



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR
AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

UGANDA GENDER AND EQUITY STRATEGY FOR CLIMATE ACTION (UGESICA 2026-2031)



MARCH 2026





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FOREWORD



The impacts of climatic change associated with excessive rainfall and heat, are profoundly unequal amongst women, men, youth, children, elderly, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities (PWDs), pastoral and migrant communities. For example, declines in food production associated with drought affect the diversity of diets which has disproportionate risks for children in terms of undernourishment, and malnutrition. Cyclic heat in classrooms impairs learning amongst children. Heat stress mostly affects market women, youth in open artisanal spaces, security, domestic care and construction workers.

Women's incomes from agri-based SMEs are reduced significantly when crops, energy, and water distribution are affected by high ambient temperatures. Men and youth must migrate when there are cyclic flood events in search of alternative sources of incomes as co-providers in homesteads with women. Biomass depletion, pasture and water scarcity due to lengthy droughts, increases the incidences of inter-ethnic conflicts amongst pastoral communities in places like Karamoja in Northeastern Uganda.

However, the same vulnerable gender groups are also agents of change in local communities and contributors

to mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Women groups are active in conservation-based adaptation initiatives like fruit-tree intercropping, alongside men, youth and PWDs. There are green entrepreneurs within SMEs, as agents of solar electrification, small-scale irrigation, and waste recycling for emission reduction. Women-led, youth-led, cultural and religious organizations are climate policy negotiators and advocates, through public and private sector leadership, online and offline platforms at local, national, and global levels.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) has formulated and is fully committed to the implementation of the Uganda Gender and Equity Strategy for Climate Action (UGESICA, 2026-2031). The UGESICA is a national framework that harmonizes policy implementation through complimentary partnerships for gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions across government and non-government entities.

The UGESICA implements the Fourth National Development Plan (NDPIV, 2025-2030), the Manifesto of the National Resistance Movement (NRM), and the Parish Development Model (PDM). This is through its interventions on strengthening climate information systems to provide relevant evidence on gender and equity; equal representation in climate response management committees; programs for climate resilient homestead productivity, jobs and wealth creation; and infrastructure developments that can withstand climate extremes in an equitable manner.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) is grateful to all stakeholder contributions towards the development of UGESICA. Special thanks are extended to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the partnership with Government.

It is my honor to express government commitment to implementing UGESICA.

HON. BETTY AMONGI ONGOM

Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development



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The Government of Uganda (GoU) extends its appreciation to all partners for their contributions towards the development of the Uganda Gender and Equity Strategy for Climate Action (UGESICA, 2026–2031). Special thanks are extended to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for the financial and technical support.

The Government further acknowledges the strategic leadership, policy oversight, and technical guidance provided by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, including contributions from the Office of the Permanent Secretary, the Department responsible for Gender and Women Affairs, the UNFCCC National Gender and Climate Change Focal Point, members of the Gender and Climate Change Committee, and other technical staff at the Ministry.

Appreciation is also extended to the Ministry of Water and Environment for its critical role in providing climate change policy leadership and technical oversight, particularly through the Climate Change Department,

with contributions from office of the Permanent Secretary, senior management, technical officers, and specialists involved in climate change coordination, implementation, and reporting.

This Strategy further benefited from the technical expertise and stakeholder coordination provided by the Office of the Prime Minister (Department for Disaster Risk Management); National Planning Authority; Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development; Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development; the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries; the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and Sports; Ministry of Local Government; Ministry of Works and Transport; Kampala Capital City Authority; and the Gender Development Partners Group.

The Government also recognizes the valuable technical and analytical contributions from academic institutions and civil society organizations, including the lead consultant who supported evidence generation, stakeholder engagement, and as a penholder during the formulation of UGESICA (2026–2031).

AGGREY D. KIBENGE

Permanent Secretary,

Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development



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ACRONYMS

CH ₄	Methane
CIS	Climate Information System
EWS	Early Warning System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse gases
GoU	Government of Uganda
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LEDs	Low-Emission Development Strategies
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
MLG	Ministry of Local Government
MLHUD and Verification	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development MRV Measurement, Reporting
MoH	Ministry of Health
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
MWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
N	Nitrogen
N ₂ O	Nitrous Oxide
NAP	Nationally Adaptation Plans
NCCP	National Climate Change Policy
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDPIV	Fourth National Development Plan
NECOC	National Emergency Coordination Operations Centre NEMA National Environment Management Authority
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPA	National Planning Authority
NRM	National Resistance Movement
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister



RCPs	Representative Concentration Pathways
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SSPs	Shared Socio-economic Pathways
SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
UGESICA	Uganda Gender and Equity Strategy for Climate Action
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change UNMA Uganda National Meteorological Authority



DEFINITION OF TERMS

Gender: The socially constructed roles, responsibilities, behaviors, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for women and men, and the power relations between them.

Gender equity: refers to the process of being fair to women and men, girls and boys. It recognizes the need for potential differential treatment that is fair and positively addresses a bias or historical or social disadvantage or power imbalance that is due to gender roles or norms or differences between the sexes. It is about fair and just treatment that considers the different needs of women and girls, men and boys, cultural barriers and (past) discriminations of the specific group.

Gender and equity responsiveness: this means a policy and programming approach that acknowledges the different roles, needs, constraints, and aspirations of all people—men, women, boys, girls, youth, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and other gender groups—and actively integrates these considerations into evidence generation, design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies, programs, and financing to ensure fair and equitable outcomes for all.

Climate change mitigation refers to actions that reduce or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the atmosphere or enhance the Earth's ability to absorb them to slow down global warming and limit future climate impacts.

Climate change adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects or impacts. It refers to changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damage or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change.

Climate resilience: in the context of climate change, refers to the ability of people and communities to cope with and recover from climate change impacts. The physical, economic, socio-political, and cultural conditions of a person or community often intersect to define that person or community's resilience in the face of climate change. However, resilience is not static and can be strengthened or weakened as physical, economic, socio-political, and cultural changes unfold.

Climate actions: these are measures taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change (adaptation) to safeguard the planet and human societies. Such climate actions include evidence generation, policy-making, planning, programming, financing, monitoring and reporting on national and global commitments.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rationale for the Uganda Gender and Equity Strategy in Climate Action

Currently, there is no agreed-upon national framework for coordinated and collaborative implementation of policies pertaining to gender and equity responsiveness in climate action. Yet evidence shows that climate hazards can roll-back Uganda's progress towards gender equality. For example, while all categories of men and women benefit from all types of infrastructure, when roads and bridges are washed away by floods or landslides, like the case was in August 2025 for the Nalugugu Bridge on the Kapchorwa–Mbale highway, there is a disproportionate effect on school-going children, youth and men employed in the transport sector, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and agribusiness women, in regards to accessing education, employment and market services respectively.

Therefore, the Uganda Gender and Equity Strategy for Climate Action (UGESICA, 2026-2031) is a national framework that harmonizes implementation policies pertaining to gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions. The UGESICA will deepen institutional coherence within government entities and establish enduring partnerships with private-sector, civil society organisations, development partners, traditional, religious and cultural institutions, and local communities in addressing gender inequalities in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

The goal and objectives of the strategy

The UGESICA, 2026-2031, will be guided by a strategic direction that constitutes the goal and five (5) specific objectives, normative principles and corresponding strategic intervention areas. As shown in figure 1 below, the goal is: All climate actions in Uganda are gender and equity responsive.



Summary Of Strategic Intervention Areas

Table 1: Summary of strategic intervention areas

Objectives	Strategic intervention areas
1. To establish climate information systems that produce reliable evidence on gender and equity	1. Strengthen the evidence base on gender and equity impacts of climate change. 2. Integrate gender and equity indicators into measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions). 3. Strengthen transparency and collaboration in tracking gender and equity in financing for climate actions. 4. Design and implement public engagement platforms for consultation and spotlighting women, children, PWDs, migrants and youth on sustainable climate action.
2. To strengthen institutional capacities in gender and equity responsive climate actions.	1. Strengthen institutional and partner capacities to effectively plan, budget, monitor, evaluate, and report on gender and equity-responsive climate actions. 2. Enhance awareness among public policymakers on the critical role of gender equality in climate adaptation and mitigation. 3. Undertake institutional assessments on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions. 4. Provide inclusive and safe civic spaces for cultural, traditional and religious institutions, women-led and youth-focused organizations, PWDs and ethnic minorities in climate action negotiations and advocacy. 5. Operationalize mandatory gender-responsive budgeting rules for all existing and new climate change initiatives across government. 6. To build national research and institutional capacity to generate, document, disseminate, and scale up evidence-based gender-responsive climate adaptation and mitigation solutions, and to facilitate systematic knowledge sharing and policy engagement at national, regional, and global levels.
3. To promote gender parity in staffing climate response management bodies and committees	1. Increase the representation of women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants in national and local climate response bodies, committees and task forces. 2. Implement affirmative action in climate research funding, education and science bodies. 3. Develop and roll-out capacity enhancement programs for climate change negotiators and advocates amongst women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants. 4. Develop and roll-out capacity enhancement programs for District Environment and Natural Resources Committees (ENR) and Parish Climate Change Committees (PCCCs) on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions.



Table 1: Summary of strategic intervention areas

Objectives	Strategic intervention areas
4. To empower homesteads through climate resilient livelihoods for socio-economic prosperity.	1. Integrate gender and equity issues in climate literacy, education and early warning information services for local communities. 2. Increase access to financial products and services for climate-smart SMEs operated by women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants. 3. Increase the uptake of value-addition and climate-smart technologies for homestead income and wealth creation. 4. Prevent and respond to gender-based violence amid climate change and disasters. 5. Deliver equitable and shock-responsive social protection services in disaster-prone communities. 6. Strengthen the implementation of gender and equity measures in delivering climate-informed health services to local communities.
5. To design and invest in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure.	1. Develop infrastructure design, operation and maintenance procedures on gender and equity responsive climate actions. 2. Enhance the capacities of sector ministries and local governments to integrate gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure programs. 3. Establish public-private partnerships for investment in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure. 4. Engage women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants in design and operation of nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience (wetland and floodplain restoration, urban green corridors and street-tree planting, grassed drainage channels to absorb surface runoff, forest conservation and slope revegetation). 5. Promote investment in gender-responsive, low-emission, cost-effective and health-conscious energy infrastructure and environmentally friendly technologies.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 National relevance of the strategy

The Uganda Gender and Equity Strategy for Climate Action (UGESICA, 2026-2031) is a national framework that harmonizes implementation of policies and priorities on gender and equity responsiveness in climate action. The UGESICA is in line with and advances collaborative implementation of the Fourth National Development Plan (NDPIV, 2025-2030) , the Manifesto of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) , the Parish Development Model (PDM) , and Uganda's Nationally Determined Contributions on climate mitigation and adaptation (NDC 3.0) . The NDP IV focuses on agro-industrialization, tourism and mineral development (ATMs) for faster growth towards upper middle-income status through infrastructure

development for value addition, jobs and wealth creation. The UGESICA implements NDPIV through its interventions on gender and equity responsive infrastructure developments and the socio-economic prosperity of homesteads that are resilient to climate change.

Similarly, the UGESICA aligns with the Manifesto of the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM), by promoting resilience and equity in programs for homestead income enhancement and infrastructure development. Investment in climate resilient infrastructure has potential to offer green jobs and opportunities for entrepreneurship to all gender groups. This is for example through low-carbon waste management, electric urban transport, scaling up climate-smart agriculture, and decarbonization of



Members of the Ngee Cani Women's Group tending to their groundnut field during a field engagement



homestead production and industrial value-addition activities using renewable energy. This is underscored by the NRM Manifesto, under wealth and job creation, industrialization, and inclusive development as core pillars of Uganda's transformation agenda. By prioritizing women-led and youth-led enterprises, green technologies, and community-driven climate solutions, UGESICA directly supports the Manifesto's commitment to empowering households and communities to participate meaningfully in greening the economy while promoting peace and stability.

Recognizing that achieving the 1.5°C warming limit as per the Paris Agreement (2015), depends not only on technology and policy, but also on social norms and behavioral change, the UGESICA prioritizes not only pillar 1 of PDM on homestead incomes; 2 on infrastructure; and 3 on financial inclusion; but also 4 on social services; 5 on mind-set change; and 6 on parish-based management information systems. This through strategic intervention areas for UGESICA, which among others include i) developing and rolling-out capacity enhancement programs for Parish Climate Change Committees (PCCCs) on gender and equity responsiveness; ii) increasing the uptake of value-addition and climate-smart technologies for homestead income and wealth creation; iii) increasing access to financial products and services for climate-smart SMEs operated by women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants; and iv) provision of inclusive and safe civic spaces for cultural, traditional and religious institutions, women-led and youth-focused organizations, PWDs and ethnic minorities in climate action negotiations and advocacy.

The UGESICA drives implementation and accountability for Uganda's Nationally Determined Contributions on climate mitigation and adaptation (NDC 3.0). The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Bank estimates in 2023 suggested that gender and equity is a critical driver of effective climate change mitigation, linking women's empowerment to lowering greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by up to 15 percent by 2050. This means that implementation of the UGESICA across NDC 3.0 priority sectors—AFOLU; energy; waste; transport; and industrial production and product use (IPPU), will result in effective reduction of GHG emissions. According to the national inventory data by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS, 2024), the aforementioned sectors are responsible for 90 percent of GHG emissions in Uganda. The same

sectors represent strategic intervention areas under the UGESICA, mainly on gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure developments and the socio-economic prosperity of homesteads.

1.3 Global relevance of the strategy

The UGESICA will accelerate localization and accountability for global and regional climate change commitments to which Uganda is signatory. These include UNFCCC Gender Action Plan (GAP), the Lima Work Programme on Gender, and the Belém Gender Action Plan, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW, 1979; and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), notably SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). In line with Article 4.3 of the Paris Agreement (2015) on fairness and equity in setting and implementing national climate ambitions under NDCs, UGESICA supports integration of gender and equity indicators into measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) for NDCs. The UGESICA is also responsive to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) and its GAP; the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032), and the East African Community (EAC) Climate Change Master Plan.

1.4 Policy and legal context of the strategy

Uganda has enabling policies for cross-sector collaboration on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions. Uganda's National Climate Change Policy (NCCP, 2015) is the country's foundational policy document that laid the groundwork for integrating climate change into national planning. It formed the basis for Uganda's NDC 1.0 and 2.0, Climate Change Act (2021), National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the Climate Change Mechanism Regulations (2025). The National Climate Change Act (2021) and the Climate Change Mechanisms Regulations (2025) include gender and equity provisions. The Uganda Gender Policy (2007) further guided the integration of gender and equity issues and interventions into sectoral policy frameworks. These mainly include the National Climate Finance Strategy, 2025; National Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy, 2010; National Agricultural Policy, 2013; Renewable Energy



Policy, 2007; National Forestry Policy, 2001; National Irrigation Policy, 2017, National Health Policy, 2010; National Land Policy, 2013; the Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy 2018-2031; Uganda National Climate Change Communication Strategy 2017-2021; the National REDD+ Strategy, and Action Plan, 2017; and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan II 2015 -2025.

1.5 Development of the strategy

Literature review

The literature review was the basis for a scoping gender analysis of climate impacts and institutional capacity needs assessment, to obtain baseline information for developing UGESICA. The scoping gender analysis purposively identified sectors that are both most vulnerable to climatic risk and economically relevant for all gender groups, based on the vulnerability and risk scores that were provided in the updated NDC 2.0, and the National Labour Force Survey (2021) undertaken by UBOS. The sectors that were purposively selected are agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU); energy; transport; water; health; and industrial production and product use (IPPU); business, disaster risk reduction, cities and built environment. The literature review canvassed materials from sector policies and guidelines; academic material; and c) documents with case studies on addressing gender and equity components across NDC priority sectors.

Technical Review Committee

The MWE and MGLSD with support from FAO constituted a Technical Review Committee (TRC) of technical experts from all relevant MDAs, who provided input and participated in the write-shops to develop this Strategy. The TRC included representatives from with Office of the Prime Minister (OPM); Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF); Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT); Ministry of Health (MoH); Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD); Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD); National Planning Authority (NPA); Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA); and Makerere University. Three write- shops were convened by MWE and MGLSD to further discuss the content and layout of the first and second draft and ensure that the most appropriate long-term strategies were documented to guide future implementation.

Development partner and civil society consultations.

In addition to the TRC, consultations were held with development partners including the European Union (EU), World Bank, Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO), Germany Development Cooperation (GIZ), United States Development Agency (USAID), Irish Aid, Danish Aid, Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Women, World Food Programme (WFP); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO). Additionally, civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working on climate change and gender issues in Uganda, were consulted.

Validation workshop for the draft strategy.

The validation of the final draft strategy and action plan took place on Thursday 22nd January 2026 at MWE headquarters. Stakeholders from both government and non-government entities attended and provided valuable inputs and revisions, which led to the finalisation of the content and layout of UGESICA.



A member of Pader Shea Butter women's group during the East Africa Trade fair in Nairobi



2.0 SITUATION ANALYSIS

2.1 Climate change trends in Uganda

Uganda is a landlocked East African country that lies between longitudes 29° 34' E and 35° 0' E, and latitudes 4° 12' N and 1° 29' S. It borders Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Sudan to the east, south, southwest and the north respectively. The country is largely situated on a plateau averaging 1,100 m above sea level (ASL) that slopes steadily downwards towards the South Sudan plains .

The central and southern region of Uganda is generally plateau of above 1,000 m ASL and is classified as Tropical Montane under the IPCC world climate zonation. The region has two distinct rainy seasons (bimodal rainfall), with the first rainy season from March to May and the second one from September to November. This region generally has over 1,200 mm per annum and falls under the Tropical Montane Moist subcategory. Further north, the elevation falls below 1,000 ASL, and it gets drier (less than 1,200 mm per annum). The region generally has a single rainy season from April to October. This area is categorized as Tropical Dry and includes the far northeastern semi-arid parts of Karamoja, where

annual precipitation may fall below 900 mm. In the in high-altitude areas of Elgon, Rwenzori, and the southwestern highlands temperatures may drop to 10°C. Wetter areas with over 750 mm per annum are classified as Warm Temperate wet. Those with less than 750 mm per annum are classified as Warm Temperate dry.

As shown in table 2, rainfall projections across the Uganda regions show a pattern of potential increased rainfall emerging from about the 2050s. Relative magnitudes of potential increased rainfall reach as much as 300, 500 or 400 mm/year for the northern, southern and Lake Victoria basin regions respectively by 2100 which equates to between 25 and 40% of the baseline normal. Air temperature is projected to be about 1.5°C – 2.5° C warmer in the Uganda region by the 2050s. By 2100 the range of projected temperatures is greater varying between 3°C and 5°C warmer than the historical long-term mean. The projections shown in the table are the AR's scenarios (Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) that provide a broader view of scenarios in the September 2022, Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Table 2: Temperature and rainfall projections up to 2100

Variables	2050			2100		
	RCP 2.6	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 2.6	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Temperature anomaly	0.5 to 1 °C	1.4 to 2 °C	1.8 to 3 °C	1 to 1.5 °C	1.5 to 2.5°C	3 to 5 °C
Rainfall	-10 mm	-10 mm	-10 mm	-10 mm	-10 mm	-20 mm

2.2 The impacts of climate change on gender and equity

Climate hazards can worsen gender inequalities and gender inequalities can stall progress towards sustainable climate action: this is particularly the case for women, children, adolescents, pastoral communities, slum dwellers and migrant communities, due to their limited control and management rights over the resources (land, food parcels, water, energy, housing and transportation) needed in adapting to

climate hazards. For example, persistent unequal land rights and tenure insecurities—with 67% of agricultural land parcels are under the responsibility of men and with only 39.3% of women having ownership or tenure rights over agricultural land —there is a reduced number of women engaged in decisions on long-term investments in land rehabilitation and soil quality. Table 3 shows the major climate hazards in Uganda and the gender and equity impacts.



Table 3: The impacts of climate hazards on gender and equity

Climate hazard	Key gender and equity impacts
Drought	• Drought significantly reduces women's incomes from agri-based enterprises. • Drought affects the diversity of diets which increases malnutrition amongst children. • Long periods of drought expose pastoralists to inter-ethnic conflicts when grazing livestock in rangelands they do not own.
Cyclic extreme heat	• Heat stress and related illnesses mostly affects market women, youth in open artisanal spaces, security and construction workers. • Heat impairs learning amongst children, due to high temperatures in classrooms. • High ambient temperatures that reduce capacity to transmit and distribute power, increases the operating costs of SMEs on which most women and youth depend for jobs and wealth creation.
Floods and landslides	• Flooding that cut off Nalugugu Bridge in Sironko District in August 2025, disrupted safe transport to schools and work. • Women and girls take on a higher caring burden during cholera and other outbreaks linked to cyclic floods. • Displaced women and girls risk exposure to defilement and other forms of gender-based violence during stay in shelters. • Deaths caused by landslides and mudslides increase the number of widows and orphans and loss of breadwinners for children and the elderly.
Wildfires and biomass burning	• Disproportionate risk of adverse birth outcomes on mothers (preterm birth, still and low birth weight) associated with exposure to wildfire smoke, vegetation, bush, and biomass burning emissions that contain volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds.

Deaths and displacement caused by cyclic flooding, landslides and mudslides have increased the incidence of violence against women and girls (VAWG), and the number of widows and orphans . On 30th July 2022, heavy rainfall in the Elgon region caused floods and landslides in the districts of Mbale, Kapchorwa, Bulambuli, Bukedea, Butaleja Sironko, and landslides in Bududa. The flooding led to loss of 21 lives in Mbale and three lives in Kapchorwa districts respectively with an estimated 4,907 livestock lost. The flooding displaced thousands of women and men from their land, and roads. In the case of Karamoja sub-region and Eastern Uganda, where frequent droughts and floods occur respectively, gender inequalities are worsened in access

to food, water, and other resources.

The macro-economic costs could stall Uganda's progress towards middle-income status:

Women entrepreneurs and SMEs that substantially contribute to Uganda's domestic revenue and export earnings, are overrepresented climate-vulnerable sectors like agribusiness and cross-border regional trade. Agro-SME ownership amongst senior female entrepreneurs compared to their youth counterparts stands at 70% as of 2022 in Uganda . So, if women in agribusiness remain operating at a sub-optimal level due to low



adaptive capacities and loss associated with climate-induced disasters, the national economic output will lower, and the import-export gap is likely to expand.

The cost of the gender gap in agricultural productivity — measured by the value of agricultural produce per unit of cultivated land— is estimated at USD 67-100 million per year in Uganda, according to a study by UN Women and FAO in 2015. The study attributes 1/5 of this cost to climate-related barriers and additional 2/5 is explained by the greater difficulty women face in accessing markets and land management not being decided upon by women. There are cost implications for human capital development in Uganda: Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause 250,000 additional deaths each year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea, and heat stress, with outsized impacts on vulnerable groups, including women (WHO, 2021).

A study on the economic impacts of climate change, 2014, sampled costs of managing malaria in two regions of Uganda, and it found out that Tororo in Eastern Uganda, where malaria is endemic (widespread), the cost of malaria may rise from a range of US\$8.7 - 221 million in 2010 to a range of US\$20.1 - 560.5 million in 2050. In Kabale in South-western Uganda, where the disease is more epidemic (sporadic) in nature, malaria is expected to increase in cost from between US\$0.7 - 15.8million in 2010 to between US\$1.55 - 41.7million in 2050. Women, the elderly and girls are generally expected to care for the sick, particularly in times of health-related illnesses associated with climate change. This limits the time they have available for income generation which, when coupled with the rising medical costs associated with family illness, heightens levels of poverty.



A member of Loethemor Farmer Field School in Lomuria village, Katikekile sub-county in Moroto district watering tomatoes in the group's vegetable garden. The group receives technical support from FAO

3. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

3.1 Purpose of the strategy

To deepen coherence and collaboration across government and non-government entities in addressing gender inequalities in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

3.2 Goal

The goal of the UGESICA is all climate actions in Uganda are gender and equity responsive.

3.2.1 Specific Objectives

The five specific objectives are:

1. To establish climate information systems that produce reliable evidence on gender and equity.
2. To strengthen institutional capacities in gender and equity responsive climate actions.
3. To promote gender parity in staffing climate response management bodies and committees
4. To empower homesteads through climate resilient livelihoods for socio-economic prosperity.
5. To design and invest in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure.

3.3 Guiding Principles

The UGESICA is built on four foundational principles which cut across all the objectives, strategic intervention areas and action plan:

1) Inclusivity: The principle of inclusivity is interlinked to the international standard of “leaving no one behind” across all gender groups including women, men, youth, elderly, PWDs, refugees, adolescents, ethnic minorities, and last-mile communities. Since climate change acts as a “threat multiplier,” intensifying pre-existing inequalities, the principle of inclusivity will enable the UGESICA to factor in its intervention areas and action plan those that have been left behind and furthest behind; and sector-specific interventions that can potentially reach those left or furthest behind.

2) Intra-generational and sub-regional equity: While future generations are likely to be most impacted by climate change, the current generation also experiences

uneven impacts depending on factors like wealth, location, and access to resources, thus highlighting the importance of inter-and intra-generational equity. Also, the gender equity agendas of senior women’s organizations sometimes differ from the civic spaces where younger gender cohorts thrive and influence climate change policy responses. So, inter and intra generational equity will be exercised across all intervention areas by leveraging the legal framework, financing opportunities and stakeholder support for protecting exiting natural resources to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generation to sustain themselves using similar resources.

3) Alignment to global and national priorities: Given that the UGESICA is attuned to the objectives and time horizon of NDPIV, while seeking to promote synergy and cross-sector coordination within and amongst MDAs, the identified priority actions and strategic



interventions should continually be integrated into the NDPIV program implementation, monitoring and evaluation strategies, both at sector and local government levels.

4) Complementary and enduring partnerships: Complementary partnerships across government, civil society, the private sector, and international bodies are crucial for effective, gender-equitable climate action. These collaborations leverage diverse strengths and resources to address the interconnected challenges of climate change and gender inequality. Successful implementation of the UGESICA will require building partnerships based on inter-linked mandates across central government, local government, development partners, private sector, civil society organizations and local communities. So, this strategy will bring about cohesion between top-down government climate change strategies and bottom-up community-level efforts, while diminishing the level of elite capture that often dominates public participation processes.



Women from Elgon Crafts Artisan group exhibiting during an event at Sheraton Hotel

4. STRATEGIC INTERVENTION AREAS

Each of the five strategic objectives have corresponding strategic intervention areas. The strategic intervention areas will be pursued in line with the programmes articulated in NDP IV, PDM, NDC 3.0 and NRM Manifesto. The strategic interventions also point to means of driving effective policy implementation and cross-sector government coordination for the goal of UGESICA. The strategic intervention areas further point to the opportunities for attracting investments and partnerships within domestic and international spheres.



Mukono Municipal council women tree seedling

4.1 Climate information systems that produce reliable evidence on gender and equity

Since evidence on gender-climate impacts is a foundational element across the objectives of the UGESICA, Government will build on the gender vulnerability hotspot mapping, managed by CCD and MGLSD, to ensure that climate information management systems provide relevant evidence on gender and equity. Besides usable gender-climate statistics, evidence on what works (and what doesn't) will be produced and shared for programmatic purposes. Such data is a precondition for: i) having better-monitored policies; ii) providing knowledge on

what works at multiple scales; and iii) reporting on national, regional and international commitments.

The MGLSD and MoWE will provide co-convenorship, strategic guidance and leadership on compilation and synthesis reporting on the domestication of international and regional standards, and inclusion of gender and equity disaggregated data in Uganda's Biennial Update Reports and National Communications to the UNFCCC. This will be coupled to establishing partnerships with relevant academic institutions and partners, through the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST) for research on the gender and equity impacts of climate of change, as well as possible innovative solutions to inequalities in adaptation.



The strategic intervention areas include:

1. Strengthen the evidence base on gender and equity impacts of climate change.
2. Integrate gender and equity indicators into measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions).
3. Strengthen transparency and collaboration in tracking gender and equity in financing for climate actions.
4. Design and implement public engagement platforms for consultation and spotlighting women, children, PWDs, migrants and youth on sustainable climate action.

4.2 Institutional capacities to deliver gender and equity responsive climate actions

Whereas there are enabling policies and institutional frameworks, there is need for more gender analytical capacities, synergy amongst relevant MDAs, and coherence in coordinating the efforts of CSOs, private sector, development partners and local communities in climate action. Capacities will also focus on online and offline strategies (including digital and social media engagements) for facilitating climate information outreach, knowledge-sharing and early warning communication amongst local-level groups of women, men, youth, ethnic minorities, elderly, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and migrants.

The strategic intervention areas include:

1. Strengthen institutional and partner capacities to effectively plan, budget, monitor, evaluate, and report on gender and equity-responsive climate actions.
2. Enhance awareness among public policymakers on the critical role of gender equality in climate adaptation and mitigation,
3. Undertake institutional assessments on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions.
4. Provide inclusive and safe civic spaces for cultural, traditional and religious institutions, women-led and youth-focused organizations, PWDs and ethnic minorities in climate action negotiations and advocacy.
5. Operationalize mandatory gender-responsive

budgeting rules for all existing and new climate change initiatives across government.

6. To build national research and institutional capacity to generate, document, disseminate, and scale up evidence-based gender-responsive climate adaptation and mitigation solutions, and to facilitate systematic knowledge sharing and policy engagement at national, regional, and global levels.

4.3 Gender parity in climate response management bodies and committees

This strategic area of intervention seeks to implement the affirmative action provisions of the 1995 Uganda Constitution, the Lima Work Programme on Gender and the Belém Gender Action Plan to advance equal participation of both women and men in promoting gender and equity responsive climate actions. Gender-parity will be pursued in the Parliament of Uganda's Standing Committee on Climate Change (SCCC); the National Climate Change Advisory Committee (NCCAC); national and district technical working committees. There will be numerical and substantive representation of women, youth, PWDs and ethnic minorities in national delegations to COPs (Conferences of the Parties) at the UNFCCC, and in regional meetings and negotiations under AU and EAC. There will be gender parity across the response teams under the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management within the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).

The strategic intervention areas are:

1. Increase the representation of women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants in national and local climate response bodies, committees and task forces.
2. Implement affirmative action in climate research funding, education and science bodies.
3. Develop and roll-out capacity enhancement programs for climate change negotiators and advocates amongst women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants.
4. Develop and roll-out capacity enhancement programs for District Environment and Natural Resources Committees (ENR) and Parish Climate Change Committees (PCCCs) on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions.



4.4 Empower homesteads through climate resilient livelihoods for socio-economic prosperity

Through a multi-stakeholder approach involving government, NGOs, the private sector and development partners, financing and implementation of projects, targeting socio-economic prosperity in homesteads, will be equitable and climate resilient. The focus will be on women, youth, pastoral communities, men, ethnic minorities, migrants and PWDs, who are involved in climate-smart small and medium enterprises across all sectors. This will initially start with enhancing capacities to develop bankable climate change programs, building on rapid impacts analysis, costings, and lessons from on-gong government programmes, such as PDM, Women Entrepreneurship Fund and Generating Growth Opportunities and Productivity for Women Enterprises (Grow) Project . To minimize the impact of climate disasters on homestead livelihoods, climate-smart value-addition technologies will scale up, shock-responsive social protection and climate-informed health services will be delivered to local communities, including services for SRH, maternal health and GBV protection.

The strategic intervention areas are the following:

1. Integrate gender and equity issues in climate literacy, education and early warning information services for local communities.
2. Increase access to financial products and services for climate-smart SMEs operated by women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants.
3. Increase the uptake of value-addition and climate-smart technologies for homestead income and wealth creation.
4. Prevent and respond to gender-based violence amid climate change and disasters.
5. Deliver equitable and shock-responsive social protection services in disaster-prone communities.
6. Strengthen the implementation of gender and equity measures in delivering climate-informed health services to local communities.

4.5 Design and invest in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure

The UGESICA will prioritise gender and equitable design, operation and maintenance of infrastructures including markets, energy, transport, e-mobility services, health, education, and water facilities that enhance the resilience and adaptation of all gender groups to climate extremes. Gender and equity responsiveness in infrastructure programs will also provide decent green jobs associated with construction and maintenance, while engaging local communities in implementing nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience, including wetland and floodplain restoration, urban green corridors and street-tree planting, grassed drainage channels to absorb surface runoff, forest conservation and slope revegetation).

The strategic intervention areas are:

1. Develop infrastructure design, operation and maintenance procedures on gender and equity responsive climate actions.
2. Enhance the capacities of sector ministries and local governments to integrate gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure programs.
3. Establish public-private partnerships for investment in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure.
4. Engage women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants in design and operation of nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience.
5. Promote investment in gender-responsive, low-emission, cost-effective and health-conscious energy infrastructure and environmentally friendly technologies.



5. INSTITUTEIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

There is an enabling institutional framework across government and non-government sphere, upon which all climate actions in Uganda can be gender and equity responsive. Table 4 elaborates the roles of state and non-state institutions.

Table 4: Institutional framework

Category of institutions	Coordination responsibilities
The Parliament of Uganda's Standing Committee on Climate Change (SCCC)	1. Scrutinize all bills related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, make recommendations to Parliament on legal and institutional mechanisms to address gender and equity considerations. 2. Organize sub-regional and national stakeholder consultation forums (MDAs, private sector, CSOs and international community), through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions.
The National Climate Change Advisory Committee (NCCAC)	Provide advisory support on gender and equity responsiveness in all climate actions (policies, plans, and programs).
The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) and the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)	1. Mainstream gender and equity responsiveness in national frameworks for climate change financing. 2. Annually monitor and report on gender and equity in financial inflows (domestic and international) for climate change projects and programs.
Ministry of Water and Environment, Climate Change Department (CCD)	1. Co-Convene with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) partnership engagements on financing and implementing UGESICA. 2. Collaborate with MGLSD on institutional capacity-enhancement and knowledge management for gender equality and equity in climate actions. 3. Coordinate the integration of gender and equity considerations and indicators in measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of NDCs.
Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD)	1. Coordinate gender and equity responsiveness in climate action monitoring and reporting in line with national, regional and international regional standards. 2. Coordinate monitoring and reporting on equitable representation and decision-making in leadership and management of climate actions. 3. Collaborate with MWE/CCD on institutional capacity-enhancement and knowledge management for gender and equity in climate actions. 4. Provide coordination and institutional development as well as capacity building on gender and climate change at national and local levels.



Line sector ministries	1. Develop, implement, monitor and report on priority sector intervention areas and action plans aligned to the UGESICA. 2. Ensure that all technical climate change management committees have equity in their membership from women, and with representation from youth, elderly and People with Disabilities (PWDs).
District Local Governments	1. Develop, implement, monitor and report on district action plans in line with the priority intervention areas and M&E indicators of UGESICA. 2. Ensure that District Climate Change Committees have equity in their membership from women, and with representation from youth, elderly and People with Disabilities (PWDs).
Development partners	1. Support government on partnership engagement and financing for gender and equity responsive climate actions. 2. Support MGLSD and MWE on institutional capacity-enhancement and knowledge management in climate action for gender and equity responsiveness. 3. Work with MGLSD and MWE on strengthening gender equality and equity in climate action monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	1. Support investment in district, sub-regional, national and international forums for spotlighting women, children, PWDs, indigenous communities and youth as climate changemakers and green entrepreneurs. 2. Support government compliance with international gender norms and standards in climate action monitoring, evaluation and reporting. 3. Support community mobilization, advocacy and mindset-change on addressing social norms and cultural practices that perpetuate inequalities, human rights abuses and violence against vulnerable groups in climate action. 4. Develop tailored communication for combating misinformation and educating the public, including indigenous communities, grassroots women, pastoralist communities, youth, and all gender groups on climate resilience and in early warning for disaster risk management.
Faith-based and cultural institutions	
Private sector institutions	1. Support investment in innovation safaris to local communities to spotlight green technology initiatives and partner investments targeting women, last-mile communities, PWDs and youth. 2. Work with government on promoting gender equality and equity standards and tools in compulsory and voluntary carbon markets frameworks.
Academia	Collaborate with relevant stakeholders on solutions-oriented and community-relevant research on the gender equality and equity in climate change adaptation and mitigation.



Media	1. Support community mobilization, advocacy and mindset-change on addressing climate change issues. 2. Spotlight women, youth and PWD-owned/managed SMEs in green technology investments for the socio-economic prosperity of homesteads and local communities.
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MONITORING AND EVALUATION STRATEGY

There are overarching national M&E policy and M&E standards from OPM that are implemented in all ministries. The M&E framework is underpinned by the need to promote efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery to achieve results as well as transparency and accountability in the use of available resources. The MWE under its CCD has developed the NDC M&E system. The purpose of the system is to regularly and transparently assess the implementation of the policy, sector investments, and sector performance, in line with the mitigation and adaptation indicators. The M&E results are used to make necessary adjustments for better performance and improved outcomes for the sector and to feed into National Communications to UNFCCC. Therefore, the monitoring and evaluation framework for this strategy, as shown in table 5, will be implemented in line with NDC and NDPIV M&E systems.



Egg-cent eggplants! Natingating FFS in Lopeei sub-county growing eggplants with the support of FOSTER.

Table 5: Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
1. Climate information systems produce reliable evidence on gender and equity	Percentage increase in MDAs capable of reporting on the implementation of gender and equity responsive climate actions aligned to NDC 3.0	Bi-annual Mid-term	Biennial sector monitoring Mid-term review of the UGESICA	-Biennial Update Reports (BURs) -National Communications -UN Women Gender Equality and Climate Policy Scorecard
Outputs:				
1. Evidence base on gender and equity impacts of climate change strengthened	Number of BURs and National Communications with gender and equity data	Bi-annual Mid-term	Biennial sector monitoring Mid-term review of the UGESICA	-Biennial Update Reports (BURs) -National Communications
2. Gender and equity considerations and indicators integrated into MRV of NDCs.	Number of NDC sector reports with gender and equity disaggregated data	Annual	NDC progress reports BTR reports	Biennial transparency reports (BTRs) NDC reports MRV database
3. Transparency and collaboration in tracking gender and equity in financing climate projects and programs strengthened	Number of climate finance reports from MFPED with gender and equity disaggregated data	Annual	Climate finance reports Budget and expenditure reports	MFPED annual climate finance reports Climate budget tagging reports
4. Public engagement platforms for consultation and spotlighting women, children, PWDs, youth and migrants in climate action designed and implemented	Existence of public engagement platforms in government and non-government institutions for consulting and spotlighting women, children, PWDs, migrants and youth in climate action.	Bi-annual	Review meetings Reports Field monitoring	Ministry reports NGO and CSO reports NAP and NDC reports



Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
2. Institutions are capable of jointly delivering gender and equity responsive climate actions	Percentage increase in MDAs with plans, budget framework papers and projects with strong components on gender and equity responsive climate actions	Bi-annual Mid-term	Biennial sector monitoring Mid-term review of the UGESICA	-Biennial Update Reports (BURs) -National Communications.
Outputs:				
1. Institutional and Partner capacities to effectively plan, budget, monitor, evaluate, and report on gender and equity-responsive climate actions	Number of Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and National Communications with in-depth components on gender and equity responsiveness	Annual	Biennial sector monitoring	Biennial Update Reports (BURs) National Communications.
2. Enhanced awareness among public policymakers on the critical role of gender equality in climate adaptation and mitigation,	Number of high-level policy dialogues conducted Number of policy statements referencing gender-climate linkages	Annual	Documentation Biennial sector monitoring	Dialogue reports Policy briefs Parliamentary records
3. Institutional assessments on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions undertaken	Number and quality of institutional assessments	Annual	Biennial sector monitoring	-Biennial Update Reports (BURs) Assessment reports
4. Inclusive and safe civic spaces for cultural, traditional and religious institutions, women-led and youth-focused organizations, PWDs and ethnic minorities in climate action negotiations and advocacy provided.	Number of cultural, traditional and religious institutions, women-led and youth-focused organizations, PWDs and ethnic minorities represented in climate action negotiations and advocacy.	Annual	Reports	Participation lists Forum reports Policy documents Submission records





Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
5. Mandatory gender-responsive budgeting rules for all existing and new climate change initiatives across government operationalized.	The official budget responsive budgeting adopted Percentage of climate finance allocated to gender responsive actions Number of climate projects audited for gender budgeting compliance	Annual	Reports and circulars	Ministry circulars Budget framework papers Audit reports
6. National research and institutional capacity to generate, document, disseminate, and scale up evidence-based gender-responsive climate adaptation and mitigation solutions, and to facilitate systematic knowledge sharing and policy engagement at national, regional, and global levels are built.	Number of research institutions with operational gender -climate research units Number of case studies and policy briefs produced Number of learning forums conducted Number of presentations made in EAU, AU, UNFCCC, COP	Annual	Reports	Institutional reports Forum proceedings Conference reports
3. Gender parity in climate response management bodies and committees is promoted.	At least 30% of the staffing in climate response management bodies and committees are women at national and local government levels	Bi-annual Mid-term	Annual monitoring Mid-term review of the UGESICA	- Biennial Update Reports (BURs) -UNFCCC National Communications -National Climate Change Profiles -UN Women Gender Equality and Climate Policy Scorecard

Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
Outputs:				
1. The representation of women, youth, PWDS and ethnic minorities in political and technical climate response management committees at national and local level increased.	-Number of women, youth, PWDS and ethnic minorities in political and technical climate response management committees at national level -Number of women, youth, PWDS and ethnic minorities in local government climate change management committees.	- Bi-annual - Mid-term	- Annual monitoring - Mid-term review of the UGESICA	- Biennial Update Reports (BURs) -UNFCCC National Communications -National Climate Change Profiles
2. Affirmative action in climate research funding, education and science bodies implemented.	Number of research projects and education grants specifically focused on gender and equity in climate action.	Mid-term	Annual reports	Reports
3. 3.3 Capacity enhancement programs for climate change negotiators and advocates amongst women, youth, PWDS, ethnic minorities and migrants developed and rolled -out	Number of women negotiators, youth, CSOs, PWDS and migrants capacitated	Annual	Structured trainings Mentorship and coaching E -learning platforms	Participant feed backs Training attendance registers Reports
4. District Environment and Natural Resources Committees (ENR) and Parish Climate Change Committees (PCCCs) capacitated on integration of gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions.	- Number of districts with gender and equity responsive climate change action plans. -Number of parishes with gender and responsive climate change action plans.	Annual	Approved district climate action plans	Reports Independent evaluations Climate change department reports





Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
4. Homesteads are empowered through climate resilient livelihoods for socio-economic prosperity.	Number of government-supported climate-focused programmes under NDPIV directly targeting women, youth, PWDs, migrants, pastoral communities and ethnic minorities.	Bi-annual Mid-term	Mid-term review of NDPIV PDM assessments National service delivery surveys	- Biennial Update Reports (BURs) - UBOS surveys
Outputs:				
1. National and local government capacities to coordinate integration of gender and equity issues in climate literacy and information services for local communities enhanced.	Number of women-led and youth-led SMEs directly benefiting from government-supported financial inclusion programs	Annual	Data collection through service records Surveys and interviews Monitoring and reporting	Health facility records Reports from Ministries and Shelters GBV surveillance systems
2. Access to tailored financial products and services for climate-smart small and medium enterprises increased	Number of high-level policy dialogues conducted Number of policy statements referencing gender-climate linkages	Annual	Documentation Biennial sector monitoring	Dialogue reports Policy briefs Parliamentary records
3. The uptake of value-addition and climate-resilient technologies for homestead production, storage, and processing units increased	Number of women-led and youth-led local community groups with value-addition climate-resilient technologies.	MID TERM	Field monitoring visits. Surveys, Reports and reviews	Reports from Districts and local governments Reports from Ministries Registration records
4. Prevention and response measures to gender-based violence amid climate change and disasters strengthened	Number of GBV survivors benefiting from services.	Annual	Data collection through service records Surveys and interviews Monitoring and reporting	Health facility records Reports from Ministries and Shelters GBV surveillance systems

Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
Outputs:				
5. Shock-responsive social protection programs for homestead preparedness and adaptation to climate emergencies and disasters developed and implemented	-Existence of a shock-responsive social protection framework and mechanisms. -Number of women, youth, PWDs, children and ethnic minorities in at-risk areas directly benefiting from government-supported social protection programs.	Annual	Document reviews reports Surveys and monitoring visits interviews	MGLD Social protection programme reports Local government and NGO reports from UBOS
6. The implementation of gender and equity measures in delivering climate-informed health services to local communities strengthened	-Reduced incidence of public health hazards related to climate emergencies and disasters, by location	Bi-annual	Health surveillance data Community surveys GIS mapping and risk analysis reports	Ministry of health reports Local government health reports
5. Infrastructure designs and investments are gender responsive and resilient to climate extremes	Percentage increase in MDAs capable of integrating gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure programs.	Annual Mid-term	-Biennial sector monitoring Mid-term review of NDPIV UBOS surveys	- Biennial Update Reports (BURs) -UNFCCC National Communications -NDPIV Mid-term review reports UBOS national service delivery surveys
Outputs:				
1. Standard design, operating and maintenance procedures on gender and equity responsive climate actions in public infrastructure programs developed.	Existence of standard design and operating procedures on gender and equity responsive climate actions in public infrastructure programs	Annual Mid-term	Biennial sector monitoring Mid-term review of NDPIV UBOS surveys	-UNFCCC National Communications -NDPIV Mid-term review reports -UBOS national service delivery surveys





Strategic Objectives	Indicators	Timelines for M&E	Methods	Key source of information
Outputs:				
2. Capacities of sector ministries and local governments to integrate gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure programs strengthened.	Number of MDAs and district local governments capacitated on gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure programs.	Annual	Training attendance records Training assessments Follow up monitoring visits	Training reports MDAs and Local Government infrastructure plans and budgets Monitoring and evaluation reports
3. Public-private partnerships for investment in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure established.	Number of infrastructure development programs with financing for gender responsiveness and climate resilience.	Annual	Document and financial flows Budget tracking and expenditure analysis Reports from PPP units	PPP unit records Ministry of finance budget reports Sector ministry infrastructure program reports
4. Local communities are actively engaged in design and operation of nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience	Number of women-led and youth groups engaged in design and operation of nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience.	Bi - Annual	Participation record review Project monitoring reports Field monitoring visits	Local government and district reports Registration records of women led and youth led organisations
5. investment in gender-responsive, low-emission, cost-effective and health-conscious energy infrastructure and environmentally friendly technologies are promoted.	Number of gender responsive low emissions energy infrastructure projects funded and implemented Number of households disaggregated by sex) access clean water and health conscious energy solutions	Annual	Budget analysis and public expenditure review Household surveys of energy access	National planning Authority reports. Climate finance reports. Ministry of Trade reports. SMEs registry

6. FINANCING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGIES

The MGLSD and MWE will coordinate and lead on the implementation of effective strategies and methods for strategic targeting of existing and prospect partners, to mobilize financing for the implementation of the UGESICA. As shown in table 6, the sources for financing the UGESICA will include: public sector financing from the GoU; multi-lateral and bi-lateral financing from banks and development partners; international and domestic private sector and philanthropic financing; and expanding links with non-government organizations. All relevant stakeholders and institutions will be co-convened by MGLSD and MWE to engage in targeted networking to establish connections, leading to the development, mobilization, prioritization and management of partnerships with the purpose of mobilizing resources for the implementation of the UGESICA.

Table 6: Financing and resource mobilization strategies

Source	Key financing strategies
1. Public sector financing by Government of Uganda	1. The Parish Development Model (PDM); 2. Youth Livelihood Program (YLP); 3. Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Program (UWEP); and 4. Upcoming initiatives for job and wealth creation.
2. Multi-lateral and bi-lateral financing from banks and development partners	1. The Leadership, Empowerment, Access, and Protection (LEAP) project – UN Women 2. REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation) - FAO 3. LoCAL Uganda that provides performance-based grants to local government infrastructure projects - UNCDF 4. The Women Economic Empowerment for Green Transformation Project (WEEG-UWEP), supported by GIZ, EU & Norway. 5. GROW (Generating Growth Opportunities for Women) – World Bank.
3. International and domestic private sector and philanthropic financing	1. Promoting gender equality and equity financing standards in carbon market regulatory frameworks and projects 2. Climate cause-related public advocacy campaigns (on-line and offline) with the private sector. 3. Undertaking sub-regional safaris with media partners to profile women, PWDs and youth green entrepreneurs. 4. Organizing flagship events and investment forums, such as “The Women in Agribusiness Forum.”
4. Expanding links with non-government organizations	Undertaking sub-regional safaris with NGO partners to profile women, PWDs and youth green entrepreneurs.



7. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY STRATEGIES

As shown in table 7, the communications and visibility strategies will ensure coherence, alignment and impact of the activities undertaken in line with the strategic intervention areas, promoting the necessary measures and actions to publicize the results, in line with the monitoring and evaluation framework of UGESICA.

Table 7: Communication and visibility strategies

Strategy	Key actions	Methods
1. Knowledge production and uptake events	Integrating gender and equity disaggregated data and evidence in national climate change profiles and UNFCCC National Communications. Undertaking sub-regional safaris with media partners to profile women, PWDs, indigenous communities and youth green entrepreneurs	UNFCCC National Communications Policy briefs. Biennial Update Reports (BURs)
2. Networking and spotlighting innovative practices at national climate investment forums and international events	Identifying and integration of priority gender and equity issues in preparations for COPs and related international events Engage carbon market stakeholders (domestic and international) on regulatory frameworks and projects for advancing gender equality and equity,	Side-events and roundtable partner meetings, with compelling evidence and digital stories of change of transformation in communities.
3. Public national and district-level dialogues including the use of social media and AI (Artificial Intelligence).	Climate cause-related public advocacy campaigns (on-line and offline) with the NGOs and private sector. Community based dialogues in rural and hard to reach areas Translation and localization of climate information materials Undertaking sub-regional safaris with media partners to profile women, PWDs and youth green entrepreneurs. Organizing flagship events and investment forums, such as “The Women in Agribusiness Forums.”	Public dialogues and media briefings Dissemination of translated policy documents
4. Mid-term and end-of-term evaluation of the UGESICA	Organizing independent mid-term and end-of-term evaluations of the UGESICA.	Independent evaluation reports.



8. COSTED ACTION PLAN

The costed action plan below, operationalises the four strategic objectives with corresponding outputs and actions that were identified in full for implementation of UGESICA.

Table 8: Strategic Objectives

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC INTERVENTION AREAS	ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR 2026-2031 (USD)	LEAD institutions
1. To establish climate information systems that produce reliable evidence on gender and equity	1. Strengthen the evidence base on gender and equity impacts of climate change. 2. Integrate gender and equity indicators into measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions). 3. Strengthen transparency and collaboration in tracking gender and equity in financing for climate actions. 4. Design and implement public engagement platforms for consultation and spotlighting women, children, PWDs, migrants	10,345,000	UBOS, MWE, MGLSD, EOC, MFPED, OPM and other relevant MDAs
2. To strengthen institutional capacities in gender and equity responsive climate actions	1. Strengthen institutional and partner capacities to effectively plan, budget, monitor, evaluate, and report on gender and equity-responsive climate actions. 2. Enhance awareness among public policymakers on the critical role of gender equality in climate adaptation and mitigation, 3. Undertake institutional assessments on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions. 4. Provide inclusive and safe civic spaces for cultural, traditional and religious institutions, women-led and youth-focused organizations, PWDs and ethnic minorities in climate action negotiations and advocacy. 5. Operationalize mandatory gender-responsive budgeting rules for all existing and new climate change initiatives across government. 6. To build national research and institutional capacity to generate, document, disseminate, and scale up evidence-based gender-responsive climate adaptation and mitigation solutions, and to facilitate systematic knowledge sharing and policy engagement at national, regional, and global levels	12,456,900	MWE, MGLSD, NPA, OPM and other relevant MDAs



OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC INTERVENTION AREAS	ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR 2026-2031 (USD)	LEAD institutions
3. To promote gender parity in staffing climate response management bodies and committees	1. Increase the representation of women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants in national and local climate response bodies, committees and task forces. 2. Implement affirmative action in climate research funding, education and science bodies. 3. Develop and roll-out capacity enhancement programs for climate change negotiators and advocates amongst women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants. 4. Develop and roll-out capacity enhancement programs for District Environment and Natural Resources Committees (ENR) and Parish Climate Change Committees (PCCCs) on gender and equity responsiveness in climate actions.	5,456,789	MWE, MGLSD, MLG, OPM and other relevant MDAs
4. To empower homesteads through climate resilient livelihoods for socio-economic prosperity.	1. Integrate gender and equity issues in climate literacy, education and early warning information services for local communities. 2. Increase access to financial products and services for climate-smart SMEs operated by women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants. 3. Increase the uptake of value-addition and climate-smart technologies for homestead income and wealth creation. 4. Prevent and respond to gender-based violence amid climate change and disasters. 5. Deliver equitable and shock-responsive social protection services in disaster-prone communities. 6. Strengthen the implementation of gender and equity measures in delivering climate-informed health services to local communities.	30,789,234	MLG, MGLSD, MWE, MAAIF, OPM, MoH, MEMD, MLHUD, National Emergency Coordination Operations Centre and other relevant MDAs



5. To design and invest in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure.	1. Develop infrastructure design, operation and maintenance procedures on gender and equity responsive climate actions. 2. Enhance the capacities of sector ministries and local governments to integrate gender and equity responsive climate actions in infrastructure programs. 3. Establish public-private partnerships for investment in gender responsive and climate resilient infrastructure. 4. Engage women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and migrants in design and operation of nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience (wetland and floodplain restoration, urban green corridors and street-tree planting, grassed drainage channels to absorb surface runoff, forest conservation and slope revegetation). 5. Promote investment in gender-responsive, low-emission, cost-effective and health-conscious energy infrastructure and environmentally friendly technologies.	150,345,567	MWT, MLG, MGLSD, MWE, MAAIF, OPM, MoH, MEMD, MLHUD and other relevant MDAs
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A member of Banika Women's Group exhibiting honey and shea butter at the EAC Trade fair in Nairobi- Kenya

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