



SPOTLIGHT REPORT

ON UGANDA'S VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW
AT THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL
FORUM (HLPF) ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



COC
Nederland

July 2024

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	3
1.0 Background	4
1.1. The Adoption of Agenda 2030 and LGBTIQ+ Rights in Uganda	4
1.2. Implementation of SDGs in Uganda	5
1.3. Uganda's Performance Towards Agenda 2030	7
1.4. Normative frameworks	8
1.4.1. The Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2023	10
2.0. Methodology	12
2.1. Validation meeting	12
2.2. Limitations	13
3.0. Assessing Uganda's Progress: LGBTIQ+ Persons' Legal Right to Exist in Uganda	14
3.1. Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	15
3.2. Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	17
3.3. Goal 13 Climate action: take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	18
3.4. SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions	19
3.4.1. The Courts	20
3.4.2. The NGO Bureau	22
3.4.3. Equal Opportunities Commission	22
3.5. SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development	23
4.0 Conclusion	25
5.0. Recommendations to government	26
Selected References	27



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This report was prepared with technical and logistical support from the Pan Africa ILGA (PAI), the African region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex (ILGA), and the Uganda Key Populations Consortium (UKPC). The invaluable contribution of several LGBTIQ+ organisations nationwide is also acknowledged.



1.0 Background

Uganda has a long, well-documented history of the existence of LGBTIQ+ within its communities.¹ Historical and anthropological evidence demonstrates that same-sex partnerships existed in Uganda long before the arrival of colonial powers. For instance, among the Langi of northern Uganda, the *mudoko dako*, or effeminate males “were treated as women” and could marry men.² In the powerful Buganda Kingdom, *Kabaka* Mwanga who ruled in the late 19th century is widely known to have been a gay man.³ Despite Uganda’s reputation for openness and diversity, its society is overwhelmingly intolerant of same-sex relationships.

In a 2021/2022 Afrobarometer survey of 37 countries, Uganda ranked highest for rejecting non-heteronormative relations.⁴ This is for several reasons. The country is very socially conservative. One reason for this is the outsize influence of Abrahamic faiths. Over 98 percent of Ugandans believe in a god, and 86 percent view religion as “very important” in their lives.⁵ Religion is critical to how communities organise socially and informs people’s views and political activism.⁶ This is by no means the only explanation. Uganda’s long-serving president has used homophobic rhetoric on several occasions in a populist ploy to shore up support – a move that members of his parliamentary party widely used before passing the latest anti-homosexuality legislation.⁷ Homophobia in Uganda is rewarded with anti-rights actors in the West providing logistical and financial support to efforts to restrict LGBTIQ+ rights and liberties.⁸

1.1 The Adoption of Agenda 2030 and LGBTIQ+ Rights in Uganda

At the adoption of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), all member states, including Uganda, pledged to ensure that no one will be left behind. They also pledged to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first. At the time of the adoption of Agenda 2030, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (or queer) (LGBTIQ+)

¹ S Nyanzi “Homosexuality in Uganda: The Paradox of Foreign Influence” (2013) MISR Working Paper No 14; S Nyanzi Dismantling Reified African culture through localised homosexualities in Uganda” (2013) African Studies Review 56(2)

² S Tamale “Confronting the Politics of Non-conforming Sexualities in Africa” (2013) African Studies Review 56(2)

³ Ibid

⁴ MR Kakumba “Uganda a continental extreme in rejection of people in same-sex relationships” 11 May 2023 Afrobarometer Dispatch No 639 accessed at <https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/AD639-Uganda-a-continental-extreme-in-rejection-of-people-in-same-sex-relationships-Afrobarometer-9may23-.pdf>

⁵ T Coggio “Helping the Hosts: In Uganda Religious Groups Connect Support for Local Communities with Refugee Response” Berkley Forum accessed at <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/responses/helping-the-hosts-in-uganda-religious-groups-connect-support-for-local-communities-with-refugee-response#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20Pew%20Research,their%20views%20and%20activism%20politically.>

⁶ Coggio ibid; Tamale note 2 supra

⁷ L Namubiru “The media must not give African leaders platforms to spout homophobia – it only helps their populism” 28 January 2021 OpenDemocracy accessed at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/the-media-must-not-give-african-leaders-platforms-to-spout-homophobia-it-only-helps-their-populism/>

⁸ S Tamale “Confronting the Politics of Non-conforming Sexualities in Africa” supra

persons were specifically singled out for exclusion from the text of Agenda 2030, with the then head of the working group tasked with developing the text stating that “gay rights were off the table.”⁹ The adoption of Agenda 2030 also came a few years after Uganda had enacted and then nullified the first iteration of the Anti-Homosexuality Act (AHA) in 2009 and 2014, respectively. Nonetheless, activists were fortified by the “leave no one behind” principle, hoping that countries would seek an inclusive and egalitarian approach to realising Agenda 2030 and progress on the SDGs. One of the features of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs is that they are interrelated and interdependent. Therefore, these goals must be read as reinforcing and complementing each other.¹⁰ Regress on one goal for vulnerable communities inevitably impedes progress on other goals.

1.2 Implementation of SDGs in Uganda

Uganda’s approach to implementing Agenda 2030 has aligned the SDGs Implementation Roadmap with its National Development Plan III (NDP III). It is guided by Vision 2040, which aims to transform Ugandan society from a peasant society to a modern and prosperous country.¹¹ The SDGs have been integrated into the NDP and the work of government Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs) and local governments. These MDAs and local governments are assessed regularly to measure the alignment of their plans to the SDGs. The government states that over 95 of the National Development Plan aligns with the SDG targets. The NDP seeks to, among other things, enhance the inclusion of “vulnerable and marginalised groups such as women and girls” and “bring about social transformation in the country.”¹²

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) functions as the SDG Secretariat and coordinates the realisation of Agenda 2030. The Secretariat supports, oversees, and harmonises efforts through SDG structures and systems of government. The implementation of the SDGs is guided by the SDG Roadmap 2020/21 – 2024/25, which is aligned to NDP III and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021 – 2025. The Roadmap provides strategies for the Secretariat to ensure effective SDG coordination and implementation of related and relevant government initiatives.

⁹ R Freedman “Why the new sustainable development goals should include LGBT rights” 22 May 2015 WEF accessed at <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/05/why-the-new-sustainable-development-goals-should-include-lgbt-rights/>

¹⁰ RB Swain (ed) Interlinkages between the Sustainable Development Goals (2023)

¹¹ National Planning Authority, (January, 2020), “Third National Development Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25”. Accessed at <https://budget.finance.go.ug/sites/default/files/NDPIII.pdf>

¹² Ibid


The institutional framework for implementing the SDGs in Uganda cascades down to the national and sub-national levels. Since 2019, the government has endeavoured to ensure the involvement of all layers of authority and the private sector in realizing Agenda 2030. The SDG Secretariat, the Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA), Urban Authorities Association of Uganda (UAAU), and the Uganda National NGO Forum have jointly undertaken advocacy engagements that have facilitated the participation of all actors up to the local government level. SDG focal persons in local governments liaise with the SDG Secretariat and SDG technical working groups to integrate the SDG agenda in their day-to-day activities. Currently, there are coordination platforms across numerous stakeholder mechanisms, including the National SDG Taskforce, the SDG Secretariat, the National Civil Society Organisations SDG Core Reference Group, Private Sector SDG Platform, Women and Gender Consortium, National Union for Persons with Disabilities and various youth umbrella organisations. Given how elaborate this coordination and implementation mechanism is, one would be hard-pressed to argue that the exclusion of the LGBTIQ+ community is inadvertent.

The High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the main United Nations platform for following up on and reviewing Agenda 2030. The HLPF provides political leadership, guidance, and recommendations for sustainable development and reviews progress in implementing it, aiming to integrate the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. This year's HLPF will focus on the following goals.

 **Goal 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere

 **Goal 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

 **Goal 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

 **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

 **Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

1.3 Uganda's Performance Towards Agenda 2030

According to the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the SDG Centre for Africa, Uganda is “more than 50 percent of the way towards achieving SDGs by 2030.” Uganda ranks 18th with an overall score of 54.88 compared to the regional average of 52.7 in 2020. In 2019, Uganda’s progress on the SDGs was ranked 140 out of 162 countries, with a global index score of 52.6 percent, declining from the 125th position out of 156 countries in 2018. Uganda’s achievement is “average”, with moderate performance on SDGs 3, 8, 9, 13 and 15, while SDGs 2, 5, and 6 have stagnated. The country is off-track in achieving SDGs 1, 11 and 16.

However, assessing Uganda’s progress toward the SDGs for LGBTIQ+ persons must be contextualised against the backdrop of the government’s repeated efforts to criminalise the very existence of this community. The government has twice passed legislation seeking to outlaw “the promotion or recognition of sexual relations between persons of the same sex.” The latest iteration of the Anti-Homosexuality Act (AHA) passed in 2023 was largely upheld by Uganda’s Constitutional Court in April 2024. The absence of official data on the number of LGBTIQ+ persons in Uganda due to the government’s refusal to collect this information on these identities further exacerbates the challenges of assessing the country’s goal to “leave no one behind.” It is difficult to measure any progress for a community which the government neither officially recognises nor seeks to incorporate into its programmes. The figures available are those of key populations, which are estimated to be around 300,000, of whom 130,000 are female sex workers, 22,000 are men who have sex with men, 7,500 are people who inject drugs, and more than 150,000 are people in prison.¹³ This figure is most likely to be a gross underestimation owing to the legal, policy and socio-cultural restrictions that deter accurate data collection for this particular demographic and, unfortunately, does not include individuals who identify as members of the LGBTIQ+ community.¹⁴ This is quite ironic given that the NDP III has adopted a human rights-based approach (HRBA) with specific attention to equality, non-discrimination, empowerment and participation and attention to “vulnerable groups.” All sectors, MDAs and local governments are expected to adopt HRBA in their plans, programmes, policies and legislation.

¹³ Remarks by the Ambassador Natalie E Brown of the Uganda HIV/AIDS Legal Environment Assessment for Key Populations Report Launch accessed at <https://ug.usembassy.gov/uganda-hiv-aids-legal-environment-assessment-for-key-populations-report-launch-friday-september-2-2022/>

¹⁴ Ibid; ‘Limited support for key populations undermines Ugandan HIV control’ accessed at <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5460bd974.html>

1.4 Normative frameworks

Since the SDGs are neither binding nor self-executing, they can only be enforced through legislation and policy measures complemented by regional and international frameworks. The SDGs can only be realised through an enabling, inclusive normative framework that facilitates the ability of all people to realise their potential. Any government failure to facilitate this process must be subjected to parliamentary oversight and judicial scrutiny to determine whether it abides by the country's national and international obligations. Uganda's international, regional, and domestic normative frameworks largely require the country to abide by the principles of equality and non-discrimination in its treatment and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ persons in government programmes. However, these commitments have been undone by the enactment of the AHA. The table below indicates part of the international, regional and domestic normative framework relevant to implementing the SDGs and realising Agenda 2030 for LGBTIQ+ persons in Uganda.

International frameworks
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
International Covenant on Economic Social, and Cultural Rights
Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
Convention on the Rights of the Child
Convention Concerning Occupational Safety and Health and the Working Environment
Convention against Discrimination in Education
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees
Paris Agreement on Climate Change
The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
The Kyoto Protocol

Regional frameworks
African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa
Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
Sub-regional laws
Treaty Establishing the East African Community
The East African Community HIV/AIDS Prevention Act
National legislation
The 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda
HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control Act
Registration of Persons Act
Climate Change Act
Equal Opportunities Commission Act
Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act
Landlord and Tenant Act
Non-Governmental Organisations Act
Anti-Homosexuality Act
Uganda Registration Services Bureau Act
The Public Finance Management Act
The Computer Misuse Act
Anti-Money Laundering Act

The bulk of Uganda's international and regional commitments require the government to guarantee civil, political, economic, social, cultural and group rights to all citizens without discrimination and on the basis of equality and human dignity. These principles of non-discrimination must be applied across the full gamut of the 17 SDGs. The country's domestic framework largely mirrors its international obligations. The 1995 Constitution engenders the government to guarantee equality, freedom from discrimination, and human dignity. This extends to public finance management, where the Public Finance Management Act requires gender-equality budgeting. All government entities, including those responsible for registering civil society groups, such as the Uganda Registration of Services Bureau and the NGO Bureau, adhere to fairness, dignity, equality and non-discrimination. According to several High Court rulings discussed later in the report, these rights apply to all persons in Uganda, including LGBTIQ+ persons.

1.4.1 The Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2023

The provisions and guarantees in Uganda's domestic, regional and international frameworks have now been turned on their head by enacting the AHA in 2023. The AHA hangs over Uganda's LGBTIQ+ community like the sword of Damocles. It is used as a tool by the government and law enforcement to harass, arrest, detain, persecute, evict, dismiss from employment, extort, physically brutalise LGBTIQ+ persons and shut down their organisations. The law is a broad-sweeping piece of legislation designed to, among others, prohibit any form of sexual relations between persons of the same sex; to prohibit the promotion or recognition of sexual relations between persons of the same sex, among others. It also provides for the death penalty for what it terms 'aggravated homosexuality', which is 'homosexuality' with a child or a repeat conviction for 'homosexuality' or 'homosexuality' by a relative, among others. It also seeks to punish 'promotion of homosexuality', which is defined widely to include activities that seek to 'normalise' homosexuality, and this is sought to be punishable by 20 years' imprisonment and, for organisations, a fine of up to one billion Uganda shillings (about USD 267,500) as well as revocation of license for LGBTIQ+ or allied organisations. It also seeks to impose reporting obligations on anyone who knows or reasonably suspects someone to be engaged in or about to commit 'homosexuality', and waives professional requirements for confidentiality for professionals who report LGBTIQ+ persons to law enforcement.

The law was enacted through a swift and non-consultative process that denied the public the opportunity to make meaningful and substantive contributions to the legislation. Its stated objective is the elimination of non-heteronormative sex, sexuality and gender identity. In an unsurprising decision premised on shaky and contradictory reasoning, the Constitutional Court upheld the law. It relegated LGBTIQ+ persons to second-class citizenship without the protection of the law from government intrusion.¹⁵ That is the theme running through this spotlight report: that legislated and judicially sanctioned homophobia impedes and reverses progress towards the realisation of Agenda 2030 for LGBTIQ+ persons in Uganda.

¹⁵ N Muhumuza "Why Uganda's LGBTIQ+ court ruling is a stain on the country and the continent" 11 April 2024 AfricLaw accessed at <https://africlaw.com/2024/04/11/why-ugandas-LGBTIQ+-court-ruling-is-a-stain-on-the-country-and-the-continent/#:~:text=In%20paragraph%20396%2C%20the%20Con,safety%20of%20their%20private%20dwellings.>



2.0. Methodology

The report employed qualitative methods to extract, collate and document necessary data. A comprehensive desk review of both primary and secondary sources was conducted. The lives, threats, progress and survival of LGBTIQ+ persons in Uganda have been the subject of considerable literature authored by individuals and organisations. The report also utilised a participatory and collaborative approach. In-depth, semi-structured key-informant interviews were also conducted to speak to individual and organisational experiences working to implement the SDGs. The interviewees were identified and pre-selected based on their familiarity with the landscape of LGBTIQ+ persons in Uganda. Interviewees were given the option of either remaining anonymous or going on the record in some form to for safety and security purposes.

2.1. Validation meeting

A validation meeting was convened and held in Kampala involving participants from several LGBTIQ+ organisations across the country. The meeting sought to elicit participants' views on the form and content of the report, and it was an opportunity for them to make recommendations and make the necessary amendments. Participants were also introduced to the HLPF and VNR. Participants raised several issues, including:

- The short and long-term impact of the AHA is doing immense damage to the lives of LGBTIQ+ persons and organisations. The harassment, physical attacks, detention, raids, murder of LGBTIQ+ persons and closure of their organisations have ramped up. In a tragic twist, it was revealed that law enforcement often uses evidence of possession of sexual and reproductive health products such as condoms and lubricants, including those distributed by the government, as evidence against LGBTIQ+ persons.
- There is a need to scale up the production and dissemination, where it is safe and appropriate to do so, of CSO-generated accurate and up-to-date data to mitigate the government's omission to collect official statistics. LGBTIQ+ CSO organisations have been vibrant in the generation of empirical data regarding the socio-economic and political condition of their constituency.
- There is a need to provide healthcare services holistically and comprehensively. The government's focus on the provision of healthcare for LGBTIQ+ persons is narrowly confined to the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention and control. Questions about how affirming this care is were also raised. Health requires governments to create conditions where

everyone can be as healthy as possible. These include ensuring the availability of health services, healthy and safe working conditions, adequate housing and nutritious food.

- The imminent threat of climate change. Participants observed that the effects of a warmer planet will be felt more acutely by already vulnerable populations and communities. However, owing to the daily “bread and butter” struggles of LGBTIQ+ communities, civil society in Uganda has not deeply and meaningfully engaged with this issue. It was also revealed that funding partners are not keen on funding ostensibly remote programmes. Participants agreed to the need to integrate climate action in their work.
- Participants observed that the AHA has reversed the gains registered in engaging government institutions, including law enforcement. “Friendly” persons and institutions are unwilling to openly engage persons and organisations for fear of backlash and potentially violating the AHA.

Participants resolved to continue mobilising, organising, and advocating for the repeal of the AHA and for the recognition of their rights as guaranteed by the Constitution. The safety, security, and wellness of the LGBTIQ+ community remain of paramount importance in the short and long term. Most of the recommendations in the report are from the participants who attended this meeting. The meeting resolved that there would be sustained engagement and involvement in Uganda’s HLPF and the VNR process in the future.

2.2. Limitations

Drafting and publishing this report in the shadow of the AHA posed serious concerns for the organisations and individuals approached to give their input. The research process could potentially violate the AHA’s prohibition against “promoting homosexuality.” This severely limited the number of persons who could be interviewed for this study and certainly excluded government officials from being in the process. The other limitation is the unavailability of official government data. In 2019, official data was available for only 46.3 percent of SDG indicators applicable to Uganda’s context. By 2022, the number of indicators for which data is available had increased to 59 per cent. The legal, policy and social environment in the country makes it impossible to have official, accurate, up-to-date empirical data on LGBTIQ+ persons. While the United Nations has emphasised the importance of data in tracking progress on Agenda 2030, Uganda does not officially collect such data on LGBTIQ+ persons. Owing to time and resource constraints, the report authors did not traverse the entire country, collecting data and documenting the experiences of a representative sample in Uganda.

3.0. Assessing Uganda's Progress: LGBTIQ+ Persons' Legal Right to Exist in Uganda

"LGBTIQ+ persons are not wanted anywhere with the enactment of the AHA"¹⁶

As highlighted already, the government passed an Anti-Homosexuality Act (AHA) in 2014 seeking to "prohibit any form of sexual relations between persons of the same-sex and the promotion or recognition of such sexual relations in public institutions and other places through or with the support of any Government entity in Uganda or any non-governmental organisation inside or outside the country."¹⁷ The country's Constitutional Court later annulled that law because Parliament had passed it without a quorum.¹⁸ In 2023, Uganda's Parliament hastily reviewed and passed another version of the Anti-Homosexuality Act on a similar premise, that is, "to prohibit any form of sexual relations between persons of the same sex; to prohibit the promotion or recognition of sexual relations between persons of the same sex, among others."¹⁹

Although other discriminatory laws and policies existed before the enactment of the AHA 2023, that law crystallised the official Uganda government position on LGBTIQ+ persons that they do not enjoy the same citizenship and constitutional rights as their heterosexual counterparts.²⁰ The Constitutional Court reiterated this position in April 2024 when it upheld the law, finding that LGBTIQ+ persons were not entitled to the protection of their rights to equality, dignity, freedom from discrimination, and freedom from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, among other elementary constitutional protections.²¹ That being the official government position upheld by the judiciary, it is difficult to speak of any progress towards Agenda 2030.

¹⁶ Interview with Leticia Opio Sam, Founder and Executive Director of QYU

¹⁷ See Long Title of The Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2014

¹⁸ "Uganda constitutional court annuls anti-homosexuality law" The EastAfrican 1 August 2014 accessed at .

¹⁹ Long Title of the Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2023

²⁰ Interview with Betty Balisalamu, Executive Director of Women With A Mission

²¹ B Kabumba "Uganda's Dred Scott v Sandford: Unpacking the real constitutional damage wrought by the decision in Fox Odoi and Others v Attorney General" 15 May 2024 The Observer accessed at <https://www.observer.ug/index.php/view-point/81323-uganda-s-dred-scott-v-sandford-unpacking-the-real-constitutional-damage-wrought-by-the-decision-in-fox-odoi-and-others-v-attorney-general>

3.1. Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Targets

- By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030, achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance
- By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

Uganda's Nutrient Action Plan 2020/21 – 2024/5 aims to secure a well-nourished, healthy and productive population participating in the country's socio-economic transformation. The government of Uganda does not recognise the legal existence of LGBTIQ+ persons and communities. As such, these persons are deliberately excluded from poverty eradication programmes and initiatives. Discrimination leads to poverty, and poverty compounds stigmatisation. Runeborg observes that deprivation based on non-conforming sexuality is a dimension of poverty, producing poverty-related outcomes, from social exclusion and physical insecurity to greater vulnerability to disease, hunger and death.²² Excluding any group of people from economic participation is bound to exacerbate that group's material vulnerabilities and undermine any progress towards eradicating poverty in all its forms. The AHA is linked to the eviction of LGBTIQ+ persons, with 614 individuals having been displaced from their homes and land and property between March 2023, when the law was first tabled, to April 2024, affecting their accessibility to food and adequate nutrition.²³

²² A Runeborg "Sexuality: A missing dimension in development. Stockholm" Swedish International Development Agency (2008)

²³ SRT Report 2023 - 2024

Uganda's LGBTIQ+ community faces deepened poverty and inequality based on their sexual orientation.²⁴ Unemployment and systemic exclusion from government services are some of the most common challenges faced by LGBTIQ+ persons in the country, mainly due to state-fuelled homophobia.²⁵ LGBTIQ+ persons are locked out of the government's development initiatives, such as the *Emyooga* Programme and the Parish Development Programme.²⁶ (*Emyooga* is a microfinance financial inclusion programme established by the government of Uganda to facilitate the socio-economic transformation of households from subsistence to the money economy and market-oriented production.²⁷) Discrimination against LGBTIQ+ persons is not just an individual challenge but a developmental one as well because of the substantial social, political and economic costs that are attendant to the exclusion of entire groups of people.²⁸ The government's SDG framework restricts its definition of marginalised and vulnerable communities to the elderly, rural communities, women, and girls. This exclusion starkly contrasts the SDGs' premise of 'leave no one behind.' As one respondent stated

"The government's intentions do not match their actions on the eradication of poverty. There has been no effort to include LGBTIQ+ organisations in poverty eradication programmes due to the enactment of the Anti-Homosexuality Act. The attitude alone can shut you down. All care and concern is about your bedroom issues."²⁹

Although some respondents reported that their organisations had economic empowerment programmes for the LGBTIQ+ community in place, the impact of these measures is difficult to assess on a broad scale without government sanction. Since Uganda does not recognise the existence of LGBTIQ+ persons, there are no official disaggregated data on poverty levels within the community, making more likely that they will fall through the cracks. This situation is worsened by the ostracisation of members of the community by their families - who would otherwise be their social safety nets.³⁰

²⁴ KS Wepukhulu "The World Bank funding freeze will harm the queer Ugandans it claims to defend" 15 August 2023 OpenDemocracy accessed at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/world-bank-uganda-lending-anti-homosexuality-act/>; Amnesty International "Making Love a Crime: Criminalisation of Same-Sex Conduct in Sub-Saharan Africa" (2013) at 61-63.

²⁵ KS Wepukhulu "The World Bank funding freeze will harm the queer Ugandans it claims to defend" 15 August 2023 OpenDemocracy accessed at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/world-bank-uganda-lending-anti-homosexuality-act/>

²⁶ Interview with Sam Opio Leticia, Executive Director and Founder, QYU.

²⁷ See <https://www.msc.co.ug/program-objectives/#::-text=Emyooga.To%20increase%20employment%20opportunities>

²⁸ The World Bank "Inclusion Matters: The Foundation for Shared Prosperity" (2013)

²⁹ Interview with Sam Opio Leticia, Executive Director and Founder, QYU

³⁰ A Okille & C Byarugaba "A Baseline Study of the Perceptions and Experiences of Parents, Families and their Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) Children in Uganda" accessed at https://www.kuchutimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/chapter-4_Report-V6.pdf

3.2. Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Targets

- By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

LGBTIQ+ persons experience higher rates of food insecurity compared to heterosexual individuals. One respondent observed that their organisation is working to alleviate the impact of famine in Greater Northern Uganda. Without state help, these efforts, crucial as they are, will remain a drop in the bucket. Reports have indicated an increase in food insecurity since the enactment of the AHA, although exact figures are difficult to trace.³¹ Uganda already suffers from high levels of food insecurity, which the 2022 Global Hunger Index describes as “serious.”³² This presents a double jeopardy for the LGBTIQ+ community in Uganda. Having already been locked out of economic and social opportunities, many rely on handouts and assistance from individuals and organisations whose capacity cannot meet their needs. The criminalisation of the ‘promotion of homosexuality’ has prompted fears that those providing services to LGBTIQ+ people could find themselves in trouble.³³

The cruelty of Uganda’s AHA lies in the fact that it is designed to completely strangulate the metaphorical and literal life out of the country’s LGBTIQ+ community. Providing food and other material assistance to LGBTIQ+ persons can potentially be construed as promoting homosexuality under the law, attracting financial and custodial penalties.³⁴ Unfortunately, the Constitutional Court upheld this broad and uncalibrated provision despite its likely absurd and cruel results. The reaction from the country’s development partners, including the World Bank, who froze some of the country’s expected funding, will likely push vulnerable and poor communities – many of whom are members of the LGBTIQ+ community – into more profound socio-economic insecurity.³⁵

³¹ E Mutebi “One year later: the ongoing struggle of LGBTIQ+ community under the Anti-Homosexuality Act in Uganda” 30 May 2024 bond accessed at <https://www.bond.org.uk/news/2024/05/one-year-later-the-ongoing-struggle-of-LGBTIQ+-community-under-the-anti-homosexuality-act-in-uganda/>; “LGBTIQ+ Ugandans live in fear as new law looms” Reuters April 24 2023 accessed at <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/LGBTIQ+-ugandans-live-fear-new-law-looms-2023-04-24/>

³² Global Hunger Index “Uganda” accessed at <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/uganda.html>

³³ A Mandavilli “With Harsh Anti-L.G.B.T.Q. Law, Uganda Risks a Health Crisis” 19 January 2024 The New York Times accessed at <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/19/health/uganda-LGBTIQ+-hiv.html>

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ KS Wepukhulu “The World Bank funding freeze will harm the queer Ugandans it claims to defend” supra

3.3. Goal 13 Climate action: take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Targets

- Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related disasters
- Build knowledge and capacity to meet climate change
- Integrate climate change measures into policies and planning
- Implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Promote Mechanisms to raise capacity for planning and management

Uganda is making strides in combating climate change. In 2021, the country enacted the Climate Change Act. The law incorporates the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol into Uganda's legislative framework. It also provides for a range of climate change response measures and establishes a mechanism for measuring the country's emissions. This is in addition to institutional arrangements for coordinating and implementing climate change response measures. The Uganda government estimates it needs about \$2.9 billion over the next 15 years to operationalise its climate change response, yet the current funding levels are woefully inadequate.³⁶

LGBTIQ+ communities are disproportionately affected by the environmental effects of a warmer planet because of the double tragedy that vulnerable and marginalised communities face increased levels of homophobia, sexism and classism. In Uganda, where LGBTIQ+ communities already face disenfranchisement and discrimination, their adaptive capacity is severely compromised. They are among the groups least prepared to recover from the severe effects of the climate crisis. They also suffer from violations of omission as the government does not research the health disparities caused by environmental degradation, and any such studies are potentially prohibited under the AHA.

The enactment of AHA will likely impact Uganda's ability to respond to climate change in another way: potential funders of the country's renewable energy programmes will likely hesitate to invest, following the lead of Western governments and institutions, as discussed above.

³⁶ See the Costed Adaptation Strategy of the National Climate Change Policy cited in FAO "Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans Programme: Uganda" 2020 accessed at https://www.adaptation-undp.org/sites/default/files/resources/case_study_uganda_120721.pdf

3.4. SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions

Targets

- Mobilize resources to improve domestic revenue collection
- Implement all development assistance commitments
- Invest in least development countries
- Knowledge sharing and cooperation for access to science, technology and innovation
- Promote sustainable technologies to developing countries
- Strengthen the science, technology and innovation capacity for least developed countries
- Enhance SDG capacity in developing countries

According to the UN, this goal seeks the development of peaceful and inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. It seeks to protect people from all forms of violence and allow them to feel safe to live their lives, regardless of who they are or how they identify. Respect for human rights, access to justice, and the provision of remedies are essential to the realisation of the targets of this goal.

Owing to the well-documented history of violence and abuses by the state, and its failure to address violations by private actors, the country has established several tiered mechanisms to remedy human rights violations underpinned by a robust normative framework. Unfortunately, for LGBTIQ+ persons, the promise of these mechanisms is a dream that has not come to fruition. In the late 2000s, two cases were litigated that appeared to give sexual and gender minorities hope that Uganda's institutions existed to protect everyone.

However, progress on this goal appears to be far from realised, as one respondent observes that:

“Sexual minorities have been left behind on each goal... LGBTIQ+ persons suffer summary dismissal from employment; there are inequalities in the investigation of intimate partner violence (IPV) cases where transgender victims end up being arrested. The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) had to be forced to uphold a ruling on including minorities.”³⁷

Numerous reports, academic papers, and grey literature have documented the violations suffered by LGBTIQ+ persons, organisations, and allies in Uganda. However, the government does not keep any data on these

³⁷ Interview with Betty Balisalamu

incidents. Based on the targets under this goal, one is constrained to suggest that Uganda has registered any progress towards the realisation of peace, justice and strong institutions. While the country does boast of specialised mechanisms to address these violations, their effectiveness in moving the needle on legalised homophobia is difficult to quantify. For instance, some law enforcement agencies have, through training by civil society, determined that LGBTIQ+ persons deserve legal representation whenever they are arrested. Ideally, individuals should not face arrest simply for living their lives. One lawyer who works with an organisation that provides legal services to LGBTIQ+ persons has observed that:

“When a police officer calls us to say, ‘we have your people here, come and give them legal representation’, we see that they are at least trying to understand that this community requires support. This is not a justification for daily violence against LGBTI people at the hands of the police. Though police officers are in tricky positions. They often say that they only uphold the law as it is written and that it is up to us to go to court and fight the law if we disagree with it.”³⁸

3.4.1. The Courts

The Constitution mandates Uganda’s courts to dispense justice in the name of the people and conformity with the law and with the people’s values, norms, and aspirations.³⁹ In adjudicating disputes, courts must ensure justice “to all irrespective of their social or economic status.” LGBTIQ+ persons and organisations have sought relief through the courts on several occasions following the violation of their rights. The courts sought to protect and guarantee their rights on just a few of these occasions.

In the case of *Victor Mukasa and another v Attorney General*, the Court held that government officials violated the plaintiff’s constitutional rights by illegally raiding their home without a search warrant, seizing documents related to work for the human rights of LGBTIQ+ persons, and illegally arresting a guest present at the plaintiff’s home during the raid.⁴⁰ In *Kasha Jacqueline, David Kato Kisule & Onziema Patience v Rolling Stone and another*⁴¹, the applicants successfully filed a complaint to the High Court challenging the publication of an article by the respondents with the title “100 Pictures of Uganda’s top homos leak”. The article falsely accused the gay community of trying to recruit “very young kids” and “brainwash them towards bisexual

³⁸ P Kimera “I’ve defended hundreds of LGBTI people arrested in Uganda. Our laws must change – but we need public acceptance too” OpenDemocracy, supra

³⁹ See Article 126(1) of the Constitution

⁴⁰ [2020] UGHCCD 110 accessed at <https://ulii.org/akn/ug/judgment/ughccd/2020/110/eng@2020-05-15>

⁴¹ Miscellaneous Cause No 163 of 2010 accessed at <https://icj2.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Kasha-Jacqueline-David-Kato-Kisule-and-Onziema-Patience-v.-Rolling-Stone-Ltd-and-Giles-Muhame-High-Court-of-Uganda-at-Kampala.pdf>

orientation” and advocated for severe actions against homosexuals.⁴² The Court found that the respondents had violated the applicants’ constitutional rights. Both cases involved nationally and internationally renowned LGBTIQ+ persons and activists with the financial and public profile necessary to sustain such a challenge.

In *Adrian Jjuuko v Attorney General*, the Constitutional Court adjudicated a challenge to the EOC Act.⁴³ This Act had sought to limit the EOC from investigating complaints of persons considered to be immoral, harmful, or unacceptable. The Constitutional Court ruled that this restriction violated the constitutional provisions on the right to a fair hearing. The Court reasoned that the rationale of the EOC Act was to address issues of marginalisation, discrimination, injustice, exclusion, unfairness, and inequality in access to resources, services and benefits and to ensure the inclusion of certain groups in society that were marginalised and discriminated against based on gender, age, disability or other reasons created by history, custom and other attributes.

However, on other occasions, courts have sanctioned the discrimination of LGBTIQ+ persons on very spurious grounds and logic. In *Kasha Jacqueline and Others v Attorney General*, the High Court ruled that police and other law enforcement agencies were justified in their interruption and closure of a meeting organised by LGBTIQ+ civil society organisations.⁴⁴ The Court reasoned that those police acted “in the public interest” because, in exercising their rights, the applicants were perceived as promoting homosexual practices, deemed to be immoral.

This same specious reasoning was the Constitutional Court’s justification for upholding the AHA. The decision has been described as Uganda’s *Dred Scott*, as it strips LGBTIQ+ persons of all constitutional and citizenship rights protections. It also sets a dangerous precedent for the rest of the lower courts.⁴⁵ As a setback of progress towards Agenda 2030, this decision negates any and all gains registered by LGBTIQ+ persons and organisations, legalising discrimination and potentially legitimising harmful practices such as conversion therapy.

⁴² The Guardian, Xan Rice, (21st October, 2010), “Ugandan Paper Calls for Gay People to be Hanged”. Accessed at https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/oct/21/ugandan-paper-gay-people-hanged?CMP=share_btn_url

⁴³ Constitutional Petition No 1 of 2009

⁴⁴ (Misc. Cause No.O33 of 2012) [2014] UGHCCD 85 (24 June 2014)

⁴⁵ B Kabumba “Uganda’s *Dred Scott v Sandford*: Unpacking the real constitutional damage wrought by the decision in *Fox Odoi and Others v Attorney General*” supra

3.4.2. The NGO Bureau

LGBTIQ+ civil society in Uganda continues to thrive and remain vibrant despite the government's best efforts. However, some organisations have been forced to operate underground. The National Bureau for Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO Bureau), established under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, is mandated to register, regulate, monitor, inspect, coordinate and oversee all NGO activities in the country. The NGO Bureau has recently tightened the noose around LGBTIQ+ and allied organisations, directly striking at the heart of LGBTIQ+ movement building and organising. In 2022, one of Uganda's oldest LGBTIQ+ organisations was shut down under the pretext of not registering with the NGO Bureau, contrary to the provisions of the NGO Act.⁴⁶ Several organisations have had their offices raided. In other cases, state operatives have covertly sought to entrap service providers to build evidence that may be used to shatter those organisations.

3.4.3. Equal Opportunities Commission

The Equal Opportunities Commission is a statutory body created by the EOC Act to operationalise articles 32(3) and 32(4) of the Constitution.⁴⁷ It is mandated to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against individuals and courts on the grounds of sex, age, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability, and take affirmative action in favour of groups marginalised on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by *history, tradition or custom* for redressing imbalances which exist against them. Although the Commission was inaugurated in 2010, to date, it has not yet addressed any of the reported violations of LGBTIQ+ rights that are within the public sphere. In an era of legislated and judicially sanctioned homophobia, it is difficult to see whether the Commission will be courageous and buck the trend and effects that the enactment of the AHA has caused.

⁴⁶ NGO Bureau "Statement on Halting the Operations of Sexual Minorities Uganda" 5th August 2022 accessed at <https://ngobureau.go.ug/en/news-and-notice/statement-on-halting-the-operations-of-sexual-minorities-uganda>

⁴⁷ 32. Affirmative action in favour of marginalised groups

1. Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, the State shall take affirmative action in favour of groups marginalised on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom, for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them.
2. Laws, cultures, customs and traditions which are against the dignity, welfare or interest of women or any other marginalised group to which clause (1) relates or which undermine their status, are prohibited by this Constitution.
3. There shall be a Commission called the Equal Opportunities Commission whose composition and functions shall be determined by an Act of Parliament.
4. The Equal Opportunities Commission shall be established within one year after the coming into force of the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2005.
5. Parliament shall make laws for the purpose of giving full effect to this article.

3.5. SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

Targets

- Implement all development assistance commitments
- Knowledge sharing and cooperation for access to science, technology and innovation
- Strengthen the science, technology and innovation capacity for least-developed countries
- Enhance SDG capacity in developing countries

International bilateral and multilateral collaboration has been the hallmark of international relations for the last century. Unfortunately, the benefits of state cooperation have not always been distributed equally. Global north countries have benefited more from the prevailing international and economic system than their global south counterparts. This state of affairs is also reflected in how vulnerable groups are treated, particularly in Africa. Realising Agenda 2030 for countries like Uganda requires robust but mutually beneficial collaboration between governments, civil society, the private sector, the UN and other actors mobilising all available resources. As the targets under this goal indicate, technology transfer and foreign direct investment (FDI) are all key to the realisation of Agenda 2030. The World Bank is the country's biggest lender, and Uganda owes over a third of its public debt to it.

LGBTIQ+ communities in Uganda have been reliant on local and international assistance since the movement gained momentum at the turn of the 21st century. The international community has funded LGBTIQ+ communities to address the needs of grassroots communities. This is especially so in the area of health, enhancing the capacities of organisations and individuals to serve their constituents better. Foreign donors contribute more than 50 percent of Uganda's health sector funding.

In the wake of the AHA's enactment, the World Bank suspended all new funding to Uganda. The US government expelled Uganda from its African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) programme. It redirected \$5 million in funding from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) from the Uganda government to NGOs. Questions have been raised about how Uganda's international partners should react to the AHA – particularly regarding whether they should reformulate their approach and if and how they reorient their funding to public work. Up to 150 civil society organisations worldwide – including some from Uganda – called on the World Bank to stop current and future lending to Uganda until the AHA is annulled or repealed.

The AHA criminalises the “promotion of homosexuality.” It imposes up to 20 years imprisonment for any act by a person or entity that “promotes” LGBTIQ+ issues and imposes a penalty for the provision of financial support to “facilitate activities that encourage homosexuality or observance or normalisation of conduct prohibited” under the law. This provision prohibits any support seen as encouraging or promoting LGBTIQ+ rights. Whereas the Constitutional Court, in its AHA ruling, was at pains to stress that international donor funding for the health sector, only a naïve and misguided interpretation reading of the law and the judgment would permit such an interpretation. Several other pieces of legislation are designed to strike at the heart of LGBTIQ+ civil society organising and have been used to this effect. These include the Public Order Management Act, the Computer Misuse Act and the Anti-Money Laundering Act. These legislations have been used to restrict funding, impede the transfer and use of newer technologies, and undermine social cohesion, which has eroded public trust, making it hard to forge the necessary alliances to achieve SDG 17 and Agenda 2030. As long as these laws remain in force, it is inconceivable that Uganda can record any progress toward this goal.



4.0 Conclusion

This report has examined Uganda's progress towards implementing the SDGs and the realization of Agenda 2030, particularly concerning LGBTIQ+ persons. With just 6 years to go to the conclusion of Agenda 2030, the report has found that despite Uganda's commitment to "leave no one behind" and to "reach the furthest behind first," the country is off-track in implementing these lofty goals for LGBTIQ+ individuals and communities. Through several pieces of legislation, particularly the AHA, Uganda has officially legislated a strident form of homophobia in its national framework. Unfortunately, the Constitutional Court has upheld this legislation. Any progress that has thus far been registered regarding the 5 goals under review will, at best, stagnate or be reversed.



5.0. Recommendations to government

- Immediately nullify the AHA and amend other similarly-oriented legislation that has been used to violate and infringe the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons and organisations
- Collect accurate, up-to-date disaggregated data regarding LGBTIQ+ persons and communities and incorporate it into the government's policy formulation process.
- Proactively engage LGBTIQ+ persons and organisations in socio-economic programmes to alleviate their living conditions. These include initiatives related to improving health, nutrition, climate action, poverty and hunger eradication
- Refrain from the violation of LGBTIQ+ persons and organisations including an immediate stop to raids, arrests, extortion, and prosecution of individuals and organisations based on sexual orientation
- Take legislative and administrative steps to ensure that individuals and entities whose rights have been violated can access reparative justice and those responsible are held accountable
- Conduct public awareness campaigns aimed at combatting stigma related to LGBTIQ+ persons

Selected References

“Uganda constitutional court annuls anti-homosexuality law” The EastAfrican 1 August 2014 accessed at <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/news/east-africa/uganda-constitutional-court-annuls-anti-homosexuality-law-1326926>

“What’s happened to services for key populations in Uganda following the Anti-Homosexuality Act?” 1 August 2023, accessed at <https://www.aidsmap.com/news/aug-2023/whats-happened-services-key-populations-uganda-following-anti-homosexuality-act>

A Runeborg “Sexuality: A missing dimension in development. Stockholm” Swedish International Development Agency (2008)

A Mandavilli “With Harsh Anti-L.G.B.T.Q. Law, Uganda Risks a Health Crisis” 19 January 2024 *The New York Times* accessed at <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/19/health/uganda-LGBTIQ+-hiv.html>

A Okille & C Byarugaba “A Baseline Study of the Perceptions and Experiences of Parents, Families and their Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) Children in Uganda” accessed at https://www.kuchutimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/chapter-4_Report-V6.pdf

A Okille & C Byarugaba “A Baseline Study of the Perceptions and Experiences of Parents, Families and their Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) Children in Uganda”

Amnesty International “Making Love a Crime: Criminalisation of Same-Sex Conduct in Sub-Saharan Africa” (2013) at 61-63

B Kabumba “Uganda’s Dred Scott v Sandford: Unpacking the real constitutional damage wrought by the decision in Fox Odoi and Others v Attorney General” 15 May 2024 *The Observer* accessed at <https://www.observer.ug/index.php/viewpoint/81323-uganda-s-dred-scott-v-sandford-unpacking-the-real-constitutional-damage-wrought-by-the-decision-in-fox-odoi-and-others-v-attorney-general>

E Mutebi “One year later: the ongoing struggle of LGBTIQ+ community under the Anti-Homosexuality Act in Uganda” 30 May 2024 *bond* accessed at <https://www.bond.org.uk/news/2024/05/one-year-later-the-ongoing-struggle-of-LGBTIQ+-community-under-the-anti-homosexuality-act-in-uganda/>;

F L'Opez "I have to lie low. I'm totally on edge': Uganda's club scene fears anti-gay law" 29 March 2023 *The Guardian* accessed at <https://www.theguardian.com/music/2023/mar/29/ugandan-musicians-fear-anti-gay-law>

K Duplan "What Would an Inclusive City for Gender and Sexual Minorities Be Like? You Need to Ask Queer Folx!" *Social Inclusion* (ISSN: 2183-2803) 2023, Volume 11, Issue 3, Pages 138-149

K Lay "Threats, accusations and assault: the dangers of running an LGBTIQ+ health clinic in Uganda" 1 May 2024 *The Guardian* accessed at <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2024/may/01/LGBTIQ+-health-clinic-uganda-anti-gay-law>

KS Wepukhulu "The World Bank funding freeze will harm the queer Ugandans it claims to defend" 15 August 2023 *OpenDemocracy* accessed at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/world-bank-uganda-lending-anti-homosexuality-act/>

L Namubiru "The media must not give African leaders platforms to spout homophobia - it only helps their populism" 28 January 2021 *OpenDemocracy* accessed at <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/the-media-must-not-give-african-leaders-platforms-to-spout-homophobia-it-only-helps-their-populism/>

M Frisch "Planning as a Heterosexist Project" 2002 *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 21: 254

MR Kakumba "Uganda a continental extreme in rejection of people in same-sex relationships" 11 May 2023 *Afrobarometer Dispatch No 639* accessed at <https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/AD639-Uganda-a-continental-extreme-in-rejection-of-people-in-same-sex-relationships-Afrobarometer-9may23-.pdf>

National Planning Authority "Third National Development Plan 2020/21 - 2024/25" (2020)

NGO Bureau "Statement on Halting the Operations of Sexual Minorities Uganda" 5th August 2022 accessed at <https://ngobureau.go.ug/en/news-and-notice/statement-on-halting-the-operations-of-sexual-minorities-uganda>

P Catterall & A Azzouz "The queer city: how to design more inclusive public space" *The Conversation* 7 June 2021 accessed at <https://theconversation.com/the-queer-city-how-to-design-more-inclusive-public-space-161088>

P Kimera “I’ve defended hundreds of LGBTI people arrested in Uganda. Our laws must change – but we need public acceptance too”
OpenDemocracy

R Freedman “Why the new sustainable development goals should include LGBT rights” 22 May 2015 WEF accessed at <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/05/why-the-new-sustainable-development-goals-should-include-lgbt-rights/>

RB Swain (ed) *Interlinkages between the Sustainable Development Goals* (2023)

S Nyanzi “Homosexuality in Uganda: The Paradox of Foreign Influence” (2013) *MISR Working Paper No 14*;

S Nyanzi “Dismantling Reified African culture through localised homsexualities in Uganda” (2013) *African Studies Review* 56(2)

Stella Nyanzi (2013) “*Homosexuality, Sex Work, and HIV/AIDS in Displacement and Post-Conflict Settings: The Case of Refugees in Uganda*,” *International Peacekeeping*, 20:4, 450-468, DOI: 10.1080/13533312.2013.846136

S Tamale “Confronting the Politics of Non-conforming Sexualities in Africa” (2013) *African Studies Review* 56(2)

T Coggio “Helping the Hosts: In Uganda Religious Groups Connect Support for Local Communities with Refugee Response” Berkley Forum accessed at <https://berkleycenter.georgetown.edu/responses/helping-the-hosts-in-uganda-religious-groups-connect-support-for-local-communities-with-refugee-response#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20Pew%20Research,their%20views%20and%20activism%20politically.>

The World Bank “Inclusion Matters: The Foundation for Shared Prosperity” (2013)

Annex

Organisation	City
Upendo Rights Advocacy Initiative	Malaba
West Nile Rainbow Initiative	Arua
Queer Youth Uganda	Kampala
ALEFA	Gulu
Lived Realities	Jinja
Ice Breakers Uganda	Kampala
Women Empowerment and Renaissance Organisation	Wakiso
HER Internet	Kampala
Trans Youth Initiative Uganda	Mbarara
Health and Rights Initiative	Lira
Lifeline Youth Empowerment Centre	Kampala
Umuntu Technology	Kampala
Freedom and Roam Uganda	Kampala
Kuchu Times Media	Kampala
Proud Legends Initiative	Kampala
Service Workers in Group Foundation	Kampala
Twilight Support Initiative	Kasese
Spectrum Uganda	Kampala
Initiative for Rescue Uganda	Kampala

Tranz Network Uganda	Kampala
Women of Faith in Action	Kampala
Pan Africa ILGA	Johannesburg
UKPC	Kampala
UKPC	Kampala





Pan Africa ILGA (PAI)
21 Village Road, Selby
2001 Johannesburg,
South Africa



Contact PAI at
admin@panafricailga.org

+27 11 339 1139

panafricailga.org

