



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development

UGANDA'S NASCENT NATIONAL SPATIAL PLANNING AND ITS ENVISAGED CONTRIBUTION TO CLIMATE RESILIENT URBAN DEVELOPMENT

By Vincent B. Byendaimira



 byendaimira@gmail.com

 <https://mlhud.go.ug/>

 +256772447262

 January/2023

 Plot 13/15 Century House, Parliament Avenue, Kampala - UGANDA.

Outline

- 1 Introduction and Background**
- 2 Overview of Uganda's National Physical Development Plan (NPDP) (key assumptions, Objectives & Strategies)**
- 3 The Plan's implications**
- 4 The plan's contribution to Climate Resilient Urban Development in Uganda**

1

General Introduction

A green oval graphic with a white center containing the text 'Our Vision'.

Our
Vision

‘Sustainable Land Use, Land Tenure Security, Affordable, Decent Housing and Organized Urban Development’

An orange oval graphic with a white center containing the text 'Our Mission'.

Our
Mission

“To ensure sustainable land management, planned urban and rural development and decent housing for all”



Our Mandate

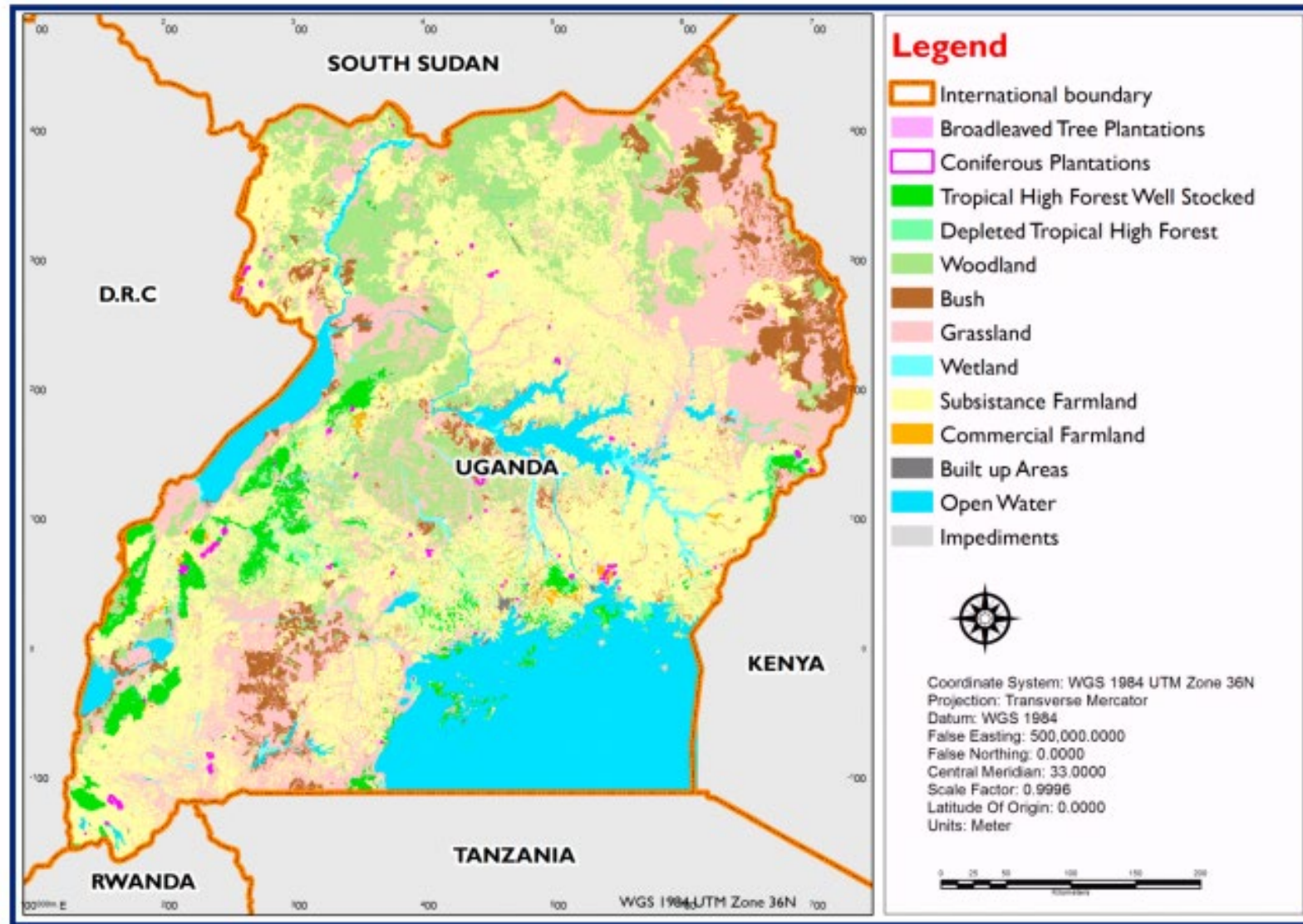
‘To ensure a rational: sustainable and effective use and management of land and orderly development of urban and rural areas as well as safe, planned and adequate housing for socio-economic development’



UGANDA

- › Total surface area (241,551sqkm)
- › Current Population 41.5 million persons, estimated 73 million persons by 2070 and by 2100 estimated 100 million persons

| Land cover | Area (Sqkm) | %age |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Water | 41,743 | 17.2 |
| Land area | 199,808 | 82.7 |
| Forest Cover | 33,824 | 14 |
| National Parks & Wild life Reserves | 38,657 | 16 |
| Bush, Wetland, Grassland among others | 122,494 | 50.7 |
| Built up area | 4,832 | 2 |



“The above scenario requires a well-designed plan for land use in order for the Country to develop sustainably, hence the National Physical Development Plan”

2

Overview of Uganda's National Physical Development Plan (NPDP)

- › Approved by Cabinet on **14th November 2022**
- › Hinges on two main variables - **population and land**
- › **Sustainable urbanization** proposed as a strategy for **accommodating growing population** while **freeing land for agriculture**



The Integrative Physical Plan

Orientation:

Integrative

Main Objective:

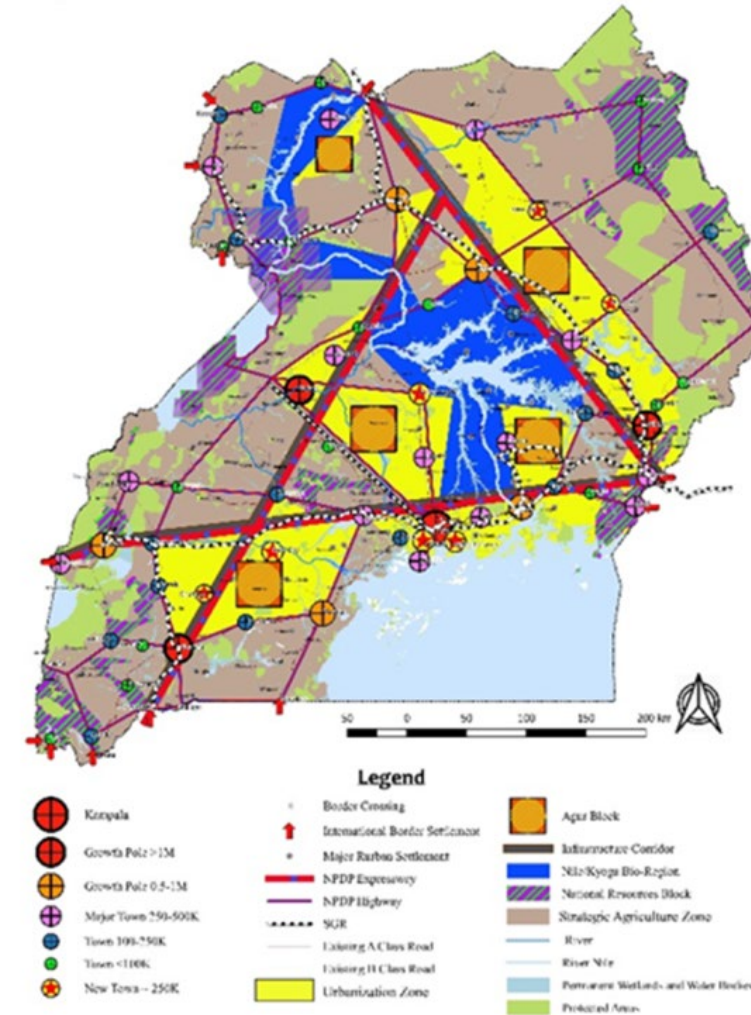
Integration of advantages from the 5 options

Planning concept:

Regional growth of urbanized zones & Corridors constrained by agricultural clusters and natural resources

Form:

Polycentric settlement system in form of triangle of expressways & Physiography of natural and agricultural areas





3

The Plan's key assumptions, Objectives & Strategies

Key Assumptions

- › **Urban population is expected to double from 20% to 40%** of Uganda's population by 2040
- › **Growing population**, even with larger scale, higher yielding & higher productivity farming methods, **will put immense pressure on the country's grasslands, forests, protected areas & wetlands.**



- › **Maximizing Regional Balance and Equity (Maximum dispersion of urban growth and maximum equality between sub-regions)**

- i. Strategic polycentric cities (10 cities already operational)**
- ii. Infrastructure linking all the regional cities (Express ways, regional highways etc.)**



Objective-02

› Maximizing Agriculture Production

Strategies

- i. Implementation of Strategic Agricultural Zones (SAZs)
- ii. Opening up of additional arable land (investment in irrigation, sensitization, cooperatives, storage, processing & marketing)
- iii. Physical Consolidation and cooperatives – Farms & Villages
- iv. Agricultural Science and Innovation (Research and development).
- v. Secondary Agricultural Land will provide the space needed for mixed development agriculture, as well as urban areas to accommodate the growing population

Objective-03

› Maximizing Agricultural Lands

Strategies

- i. Research & Tech Development - designed as a hub of knowledge exchange.**
- ii. Intensive modern farming for cash crops and value added agriculture.**
- iii. Attractions of Eco-Tourism and African cultures (music, sculpture, painting, gastronomy).**

Objective-04

› Environment , Tourism & Sustainability

Strategies

- i. Restoration of lost biomass in protected areas**
- ii. Adoption of Green Growth Principles**
- iii. Creation of a Bio-Region (Region with rich biodiversity values & potential Economic opportunities)**
- iv. Two Tourism Strategic Regions;**
 - a) The Albertine Graben region which accounts for over 70% of the country's current tourism revenue**
 - b) The Eastern Corridor tourism region**

Objective-05

› **Maximizing the National Connectivity and Infrastructure provision**

Strategies

- i. Emphasis on Efficient Public Transportation in urban areas.
- ii. Establishment and construction of the National Expressway system & infrastructure corridors (roads, rail, utilities ...)
- iii. Operationalization of Airports, both international and regional as well as airfields for domestic freights
- iv. Inland Water Transport and construction of inland ports and harbor facilities
- v. Making Water accessible to Households and Agriculture
- vi. Improvement and expansion of ICT sector.
- vii. Compact settlement

4

The Implications of the plan

- › On growing population and land resources.

“The strategy is to accommodate growing population while freeing land for agriculture”

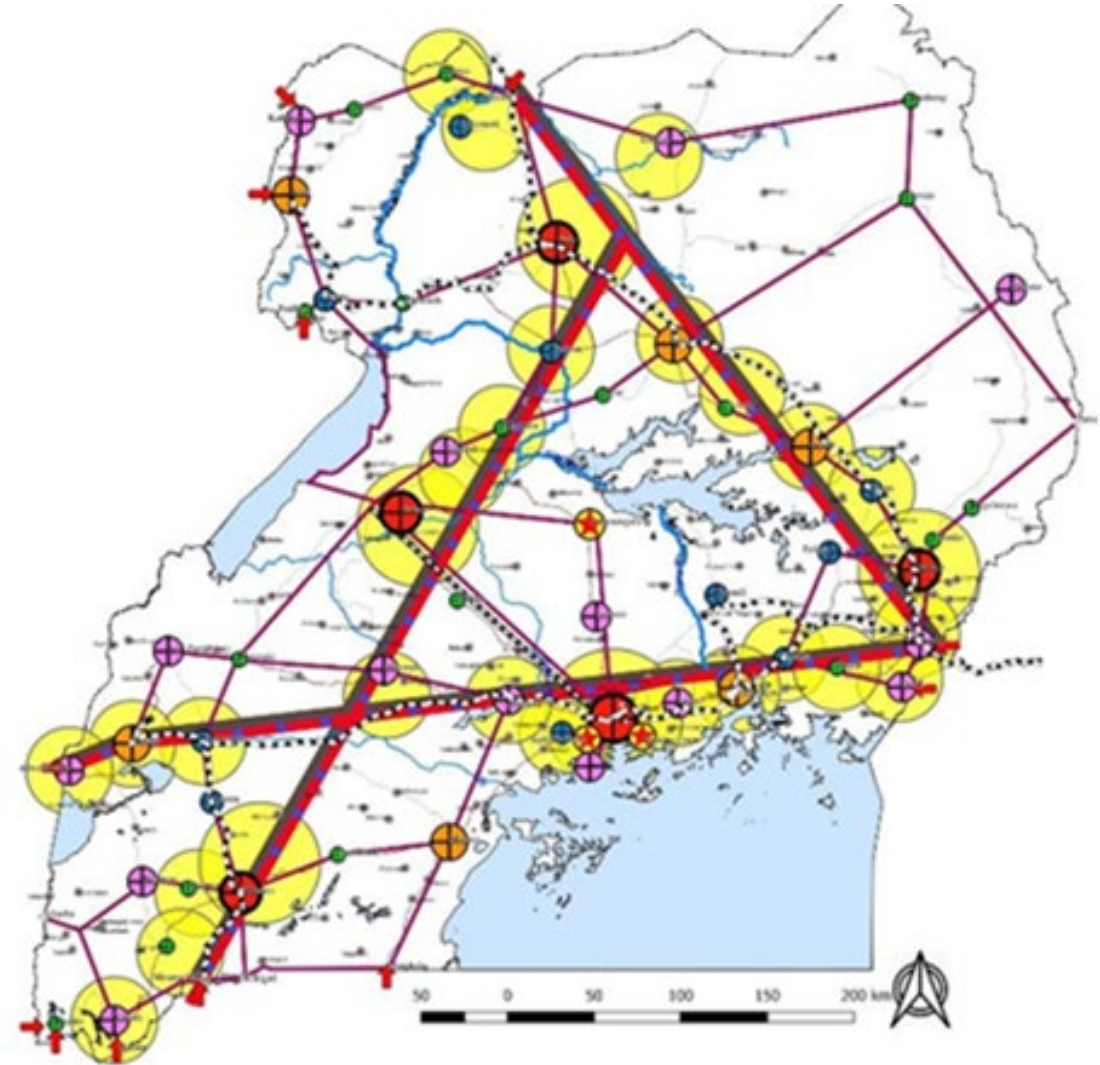




Proposed Settlement System for Climate Resilience

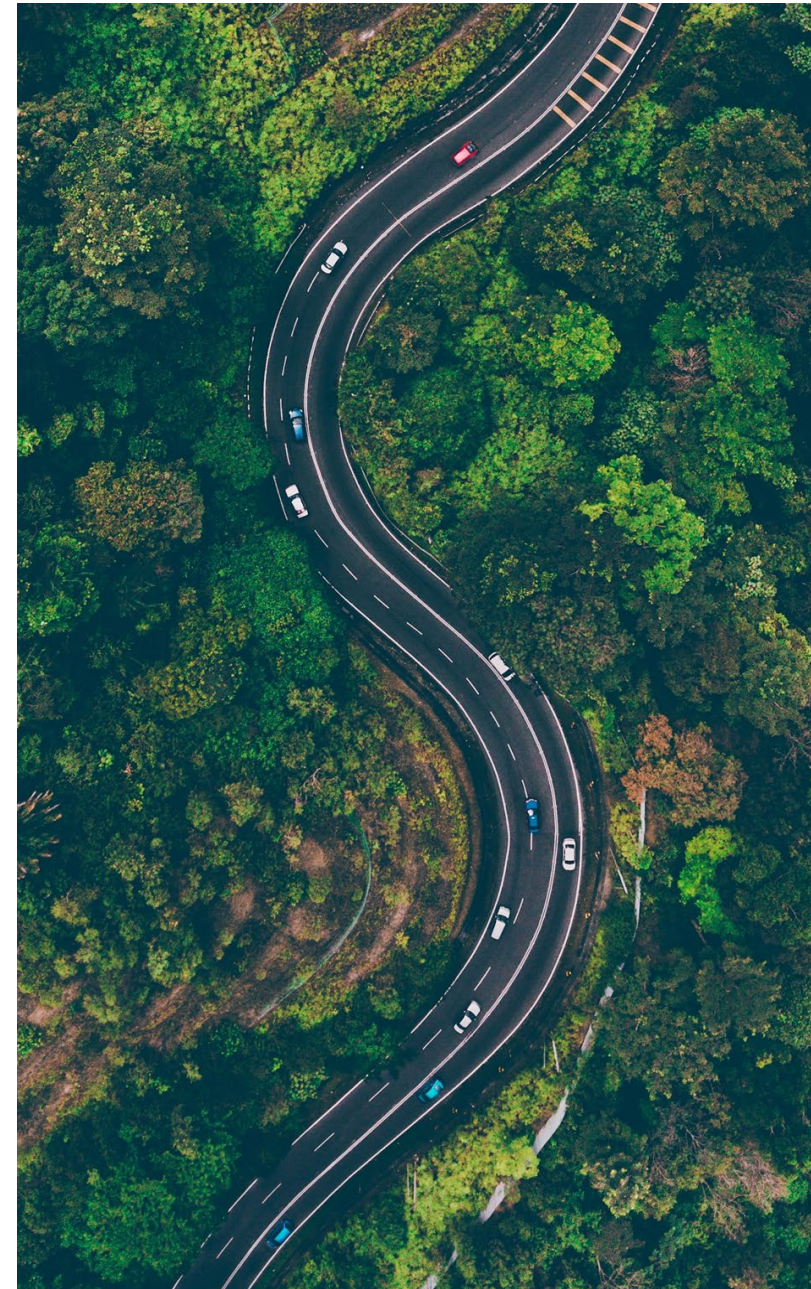
Principles

- › Prioritize infrastructure and public transport in order to reduce movement
- › Manage urbanization and ensure climate resilience.



Hierarchy of Urban Centres

- › **Effective management of settlement systems** characterized by a hierarchy of urban centres ranging from regional cities, through Municipalities to Town Councils; and nucleated rural settlements.
- › **Smart compact settlements** located along major **transport corridors** and actively encourage regional agglomeration.



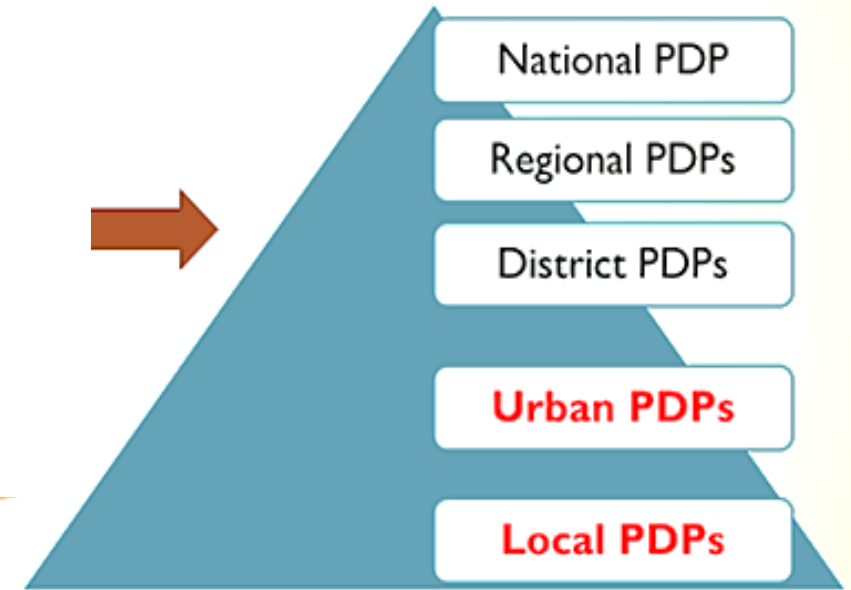


Prioritization of Infrastructure

- › Prioritization of water & sewerage systems, energy, communication, transport, public transportation and NMT.
- › National Expressway system and National Passenger Train system, airports, inland water transport and cargo.

Implementation

- I. Compliance to the plan before any project is admitted into the Public Investment Plan
- II. Spatial data team set and capacity built
- III. Prioritization of flagship projects identified in the plan
- IV. Strengthened Land use Regulation & Compliance Department.
- V. All lower level PDPs to be informed by the NPDP





How will the plan contribute to Climate Resilient Urban Development in Uganda?

- i. Regional balance should remove undue pressure from the prime city & create manageable secondary cities**
- ii. Prioritization of public transport and NMT**
- iii. Compact settlements will reduce the need for movement**

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY



Thank you