

BASKET FUNDING MECHANISM

LOT 1: CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. Human activities have been the main drivers of climate change, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas.

Status of Climate change in Uganda

Uganda is already experiencing impacts of climate change manifesting through increased frequency and intensity of disasters including droughts, floods and landslides in recent years. The percentage of rainfall in form of heavy precipitation events is on the increase, and the hazards have reduced crop yields and caused loss in livestock, with negative implications for food security.

Uganda has been ranked as high risk under the risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters with impacts on displaced people and vulnerable groups, increasing inequality and social economic vulnerability. The coping capacity is inadequate, vulnerability high and the country is least ready to cope with climate impacts. With projected increase in the frequency of extreme events, the exposure and vulnerability of the country is likely to increase, thus affecting the coping capacity further.

Uganda's rainfall trends indicate no significant change in average annual rainfall in the 60-year historical record, similarly, no significant change in average annual rainfall is projected for the 2015-2045 period. However, there is projection of an increase in rainfall in particular months which were initially dry with potential of significantly altering the seasons. This increase could have strong impacts on agriculture, with likely increase in the frequency of extreme events. Average annual

temperatures between 1951-1980 and 1981-2010, shows a notable increase of approximately 0.5-1.2 °C for minimum temperatures and 0.6-0.9 °C for maximum temperatures. Climate projections developed for Uganda using the models used in the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (IPCC AR5) however, indicate an increase in near-surface temperature for the country in the order of +2°C in the next 50 years, and in the order of +2.5°C in the next 80 years.

Over 70% of Uganda's population depend on subsistence farming, which is heavily dependent on rainfall seasons. Besides agriculture, many other sectors rely on weather and as such it is paramount that weather information delivery is done accurately and timely. Despite the efforts by the Uganda National Meteorology Authority in improving the weather and climate services, they are still facing challenges of insufficient capacity in terms of human resource and weather equipment which affects accuracy and reliability of data. Dissemination and access by users is also inadequate in terms of coverage and feedback.



© Ed Kashi, VII Photo