INTRODUCTION

Uganda has experienced strong economic growth over the past two decades, and has made great strides towards improving the quality of life and access to services of the population. Uganda has conducted a number of well-executed nationally representative cross-sectional household surveys since 1989. This includes the Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) program, with the most recent conducted in 2009/10.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) developed the National Development Plan (NDP) and a Joint Budget Support Strategy as part of the implementation of the National Strategy in order to continue promoting economic growth. The GoU recognizes the need for adequate data collection to effectively monitor outcomes of the National Development Plan. As part of this effort the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBoS) has completed implementation of the 1st wave of the Uganda National Panel Survey (UNPS). This was a multi-topic household survey carried out between September 2009 and August 2010.

The UNPS aims at producing annual estimates of outcomes and outputs in the key policy areas and at providing a platform for the experimentation and assessment of national policies and programs.

Explicitly, the objectives of the UNPS are:

1. To provide information required for monitoring the National Development Plan as well as major programs such as NAADS and General Budget Support, and also to provide information to the compilation of the National Accounts

2. To provide high quality nationally representative information on income dynamics at the household level and provide annual information on service delivery and consumption expenditure estimates to monitor welfare and service outcomes in interim years of other national survey efforts

3. To provide a framework for policy oriented analysis and capacity building; and support other research which will feed into the Annual Policy Implementation Review.

The modules being administered in the ongoing UNPS include the Socio-economic module as a core while the Agricultural, Community, and woman are other modules of the survey.
FUNDING
Funding of the UNPS Wave 1 was achieved through a pooled fund from the Government of Uganda, Royal Netherlands Government and UNFPA.

THE APPROACH
The UNPS is carried out annually over a twelve-month period on a nationally representative sample of 3,220 households. This ensures continuous recording of household consumption and expenditures and changes occurring thereof. The survey is conducted in two visits in order to capture the two cropping seasons of the country. The UNPS therefore interviews each household twice each year, in visits six months apart. The consumption module is administered to half of the sample in each six month phase.

The UNPS uses some of the following words for definitions;

Original household: This is the household as was from the 2005/06 baseline sample
Shifted Household: A household that moves from its original location to another location either within the same EA or outside.
Phase: A period of 6 months
Wave: A completed cycle of 12 months (i.e. two phases) within which two visit have been made to each household
Split-off/Mover: Member of an original household who has left for one reason or another.
Tracking target: Individuals within the household that is selected for tracking.

TRACKING
- As part of the management of individual/split-off tracking, 20% of all the original sample households in each of the

322 Enumeration Areas were selected for tracking. The intention is to calibrate the size and composition of the sample of traceable split-offs (currently referred to as tracking targets) that will be actually tracked, so that it roughly compensates losses due to attrition. The UNPS tracks all households

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS
Some of the the key findings include information on teacher and health worker absenteeism and Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR).

- Teacher absenteeism rate is higher in Government primary schools at 21 percent compared to other primary schools (9 percent).

- Health worker absenteeism rate in HC II and HC III are at 46 and 47 percent respectively.
- Use of family planning methods by married women has increased.

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