



# Uganda Bureau of



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## THE NATIONAL DATA FORUM

### *Leveraging the Data Revolution for National Development*

14-17 NOVEMBER, 2017

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#### 1. Introduction

The government of Uganda is committed to Managing for Development Results (MfDR) with the intent to ensure sustained improvement in the lives of its people: more children educated, fewer infants dying, more families lifted out of poverty, better reproductive health for women among others. This is well captured in the national **Vision 2030**, the overall National Development Framework that envisions “**A transformed Ugandan society from a peasant to a modern and prosperous country within 30 years**”. This vision is expected to be realized through implementation of medium-term National Development Plans. The current **National Development Plan (NDP II)** is about “Growth, employment and social economic transformation for prosperity”.

Uganda has signed up to the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which emphasizes the adage – “*Living No One Behind*”; Africa’s Vision 2063 which is “A global strategy to optimize use of Africa's resources for the benefit of all Africans”; and, the East African Community’s Vision 2050 which projects the EAC bloc as a prosperous, competitive, secure, stable and politically-united East Africa. These frameworks contribute to the emerging Data Revolution. The Data Revolution is designed to support “transformative actions needed to respond to the demands of a complex development agenda” including the National Development Plan (NDPs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among others.

#### 2. The Need for better statistical information for better lives

The government recognises the need for good statistics to; inform MfDR, set targets and monitor outcomes, design development policies and strategies, make evidence-

based decisions about the allocation and management of scarce resources, and, to enable citizens to make informed choices. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and the community of data producers and users have recognized the exponential increase in demand for quality disaggregated information and related data challenges. As the national machinery responsible for official statistics, UBOS acknowledges the data revolution and transformative agenda requirements.

Current best practice in statistical planning and development requires a multi-stakeholder (*Government, private sector, Civil Society, the media, and academia*), approach to ensure integration of traditional and non-traditional data sources. To address the evolving data challenges, the Bureau in collaboration with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Women and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has organized a National Data Forum (NDF) as part of the Africa Statistics Week celebrations from 14-17 November, 2017. The National Data Forum (NDF) provides a platform for reflection on what Uganda needs to embrace the Data Revolution, and leverage technology for increased information access and use.

### **3. The National Data Forum**

The National Data Forum is a platform intended to bring the Data Revolution (DR) to the national space. It will also act as a rallying point for sharing diverse stakeholder experiences in data production, analysis, dissemination and use; and will promote the link for harmonised and evidence-based planning to national and international development.

The main objective of the NDF is to create awareness on the evolving data demands for measuring national, regional and international development initiatives.

#### **Specific objectives**

- i. Improve the efficiency of the National Data Ecosystem for sustainable development to leverage the Data Revolution for national development.
- ii. Understand who is doing what, where and how, in the National Statistical System.
- iii. Promote stakeholder coordination and collaboration.
- iv. Increase data use by stakeholders.
- v. Share lessons and experiences at national and regional level.

#### **Expected outcomes of the Forum**

- i. A National roadmap on the Data Revolution, with defined roles and responsibilities for key stakeholders.
- ii. Guidelines for data coordination and collaboration.
- iii. Terms of Reference National Data Working Group and Coordinating Committee
- iv. An inclusive platform for multi-stakeholder engagements on the Data Revolution; that strengthens the interactions and relationships between state, non-state and private sector actors.

It is the intention of the Bureau to broaden and deepen dialogue between actors in the data ecosystem.

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