



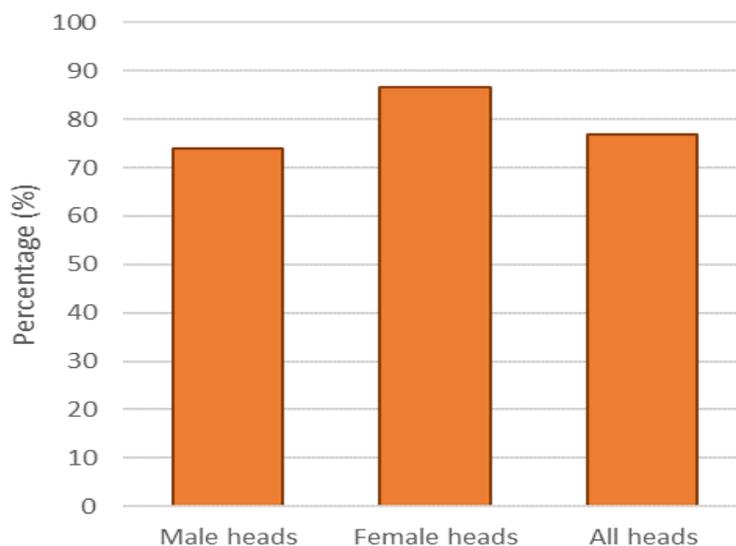
## Annual Agricultural Survey (AAS) 2019 – Statistical Release

### The majority of households in Uganda are engaged in agriculture

About 7 million households in Uganda cultivated land or reared livestock in 2019 (UBOS 2022, Table 2.1). They represented 80 percent of the total households in Uganda (UBOS, 2022, p.3).

Agriculture was the main economic activity for most of the heads of those agricultural households. The proportion was higher for female household heads, with 87 percent of them reporting to have agriculture as their main economic activity, compared to 74 percent of the male household heads (UBOS 2022, Table 2.7). Female-headed households represented 22 percent of the total agricultural households (UBOS 2022, Table 2.2).

Figure 1. Percentage of agricultural household heads with agriculture as main activity, by sex



Source: UBOS 2022, Table 2.7.

Crop production was the most widespread agricultural activity, with 99 percent of agricultural households engaged in it. Crops are produced predominantly for own consumption, with 14 percent of agricultural households cultivating exclusively for own consumption and an additional 68 percent cultivating mainly for own consumption although with some sale (UBOS 2022, Tables 2.10 and 2.13).

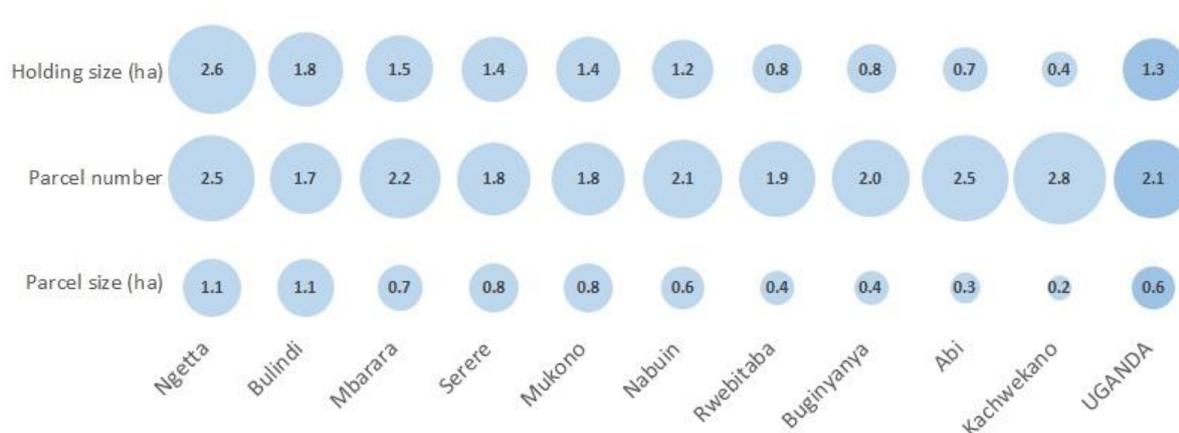
Livestock was raised by about 74 percent of the agricultural households. In this case the purpose of sale was predominant, with 26 percent of agricultural households raising livestock exclusively for sale and an additional 52 percent raising livestock mainly for sale although with some own consumption. Only 3 percent raised livestock solely for own consumption (UBOS 2022, Tables 2.11 and 2.13).

### Most agricultural households have holdings of less than one hectare

The average holding size of the agricultural households was 1.3 ha. However, 67 percent of the agricultural households had holdings of less than 1 ha, and only 13 percent had more than 2 Ha (UBOS 2022, table 3.2 and annex Table 3-7).

On average, agricultural households used 2.1 parcels in the first season, with an average size of 0.6 ha per parcel. Comparing ZARDIs, Ngetta had the largest average holding size, with 2.6 Ha, and Kachwekano the smallest, with 0.4 ha (UBOS 2022, Tables 3.1 and 3.2).

**Figure 2. Average holding size, number of parcels per holding, and parcel size, by ZARDI**



Source: UBOS 2022, Tables 3.1 and 3.2.

### Females devoted more time to crop production than males

Among household members, females devoted on average more time to crop production activities than males: about 46 person-days<sup>1</sup> per season compared to 36 person-days per season from male members. The contribution of hired workers and unpaid workers or relatives was much lower, about 7 person-days per season and household in total (including males and females). (UBOS 2022, Tables 4.23 and 4.24).

The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 is to “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”. Its indicator 5.a.1 measures: a) the “proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex” and b) the “share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure” (UN, 2022b). The 2019 Agricultural Survey in Uganda indicates that 41 percent of adults (above 18 years old) living in agricultural households owned or had

<sup>1</sup> A person-day is equivalent to eight hours of work by one person.

tenure rights over the land they cultivated. The disaggregation by sex, however, shows that this value was higher for males (52 percent) than for females (30 percent). The share of women among owners or rights-holders in 2019 was 39 percent (UBOS 2022, Table 3.4).

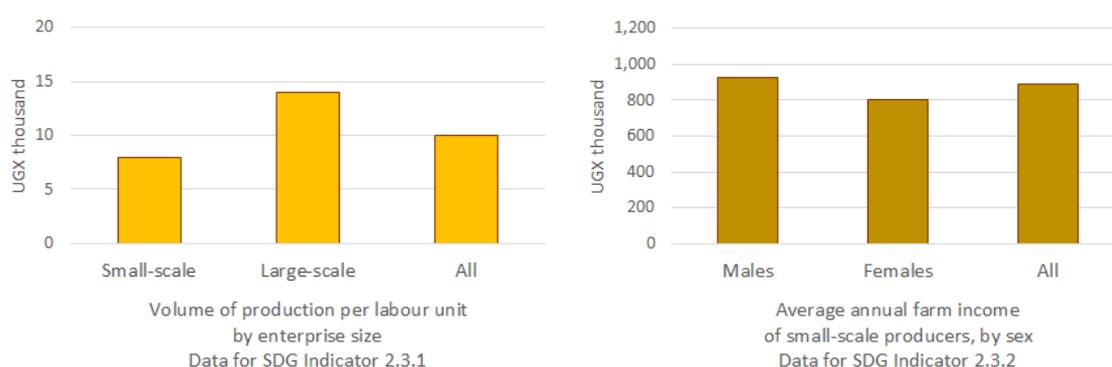
### The Agricultural Survey 2019 collected for the first time data on agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers for indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals

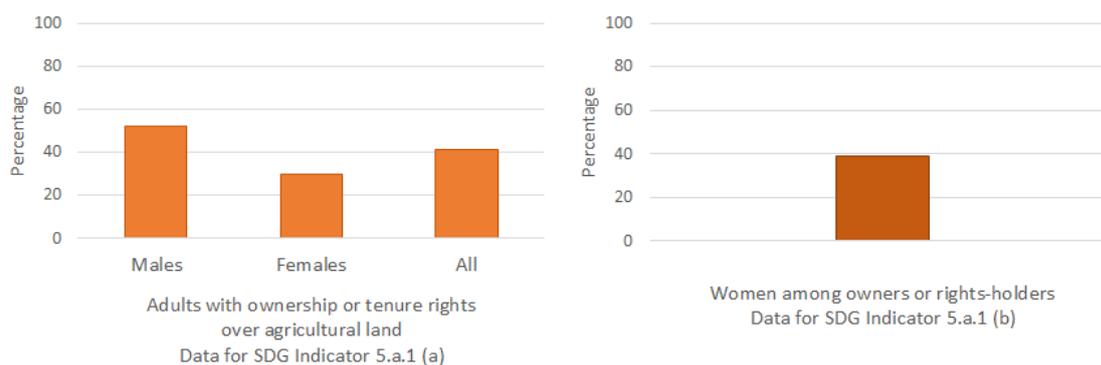
The Sustainable Development Goal 2 is to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”. By 2030, its target 2.3 is to “double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers [...]” (UN, 2022a). Uganda’s Annual Agricultural Survey 2019 collected data for monitoring this target.

SDG indicator 2.3.1 considers the volume of production per labour unit by enterprise size. The survey results indicate that smallholders produced about 8 thousand UGX (Ugandan shilling) per person-day, whereas large producers generated about 14 thousand UGX per person-day (UBOS 2022, Figure 4.3).

SDG indicator 2.3.2 measures the average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status. The survey results show an average annual farm income of 0.9 million UGX for small producers and 2.6 million UGX for large producers. Dissagregating by the sex of the household head, the results show an average annual farm income for small producers of 0.8 million UGX for females and 0.9 million UGX for males, and 2.5 million UGX for females and 2.6 million UGX for males for large producers. (UBOS 2022, annex Tables 4-34 and 4-36).

**Figure 3. Data collected for indicators 2.3.1, 2.3.2 and 5.a.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals**





Source: UBOS 2022, Figure 4.3, Table 3.4, and annex Tables 4-34 and 4-36.

### The most broadly cultivated food crops were maize, beans, cassava and banana

The most popular temporary crops in Uganda are maize, beans and cassava, with more than 50 percent of the agricultural households involved in their cultivation during the first season of 2019 (UBOS 2022, figures 7.1 and 7.2). Regarding permanent crops, the main one is banana-food (“matooke”), which was cultivated by 47 percent of the agricultural households in 2019 (UBOS 2022, Figure 7.2).

Coffee also deserves attention because it is the principal export of Uganda (MAAIF, 2016, p.54). Two main types of coffee are grown in the country: Robusta and Arabica. In 2019, Robusta coffee was grown by about 21 percent of agricultural households, and Arabica coffee by 7 percent of agricultural households (UBOS 2022, Figure 7.2).

These five crops were listed as priority commodities in the Agriculture Sector Strategic Plan (ASSP), together with rice, Irish potatoes, tea, and fruits and vegetables (MAAIF, 2016, p.51).

**Table 1. Production and area for main food food crops**

Temporary crops			
Crop	Production (million tonnes)	Area harvested (million hectares)	Yield (tonnes/ha)
Maize	2,8	1,7	1.6
Beans	0.4	0.8	0.6
Cassava	2,7	0.4	7.5
Permanent crops			
Crop	Production (million tonnes)	Area planted (million hectares)	Yield (tonnes/ha)
Banana-food (matooke)	9,4	0.6	16.0
Coffee (Robusta)	0.2	0.3	0.6
Coffee (Arabica)	< 0.1	< 0.1	0.8

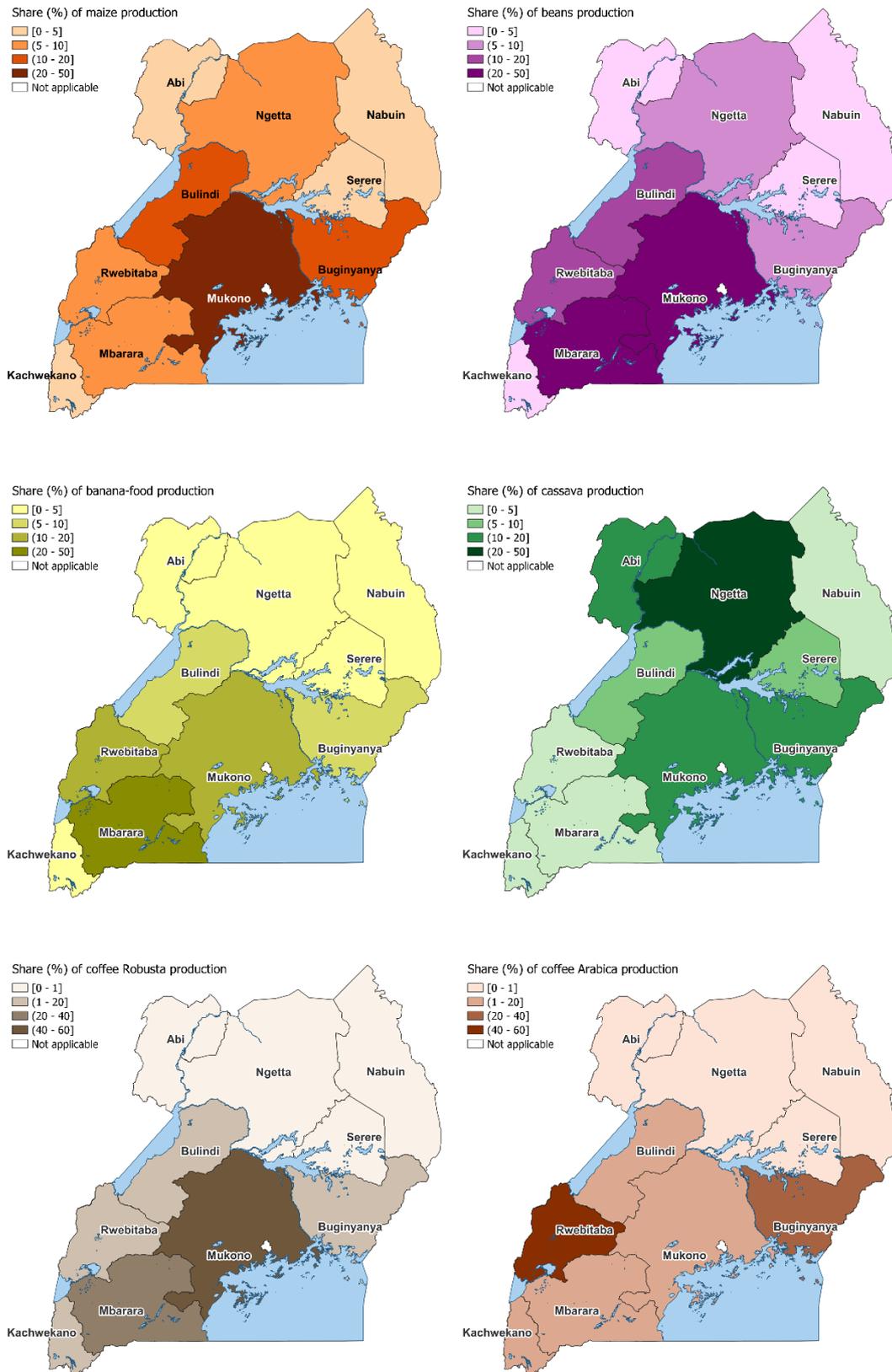
Source: UBOS 2022, tables 7.1, 7.9, 7.21, 7.23, 7.25 and 7.27.

### **Data point to limited utilization of fertilizers and pesticides by agricultural households**

In the first season, 9 percent of the agricultural households used inorganic fertilizers, and 10 percent in the second season. Organic fertilizers were used by 19 percent of agricultural households in the first season and 25 in the second. In total, 25 percent of the agricultural households used some kind of fertilizers in the first season, and 32 percent in the second (UBOS 2022, Table 4.10).

Close to 80 percent of the agricultural households that did not use inorganic fertilizers stated that their use was too costly. Over 30 percent indicated that they were not available locally and also about 30 percent stated that they were not needed because the soil was fertile enough. About 25 percent mentioned lack of knowledge about their benefits and use (UBOS 2022, Table 4.17).

Figure 4. Share of each ZARDI in the production of maize, beans, banana, cassava and coffee



Source: UBOS 2022, tables 7.2, 7.10, 7.22, 7.24, 7.26 and 7.28; UBOS 2012; UBOS, 2016.

The agricultural households using pesticides were 23 percent of the total. Most of them (about 71 percent) applied insecticides. Herbicides were used by 32 percent of the households applying pesticides, fungicides by 14 percent, and rodenticides by just about one (1) percent. (UBOS 2022, Tables 4.18 and 4.19).

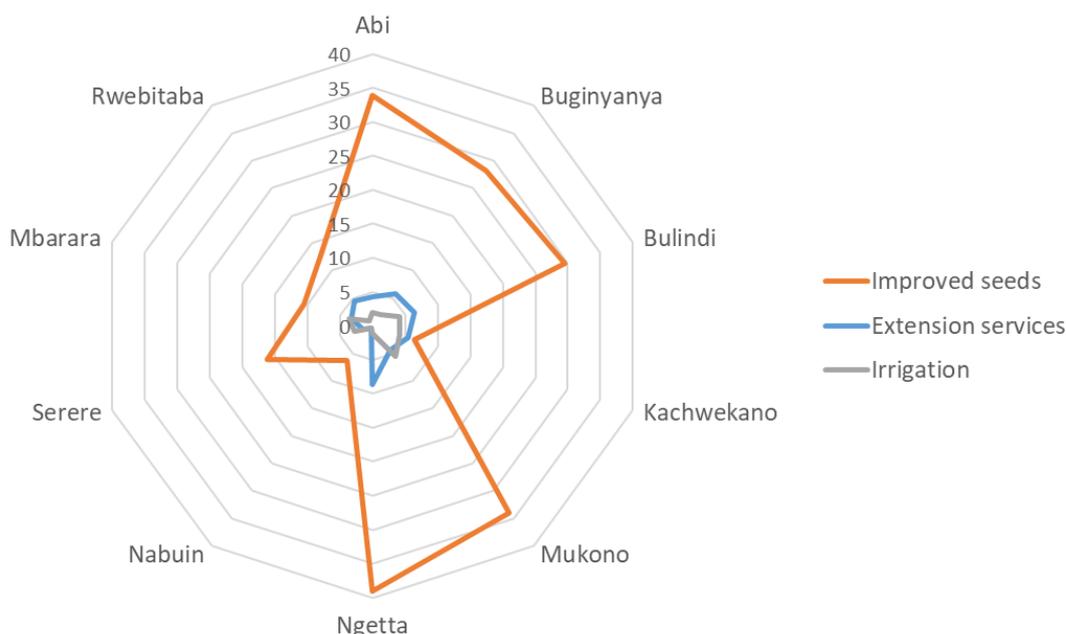
### Use of improved seeds, extension services and irrigation remained low among agricultural households

On the choice between traditional and improved seeds, the survey results show that 25 percent of the agricultural households used improved seeds in the first season, and 18 percent in the second. The average expenditure was largest for rice, followed by groundnuts, soya beans and beans. (UBOS 2022, Tables 4.7 and 4.9).

The number of agricultural households indicating in the Agricultural Survey 2019 that they had received information or advice from extension services was about 5 percent. This share is lower than the 12 percent recorded in the Agricultural Survey 2018 (UBOS 2022, Figure 5.1).

On irrigation, the survey indicates that the share of agricultural households using irrigation in 2019 on at least one plot was 2.9 percent for the first season and 2.4 percent for the second (UBOS 2022, Table 4.5).

**Figure 5. Share of agricultural households using improved seeds, irrigation, and receiving extension services**



Source: UBOS 2022, tables 4.5 (first season), 4.7 (first season) and figure 5.1.

## Lower numbers of households reported shocks in production and food shortages in 2019, compared to 2018. Still, more than half of them experienced droughts, and close to a third experienced pest or disease outbreaks.

About 55 percent of the agricultural households reported experiencing drought in 2019, about 29 percent suffered from erratic or heavy rains, and 30 percent reported suffering pest or disease outbreaks. Other shocks considered included floods, hailstorms, insecurity and diseases in the household. The damage reported was in most cases severe or moderate. In total, about 65 percent of the agricultural households experienced some form of shock during the agricultural year 2019. This value is however lower than the one registered for the agricultural year 2018, which was 74 percent. (UBOS 2022, Figure 6.1 and Tables 6.1 and 6.2).

The percentage of agricultural households reporting food shortages in 2019 was 36 percent, which is also lower than the 47 percent registered for 2018. (UBOS 2022, Figure 6.2).

### Technical background

The results of this statistical release are drawn from Annual Agricultural Survey(AAS) 2019 Report, UBOS 2022

The AAS is a nation-wide survey that able to generate estimates at the national, sub-regional and Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (ZARDI) jurisdiction levels (excluding Kampala).

The AAS collects data from a sample of about 7,000 agricultural households through Computer Assisted Personal Interviews. It focuses on land tenure, crop areas, crop production, agricultural practices, inputs, variable and fixed costs, services, food security, livestock rearing and livestock production.

The AAS has been established in 2017 to address the growing demand for agricultural statistics. The AAS 2018 is therefore the second round conducted in the framework of this Survey Programme.

For the future rounds, the Annual Agricultural Survey Programme aims to expand its sample to the non-household sector farms – i.e., hospitals, schools, prison, corporations and cooperatives that are not linked to households and produce crops and/or rear livestock.

Finally, UBOS has integrated the Annual Agricultural Survey and the National Panel Survey (UNPS) into a Uganda Harmonised and Integrated Survey (UHIS). In the context of the Integrated Survey Programme, the AAS and the UNPS share a sub-sample of agricultural households, use the same agricultural questionnaire and has harmonized methodologies concerning agricultural statistics. The implementation of UHIS started in 2021/22. The establishment of the UHIS (AAS+UNPS) Integrated Survey Programme is supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Bank under the umbrella of the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap.

## Institutional information

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) is the principal agency responsible for collecting, processing, analysing and disseminating data. The UBOS Act of 1998 mandated UBOS to coordinate and supervise the National Statistical System (NSS) and to provide quality and demand-driven statistics that support policies, decision-making, research and development initiatives.

In its role of principal agency collecting data, UBOS undertakes major surveys and censuses on important themes such as demography, service delivery, socio-economy, economy, agriculture, etc.

### **Why agricultural statistics?**

Agriculture has a strategic importance for poverty reduction, especially in low-income economies like Uganda and most especially in rural areas where the majority of the population is employed in the agricultural sector.

The agricultural sector has been the backbone of the Uganda's economy for many years. The sector accounts for the largest share of employment (47%)<sup>2</sup> and close to 80<sup>3</sup> percent of all households in Uganda are involved in agriculture (UBOS, 2015). It is a source of food, raw materials for industries and foreign exchange given the many agricultural exports. The Agricultural Sector Strategic Plan (ASSP), the National Development Plan (NDP) II, and now the NDP III identify agriculture as one of the priority sectors for investment. This happens because the agricultural sector has a great multiplier effect on the overall country economy, including the manufacturing and service sectors.

At the continental and at global level, the *Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation* and the *United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* on Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6), and Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12) highlight the importance of agriculture.

With these initiatives in place, the demand for agricultural statistics has tremendously increased because policy makers have improved their awareness of the importance of data for policies, planning and monitoring in the agricultural sector.

In 2019, the survey was funded by the Government of Uganda and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through its AGRISurvey Programme.

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<sup>2</sup> The Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) 2019/20

<sup>3</sup> National Population and Housing Census 2014

## Contact information

For more information, or to inquire about concepts, methods or data quality, contact UBOS Department of Production and Environmental Statistics at: [aliziki.lubega@ubos.org](mailto:aliziki.lubega@ubos.org) or [Patrick.okello@ubos.org](mailto:Patrick.okello@ubos.org) or [flavia.oumo@ubos.org](mailto:flavia.oumo@ubos.org)

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