and girls who face more barriers to access justice due to patriarchal norms, higher levels of illiteracy and lack of information on their rights.

A new Sector Development plan launched in November 2017 endeavours to focus on addressing these systemic challenges but with dwindling resources, this is still difficult to achieve.

The support to legal aid although proven effective, has limited coverage in relation to the need and challenges. A Legal Aid Policy is still pending approval by cabinet and parliament to be effected into law. This limits the mandate of the state to provide legal aid services to the most vulnerable and indigent persons. Most of the legal aid work is done by civil society organisations.

The country continues to face conflicts especially land-related conflict incidents continued to escalate and to clog up the judicial systems. This also results in increased levels of gender based violence. The transitional justice policy and law has been pending cabinet approval for many years. Transitional justice is widely expected to impact democratic institution building especially in strengthening rule of law and addressing underlying local conflict at different levels. Ugandans continue to experience long-term challenges stemming from their unmet justice needs and un resolved conflicts. The justice sector has tried to put in place innovative ways of addressing these justice needs like mediation, and other alternative justice mechanisms but these have not been sufficient enough to address root causes of local conflicts.

Portfolio level

The portfolio is in line with operationalisation plan and annual plan. There are three main contributions that address the result. Most of these contributions support access to justice by providing legal aid services to vulnerable groups through non-state actors. The partners have effectively delivered its outputs in the area of access to justice. Contributions to peace and prevention have been modest in scope, yet delivered effectively at output level. An six months inception phase to IDLO as a larger contribution that will scale up and expand provision of community justice programme is on track. A new long term programme will be agreed in the first half of 2018. Due to corruption, one contribution targeting conflict prevention has been phased out after one year of implementation. Total disbursements 2017 amounts to 42 746 000 SEK.

⁹ Results were reported in a draft version of the annual report and in a bi-annual meeting with UN Women. Final report is pending.
Contribution number 51180099

Contribution level

The *HiiL programme Justice Innovations Uganda* has been able to generate data on level of Justice needs in Uganda and provide solutions for different interventions that can be used to address them. This has increase innovations in the justice system and created path ways to strengthening the independence of the judiciary. It is envisaged that the three year programme that started late last year will build on these achievements to ensure that the people of Uganda, and in particular the disadvantaged, see more of their issues resolved fairly and effectively by a justice sector that is more innovative, open, transparent and accountable.

The support to legal aid service providers through *DGF* according to the evaluation of 2016 was able to reach reach over 4 million people through the Legal Aid Programme (LEAP) with legal aid, mostly women and other vulnerable groups. The programme has continued to deliver results during 2017.

2.2 Better opportunities for people living in poverty to contribute to and benefit from economic growth and obtain good education

2.2.1 Objective 2.1: Strengthened competitiveness among producers and suppliers of goods and services

Development towards the strategy objective

The assessment from last years' strategy report is still valid and therefore the color has not changed. The past years' experience and statistics show very little evidence for productivity gains, specifically within agriculture where many of the contributions have been focused. Rather, Uganda has seen a further slow down. Agriculture's share of GDP has continued to fall during 2017 and is now accounting for just below 25% of output. This despite the fact that around 76% are employed within agriculture. Similarly, growth in the manufacturing sector has been stagnant leaving much of the growth to be generated from services and the later are characterized by individual to small firms with limited spillover effects for economic growth. The increased electricity generation is a positive trend¹⁰ impacting prerequisites for overall competitiveness. However, in terms of connection to the grid major challenges remain.

Portfolio level

To spur competitiveness ambitions, implementation of the portfolio up to 2017 has mainly delivered results with regards to the supply side within the agricultural sector (e.g. skills development, input supply, bulking and storage). The above mentioned challenges for agriculture productivity has clearly had an effect on overall portfolio results, limiting its impact on Ugandas overall competitiveness. Results in terms of energy supply however has had positive effects for the urban enterprise sector.

Portfolio analysis during 2017, conclusions from previous strategy report as well as the multi-dimensional poverty assessment, indicate the need to increasingly address constraints for competitiveness through a stronger markets systems approach. During 2017 four¹¹ agreements came to an end. That fact represents an opportunity to somewhat adjust the portfolio to strengthen results for pro-poor inclusive economic growth and education. 21 850 000 SEK was disbursed in 2017.

¹⁰ NDP II baseline of 825 MW increased to 930 MW in 2016/2017 stated in the National budget framework paper FY 2018/2019..

¹¹ International Rescue Committee, (SPEED), Technoserve (conservation cotton Uganda), Trade Mark East Africa (ended 2016, closure 2017), Plan International (Working future. Ended 2016, closure 2017).

Contribution level

The existing portfolio mix enhances productivity increase mainly on a micro level. Farmers have been trained in good agricultural practices (*aBi - Agriculture Business Initiative, Mercy Corps and International Rescue Committee*) businesses literacy and life skills. Results can be seen in terms of increased income for farmers as well as increased sales indicating productivity increase. For example, under IRCs programme¹² an increase of around 40% is seen in productivity of 4 target crops between 2014-2016. *aBi* report increased incomes by around 19 MUSD¹³ and that 149 M litres of milk were sold as a result of improved production and processing techniques. Progress has also been made towards mainstreaming gender and youth involvement in e.g. dairy activities supported by *aBi*. About 300 women and 500 young people have been trained in production and marketing techniques¹⁴.

*Mercy Corps*¹⁵ interventions show that Sida's support has also triggered new innovations with regards to techniques for increased productivity. Results are indicating positive impact on the lives of women and children who traditionally are overburdened by much of the agriculture work. Results are also noted with regards to linking farmers to the demand of the market (1200 farmers linked to tillage service providers).

The support to *Trade Mark East Africa* (Uganda Window) terminated in 2017. The project evaluation shows good results in relation to the construction of One stop boarder posts, instalment of systems for customs clearance and reduced non-tariff barriers leading to 75% reduction in time and cost for export. Potential for increased regional and international trade is noted by *aBi* where 8000 additional farmers have been UTZ-certified for coffee production providing produce to UGACOF (Uganda Coffee association) for the international market.

2.2.2 Objective 2.2: Increased productive employment opportunities for women and young people

Development towards the strategy objective



The overall challenges for achievement of this result has not changed in any substantial way since the previous period. Therefore the development towards the strategy objective remains unchanged. The fact that Uganda's labour market is dominated by a large informal sector, pervasive under- and unemployment, stagnant levels of productivity particularly in the agricultural sector and a large informal sector, suggests a continued challenging environment for the whole working age population. In addition to that, the business landscape is increasingly dominated by a large number of very small firms. The Multidimensional Poverty Analysis carried out by Sida during 2017, highlights that youth is a particular vulnerable group in this regard and the amount of youth is growing rapidly. The gender divide within the labour market is strong when taking into consideration the amount of women within subsistence farming. Evidence¹⁶ underscore the need for structural transformation in order to address the job less growth. The work during 2017, both in terms of evidence based and strategic dialogue, lays a good foundation for Sida's work in Uganda in the coming years.

The trend identified in last years strategy report is persistent making up a challenge to advance results with impact on overall economic growth.

¹² International Rescue Committee, (SPEED)

¹³ Latest Annual report 2016, *aBi*.

¹⁴ Latest Annual report 2016, *aBi*.

¹⁵ Annual report for FY2016, *Mercy Corps*.

¹⁶ Employment diagnostics Analysis, ILO, 2018.

Portfolio level

Many of the contributions within the portfolio, report results in relation to productive employment often as part of developing a skills base, human capital and thus employability. However, the impact of the portfolio on productive employment at any scale is limited. Therefore Sida has during 2017 initiated work on how to strengthen results on an overall portfolio level as well as on contribution level. 16 912 000 was disbursed 2017.

Contribution level

The contributions are mainly implemented according to plan. An Employment Diagnostics Analysis (EDA) reached its final stages during 2017 and strategic dialogue with the Ministry of Labour as well as with ILO has laid a ground for improved work towards employment targets in the coming years. The evidence base that the EDA provides will be used by Sida for strategic dialogue on labour market issues in general with specific focus on constraints and deficits.

Focus during the strategy period has been to address the large and increasing amount of youths outside the labour market and constraints faced by women in formal and informal sector. Through organization in VSLAs as well as in collaboration with private sector, aBi has contributed to an increase of approximately 6500 full time equivalent jobs (FTEs) during the last reported period. The largest increase of FTEs is noted in the dairy sector. Semi-annual reporting from 2017 is indicating even stronger results for 2017. Field visits during 2017 have highlighted a need to strengthen dialogue on monitoring/measurements of productive employment as well as decent working conditions with focus on women and youth.

Employment has also been created in Northern Uganda through the support to *Mercy Corps*. The strengthened capacity at farmer level in combination with a well organized company (GADC¹⁷) supply chain (extensive network) has increased predictability and business relations between the farmers and private sector in the cotton, chili and sesame value chains. Around 1600 field officers, assistant area coordinators, buying agents and lead farmers got gainful employment which is to be sustained through the companies longterm establishment in Northern Uganda.

2.2.3 Objective 2.3: Increased access to and control of productive resources for women

Development towards the strategy objective

Evidence during 2017 show that women in Uganda are still to a large extent disadvantaged in terms of access to productive resources. No substantial changes are noted from previous strategy period although a trend of overall reduction of inequality can be seen (measured by Gini coefficient and Palma ratio)¹⁸. The lack of access to monetary resources exacerbates poverty trends and is a driver for deepening a multidimensional deprivation of resources. One clear driver is also the gendered social norms surrounding unpaid work, e.g. care work. The lack of access to, and control of, natural resources (with land as a major constraint), limited access to education and health for girls, limited financial access and information as well as lack of access to electricity, capital and markets; makes women and youth particularly vulnerable. Despite a decrease in inequality (driven mainly by

¹⁷ Gulu Agriculture Development Company.

¹⁸ Uganda Multidimensional poverty analysis, Embassy of Sweden in Kampala, 2017.

reductions in inequality across some of the poorest regions in Uganda¹⁹) women remain an important group in order to gain access to productive employment and as a way for income diversification and economic empowerment.

The recent influx of refugees has put the productive resources available for women at stress. Given that the challenges faced by refugees in Uganda are not dissimilar from those faced by the general population, it makes sense to develop a comprehensive way to address binding constraints for refugees as well as for host communities²⁰.

Portfolio level



The portfolio consist of contributions mainly delivering on access to education (skills) for women along with access to renewable energy, capital and financial inclusion. While the evidence presented by partners is quite weak when it comes to correlation between access to productive resources for women and employment, there are still indications for progress, specifically with regards to access to skills and access to capital in terms of loans. 7 431 000 SEK was disbursed 2017.

Contribution level

During 2017, steps have been taken to strengthen results with regards to productive resources for women. Progress is seen on increasing renewable energy access solutions both for alternative energy solutions and increased off grid connections (*UNCDF Renewable Energy Challenge Fund*). The challenge fund progressed with selection of beneficiaries of the cooking window contributing to both health advances for women as well as increased possibilities for doing business.

Access to sustainable land management initiatives including access to capital has been supported by *aBi* through a Clean Technology Fund. The fund has contributed to results to investments in bio-gas solutions and promotion of solar energy by cooperatives and SMEs and the use of organic fertilisers. During 2016 (according to last annual report) 22000 new loans have facilitated for growth of businesses. A notable change is seen within the dairy value chain where loans have been used for investments in breed improvement and dairy hardware.

In Northern Uganda *Mercy Corps* has facilitated for 12000 women and men farmers to access loans from financial institutions in order to start or expand their businesses. An evaluation (2018) will show the sustainability of the investments and impact on productivity of women. Digital solutions have also facilitated the access to markets for women during the period (SMS platform for farmers). Digital solutions for easier access by refugees to information and capital is being developed.

2.2.4 Objective 2.4: Better access to social protection for vulnerable children

Development towards the strategy objective



Development of social protection in Uganda has been slow and systematic and the framework that has been set in place is rather solid in comparison with other African cooperation countries. The National Policy for Social Protection was adopted in 2015 and subsequently a Programme Plan for Interventions 2015/16-2019/20 was elaborated. An investment case for social protection including analysis of fiscal space and recommendations for increasing revenue has also been undertaken that provides high-quality input for long-term planning of social protection interventions. A management information system with a single-registry is being developed.

¹⁹ UNHS, Uganda National Household survey 2017.

²⁰ UNHCR 2017: Xii...se EDA p 77.

However, the Ugandan government has taken a conservative view in its expansion of social protection, focusing on a limited expansion of a senior citizens grant with an initial pilot project that started in 2007. Currently 151 000 senior citizens in 47 districts are reached with cash transfers that are financed one third by the government with other financing from Dfid and Irish Aid. No significant advances were noted during 2017 to increase access to social protection for vulnerable children.

Portfolio level



There is one contribution and 400 000 SEK was disbursed 2017. This relates to a regional research programme by *UNICEF*, the Transfer project. Specific results referring to Uganda has not reported in 2017. A mapping exercise was conducted during 2017 to look into possible areas of interventions for 2018 and *UNICEF* presented two concept notes for social protection to vulnerable children in two of the poorest regions in Uganda for further discussions in 2018.

Contribution level

There are no results reported during 2017.

2.3 Improved basic health

Altogether, nine contributions delivered on objective 3.1 and 3.2.

2.3.1 Objective 3.1: Improved access to high quality child and maternal care

Development towards the strategy objective



Key indicators from the Uganda Demographic Health Survey (DHS) carried out in 2016 was released in March 2017. Whereas there has been a significant reduction in child mortality (from 90 to 64 deaths per 1,000 live births as well as some notable progress for some health indicators, the maternal mortality ratio is still high at 336 deaths per 100,000 live births. The low coverage of quality emergency obstetric care services together with the high fertility rate (5.4 children per woman), teenage pregnancy rate (25 percent) and unmet need for family planning (28 percent), together with the high number of child marriages and unsafe abortion increases the risk of pregnancy related morbidity and mortality. The national prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS is at 6.2 percent, with women in urban areas being particularly exposed (9.1 percent). Health facility deliveries stood at 73 per cent according to the 2016 DHS, while 59.9 per cent of all pregnant women attended four ante-natal care (ANC) sessions. Indicators for objective 3.1 are based on national health indicators, and with little improvements in regards to improved access to maternal and child health, the traffic light remains yellow. Looking at regional indicators there has however been some significant improvements, for example there is an increase in the number of facility based deliveries in Karamoja. This could partly be attributed to Sweden's support to *UNICEF*.

Portfolio level



76 556 000 SEK was disbursed 2017. The traffic light has been changed from yellow to green, based on the new *World Bank* contribution. In December, Sida finally entered into agreement with the Bank on support to the "Uganda Reproductive Maternal and Child health services improvement project", focusing on Results Based Financing (RBF) and supported by IDA loans and the Global Financing Facility fund. It is expected that the planned new support will contribute significantly to the strategy results. Sida plans to add a component of implementation research to the contribution, most likely focusing on the role-out of RBF at scale. The other contributions under the strategy objective

progressed according to plan, except for one of the health guarantees that is co-funded with *USAID*. The guarantees aim at increasing private investments in health care with a focus on rural areas. Early 2018 it was however decided to terminate the guarantee with *Ecobank* as it had booked less than 10 per cent of their overall \$7 million portfolio limit. The guarantee with *Centenary Bank* will be evaluated during the first half of 2018 to get a better understanding of how it has contributed to improved access to health care.

Contribution level

The support to the *World Bank* for the “Uganda Reproductive Health Vouchers project” uses vouchers to subsidize the cost of maternal and reproductive health care for poor women and with increased numbers of health facility deliveries in 23 districts as a result. In project year two around 94,000 vouchers were distributed with over 57,000 deliveries, compared to the target of 53 000 (109%). Over 72,000 pregnant women received ANC services and 20,000 mothers and newborn children received Post Natal Care (PNC).

The support to *UNICEF* in Karamoja and West Nile has directly contributed to improved access to high quality child and maternal care, also focusing on health systems strengthening and provision of maternal and child health at community level. Support to *UNICEF* in West Nile, a region has received a large number of South Sudanese refugees, with over 85 per cent of the refugees being women and children, has led to improved capacity of the Ministry of Health to respond to the increased population and this is a clear example of how Sida has worked with strengthening the nexus between development and humanitarian support.

2.3.2 Objective 3.2: Improved access to sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and men, girls and boys

Development towards the strategy objective

Some aspects of SRHR is continuously controversial and very sensitive in Uganda. The majority of the population still support sexual abstinence for adolescents and unmarried, and cultural and religious leaders have a strong conservative influence when it comes to sexual behaviours and norms. However, SRHR is getting more and more attention (both positive and negative) in media and within the government, especially in relation to child marriage, adolescent health and teenage pregnancies.

The rate of teenage pregnancies has the last 5 years been stagnant and is at an alarming proportion of 25% of girls below 19 years. Roughly 52 percent of all pregnancies in Uganda are unintended and about 14 percent (39 per 1000 women aged 15-49) translated into abortions in 2013. The national contraceptive prevalence rate has slightly increased to 39% (DHS 2016) for married women and decreased to 50,6% for unmarried women. There is no specific data on girls and boys between 10-24 years which is the primary target group for Sida.

In August 2016 the parliament decided to ban sexuality education (SE) in- and out of school until a National Sexuality Education Framework have officially been accepted by parliament. The SE framework has been developed during 2017 and a validation meeting was held in October 2017 with the hope that the framework will be approved beginning of 2018. The Embassy has been part of the consultative meetings as well as been given the opportunity to give feedback on the drafted framework.

Portfolio level



41 332 000 SEK was disbursed 2017. The support to *Naguru Teenage Information & Health Centre (NTIHC)* has been continuing giving services to the youth during 2017 and an MTR of their strategy is expected to take place beginning of 2018. They have continued support to 39 facilities and been on track achieving most of the expected results.

UNFPA in Karamoja is coming to an end June 2018 after a no cost extension due to a few activities that have been delayed in finalization. The contribution has shown some great results when it comes to access to SRHR for youth in and out of school in Karamoja region and training of midwives.

The *SRHR Umbrella* contribution with focus on comprehensive SRHR and HIV services, information & prevention targeting vulnerable and key populations, was “frozen” between May and October 2017 due to allegations of corruption. This required a thorough investigation which led to delays in the implementation and unclear results. Sida has decided to continue with the contribution and activities will kick off again beginning of 2018. This is the main contribution delivering under objective 3.2 and therefore caused the traffic light to change from green to yellow when it comes to portfolio development during 2017.

Contribution level

NTIHC's interventions have seen an increase in Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health (ASRH) service utilization and service coverage in central regional districts of Uganda. At the main facility (Kiswa health centre) and the other supported facilities in and surrounding Kampala; the period July 2016 – June 2017, a total of 305,742 young people received services; 31,104 (target 38,082) at Kiswa Health Centre; 154,416 (target 94,330) in service delivery supported facilities (6 KCCA health facilities and Kira) and 120,222 (target 163,769) young people received various services from the 24 facilities under the capacity building package. This is slightly below some of the specific targets but an increase in the total amount of youth receiving services; from targeted 296,181 to actual 305,742. Advocacy and capacity building activities were intensified during the year to increase awareness of Youth friendly services (YFS) and knowledge of SRHR. Parliamentarians, CSOs, community leaders and significant others were engaged through a series of meetings and dialogue workshops. In terms of capacity building, 896 people (target 288) were hosted for ASRH skill development through study visits, practicum placements and internship and trainings.

2.4 Safeguarding human security and freedom from violence

2.4.1 Objective 4.1: Enhanced capacity to prevent gender-based violence

Development towards the strategy objective

The occurrence of gender based violence remains pervasive in Uganda²¹. Sida assesses that this pattern has not changed since the beginning of the strategy. There has been continued improvement when it comes to policy dialogue on SGBV and efforts to the engagement of the justice sector to enhance its potential to reduce sexual and gender-based violence and end impunity in SGBV crimes. There is strong commitment to strengthen systems to be more efficient and proactive in handling SGBV cases and to increase prevention and accountability. Special courts for SGBV has been implemented during 2017 and showed great results in more efficient handling of SGBV cases and interest of continued and scaled up efforts in this regard has been notable. A number of reports have shown that there are extreme levels of SGBV in the refugee receiving areas among boys & girls, men & women.

²¹ UDHS 2011

Portfolio level

6 024 000 SEK was disbursed 2017. GBV is mainly addressed in terms of increasing the capacity of the public and civil society to prevent and manage gender based violence, and the capacity of women and men to advance their reproductive, civil and political rights and gender equality creating a critical mass for social transformation. Furthermore, the ambition has been to integrate GB in all result areas to maximize the effect of the Swedish contributions. According to a recent mapping of the Embassy portfolio, GBV is mainly addressed in contributions within results area 1 and 3, even if there are elements also in result area 2. There are gaps on a number of levels in the way GBV is integrated into the different result areas, especially in terms of monitoring and follow-up. SGBV is often mentioned and included in the narrative, but is more rarely included in the result matrix. The bulk of the projects addressing GBV focuses on supporting SGBV victims. Preventive measures are, however, included in several contributions within RA 1 and 3.

UN Women and *Diakonia* directly addresses GBV in their interventions and this is part of the result frameworks. One important feature of the Diakonia programme is the support to eradicating Female Genital Mutilation in North Eastern and few parts of Eastern Uganda. The results from this programme show a shift in attitudes toward FGM as traditional surgeons are halting the practice and traditional leaders speak out against FGM. Still many challenges prevail and the numbers are still high, but the trend is positive.

UN Women works to address the capacity of government institutions at the national level and to handle cases of violence against women and girls. This also includes reducing impunity in line with international standards and to ensure that national laws are strengthened. This contribution also supports institutions especially Justice Law and Order institutions to be able to provide services to victims and survivors of GBV.

Contribution level

See above. Building on the successful dialogue to galvanise strategic actions that are implemented and enforceable will be important in ensuring the impact of programmes and policies are considered at every stage of design and implementation.

3 Implications for the Continued Strategy Implementation

2018 is the last year of the current strategy. The main conclusions from the strategy report will inform the new strategy process, and the forthcoming operationalization process. The following observations are worth noting with implications for 2018:

- Due to delays in implementation of the RBF component supported under the new World Bank health project, RBF payments are not likely to be rolled out until August 2018. It will therefore be difficult to attribute health-specific results under this support within the current strategy.
- The plan was to support a multisectoral joint donor UNDP-led Trust Fund for durable solutions of the refugee response. However, the final set-up is directed towards the overall UN programme and not specifically the needs related to durable solutions, thereby reducing its added value. A new programme is planned in the area of social protection instead, in the

refugee hosting region of West Nile and the poorest region Karamoja. It will probably not start until towards the end of 2018 and thus not deliver tangible results during this strategy period.