

*Minutes, March 10, 2020*

*Final draft*

**Action Matrix**

Date	Issue	Owner	Task/Status
2020.1	Follow up technical meetings with DPG/NPA on inclusion of strategic and technical inputs in NDP 3 (version 5)	LDPG	Secretariat met with all DPG and NPA in February to follow up on comments. Secretariat to share NDP (version 5) with DPG/LDPG to review as soon as available and share timeline for future consultations with line ministries for final comments in NDP3.
2020.3	Review of LDPG Technical Working Groups	DFID	Findings and recommendations of the review were finalized in February 2020 and presented at the March meeting. A detailed overview to be circulated before the April meeting.
2020.3	Technical level National Partnership Forum on March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2020	LDPG	Taskforce meeting held and save the date communicated. W/c March 16 <sup>th</sup> circulate the concept note with agenda for comments.
2020.6	High-level National Partnership Forum on June 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	LDPG-PDG	Taskforce meeting held and save the date communicated to LDPG and PDG. Chairs calendar booked. Further details to be communicated after the technical NPF.
2020.3	Update Aid Management Platform	LDPG	Several DPs have/are in the process of updating their projects in AMP. Others have been requested to do the same at the March meeting. DP’s are requesting how to include multilateral funding. Advisor to MOFPED to follow up and revert back in April

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

The meeting agenda was adopted without comments. The minutes of the previous LDPG meeting and NPA-LDPG retreat on February 11, 2020 were adopted. The detailed level minute taking was appreciated.

## MEETING AGENDA

- A brief update on NDP 3 Budget allocation for FY20/21 (DEG DPG)
- Coronavirus update (WHO)
- Climate/Environment PPT (ECC DPG)
- Key outcomes from DPG technical working group's assessment and way forward (DFID – secretariat)
- Upcoming National Partnership Forum including AMP update (Quartet - Secretariat)
- Development Effectiveness Report (UNDP)

## PRESENTATION ON NDP 3 BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR FY20/21 (DEG DPG)

In December 2019, LDPG and MOFPED embarked on reviving the strategic engagement in four sectors to inform the Budget Call Circular and the 2020/21 budget. In this meeting, the DEG DPG provided a brief status update and way forward.

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### THE PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTED *(for further details see PowerPoint presentation attached in the email)*

- Four sectoral issue papers were developed. Key messages as a way forward include:
  - **In Agriculture**, need for MAAIF to strengthen its mandate/role in “public” goods provision rather than in “private” goods. MoFPED committed to provide additional funds of US\$ 114 billion; more information is needed on how this has been actualized;
  - **In Education**, consider additional funding of US\$ 347.18 billion to address: declining learning outcomes; teacher absenteeism; low completion rate (primary) & transition rate (secondary); and irrelevant and low quality of BTVET;
  - **In Health**, consider additional funding of US\$ 39.86 billion to address: inadequate infrastructure; human resource gaps especially at Regional Referral Hospitals and Health Centres; stock outs of essential medicines in health facilities & supply chain weaknesses; and inadequate support supervision;
  - **In Works and Transport**, consider re-allocation or additional funding of US\$ 828.23 billion to address: road maintenance needs; improve project execution; high unit cost for transport infrastructure construction; and traffic congestion in GKMA.
- Till date, the pilot has increased trust and strengthened the dialogue within and between MOFPED, SWGs, and DPGs. However, it also brought out weaknesses in coordination, vision/prioritization and capacities (both DPs and GOU) that will require tackling. This will be further discussed under Agenda point 4;
- In the second budget call circular there was a significant increase in budgets for health, education, agriculture partly due to an increase in allocation by Government but the larger part came from being able to include external financing.

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### THE REACTION FROM THE MEMBERS:

- Overall the LDPG members were happy to see the progress made but emphasized the to further strengthen the dialogue on budget processes and DPs role;
- Welcome the increase in agriculture but would be good to understand at what cost this comes; Did we see any reduction in other sectors consequently;
- Urgent need to discuss/agree and/or develop a roadmap on how investments in health and education can be made more sustainable and how to take a more proactive approach to address future increasing needs considering the demographic dividend which projects the population to double by 2040/2050;
- Suggest indicating in the sector budget tables how much is locally and externally funded;

- What constitutes external funding? Currently this only includes bilateral/on-budget funding and not multilateral funding which often make up a bigger share of the total funding, providing an incomplete picture of the development financing situation in Uganda. This will be included under Agenda point 5;
- We need to invest more in DPG's capacities and promote their engagement with SWGs/MOFPED to better capture financial and technical support to the sector, identify gaps and tailor responses with a clear roadmap in mind to ensure we maximize impact/value for money of development financing.

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#### WAY FORWARD:

- A follow up meeting will be planned between the LDPG and PS/ST MOFPED build on this process to ensure there is consistent and useful dialogue between donors and government during both the preparation and implementation of the national budget under NDP3;
- The DEG DPG will reach out through the LDPG secretariat to the LDPG members to discuss and agree on expected outcomes for the follow up meeting with the PS/ST MOFPED. This topic will also be a key topic during the 2020 technical National Partnership Forum in March;
- Promote sustained engagement between DPGs and sectors to address specific issues;
- Agree on how to also engage with Parliament and policy influencers.

#### CORONA VIRUS UPDATE (WHO)

Daily updates are available on the WHO website through [this link](#) and country-specific updates are available through the MOH website through [this link](#)

Mr. Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam, World Health Organization Country Representative in Uganda, provided the members with an update on the latest situation of Corona COVID 19 and measures taken in Uganda as well as an update on the global trends and developments.

- Confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19 acute respiratory disease reported are rapidly changing and captured by WHO in their daily sitreps (see link above). At the time of the meeting there were no reported cases in Uganda and globally the number of cases stood at 109 577 confirmed (3993 new) and 3809 deaths (225 new);
- Uganda has no confirmed case of COVID 19 as of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. However, at the time of the meeting a total of over 1200 travelers including Ugandans and others travelling to Uganda have been identified as high-risk and identified for purposes of follow up. These include: 200 Ugandan, 645 Chinese, 111 German, 63 Japanese, 28 Italian, 28 French and 38 Koreans. 430 completed their 14 days of self-isolation;
- The MOH in Uganda has classified countries in 3 categories. At that time of the meeting, 7 countries were included in category 1: China, South-Korea, Iran, France, Germany, Spain and Italy. People residing in these countries should consider postponing non-essential travel to Uganda. Any traveler from these countries, including Ugandan nationals, will be subjected at their expense to self-quarantine for 14 days on arrival to Uganda even if they do not exhibit symptoms of COVID19. Those who show symptoms will be hospitalized;
- Criteria for categorization are:
  - The number of total (cumulative) cases
  - The number of cases in the last 24 hours
  - Exponential increase in cases the last 7 days
- The analysis is being reviewed weekly and the travel advisory is updated every Friday and is effective the next day;
- National Response Plan is ready including also costing. They released 5 billion US\$ and count on in-kind donations;

- Several international meetings/events have been cancelled /postponed for the coming months. National meetings still take place conditional to the required measurements to be in place;
- WHO requested the members to inform them on any disruptions and/or unclarity?

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#### THE REACTION FROM THE MEMBERS AND RESPONSES:

- All UN updates are channeled through UNDSS;
- All UN meetings/events are being postponed for 4 months;
- WB has also updated their travel advisory for Uganda in line with the guidance by MOH/WHO;
- Measures taken for people traveling from Category 1 countries is clear. This is not the case for category 2 countries. Do we have any further guidance on how to manage/what to expect for people traveling from category 2 countries, amongst which UK and USA;
- What is your assessment on the available capacity in country to contain/respond to COVID19?
- What activities can be covered under the 5 billion USh and what is the gap?
- Can the timing to review the analysis be shifted to a weekday in order to update our travel advisories and inform staff traveling in time. WHO and RCO will take this up with the MOH?

#### CLIMATE/ENVIRONMENT PPT (ECC DPG)

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#### THE PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTED *(for further details see PowerPoint presentation attached in the email)*

- The DPG includes representation from MWE & it's agencies: NEMA, NFA, UNMA, and has in total 14 members. It holds monthly meetings, an annual retreat which just took place and participates also in Refugee Response Plan Sub-Group;
- ECC is a new name and stands for Environment and Climate Change. 2020 is a critical year in which lots of obligations on CC are required and hence the change of name.
- Key priorities include:
  - Mainstreaming Climate Change in other sectors starting with priority sectors: Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Industrialization;
  - Uganda's National Determined Contribution: reporting, revision and financing. A plan will need to be produced with clear targets and report on within this year. The role of the DPG is to make sure this Plan will be realistic, and indicators are SMART.
  - Uganda's 2050 Long Term Strategy on Climate Change: alignment with NDC revision process and NDPIII
  - SDG Tracking: sector performance reports, taking stock of where we are in Uganda
- Challenges/opportunities include:
  - Limited resources both financial & technical available in the climate change space (government, civil society & private sector) to implement key priorities. Private sector and civil society is increasingly engaging but this is happening at a very slow pace;
  - Low commitment on mainstreaming climate change by relevant ministries, example of NDPIII. Responsibility of all DPGs;
  - NDP III heavily dependent on natural resources with limited investment in mitigation measures (e.g. bio-diversity offsets)
- DPG requests the below support/guidance from LDPG:
  - Climate action under Paris Agreement is joint responsibility of all sectors and all DPGs: requires more and better access to sources of finance, technical support, climate diplomacy
  - Climate Change Bill: request for support (financial to hold the consultative and popularization forums, technical support, possible benchmarking, diplomacy)

- Africa Climate Week and National Tree Planting day. This event was scheduled to take place in April but has been postponed to further notice. This also affects the tree planting day the Government was planning to organize.

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#### THE REACTION FROM THE MEMBERS AND RESPONSES:

- Can you better explain the Climate Change Bill and what it includes? ECC DPG: The bill has been developed but has not been adopted. The bill would provide the legal basis which would allow for an increased accountability towards implementing required measures;
- Can you elaborate on National Determined Contribution? ECC DPG: TBC
- Other DPGs shared talking points/priorities for PDG and LDPG members to use and ensure consistent messaging. Has your DPG also developed these? ECC DPG: The DPG is working on this and will share with the LDPG secretariat in the coming week;
- This is a very important topic and we want to make sure that we join efforts to see this agenda moving forward. Uganda is a front runner on this topic. However, considering the funding environment which is limited, how do you see its role and best way forward? ECC DPG: Clear targets have not yet been set/shared. Progress is sensitive but also difficult to measure. It is likely that progress will happen, but targets will not be met.

#### KEY OUTCOMES FROM DPG TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP'S ASSESSMENT AND WAY FORWARD (DFID – SECRETARIAT)

DFID who on behalf of the Quartet has been following up on this assessment, provided an update during the meeting on the purpose and initial outcomes from the assessment.

- **Purpose:** Ensure the DPGs reporting to the LDPG are effective and efficient;
- **Background:**
  - There are 26 DPGs of which 24 report to LDPG and 2 to PDG. Some are functioning and others not;
  - For this reason, the quartet decided that for a DPG to be considered functioning the below basic set of documents are the minimum requirement:
    - An updated Terms of Reference;
    - An annual work plan, specifying key tasks, timelines, roles and responsibilities;
    - An updated overview of financial and technical support to the sector (ongoing and planned);
    - A rolling script (1-2 pages) on sector status, challenges and opportunities as well as 2-4 key messages to inform advocacy and harmonized policy dialogue.
- **Initial feedback:**
  - Approximately 12 DPGs (almost) meet these minimum requirements. More DPGs responded in the second round but do not meet the requirements and are therefore not counted;
  - The DPGs have been categorized under Accountability, Economic Sector and Social Sectors;
    - Functional DPGs will benefit from greater support and be able to engage on a regular basis with the LDPG members. The quartet will aim to strike a balance between social and economic sectors and engage on a needs-basis with DPGs under accountability;
- **Way Forward:**
  - Share a detailed paper with overview/outcomes/way forward with all members prior to the April meeting;
  - The remaining DPGs to share the set of missing documents with the secretariat;
  - Need to standardize all basic documents – secretariat to liaise with DPGs;

- Improve the ease access to documents - suggestion to have (password protected) pages on LDPG website for each DPG;
- Need to strengthen the link with SWG and for DPG's to strengthen the capacities of SWGs;
- Members complain about too many meetings – suggest merging where possible, reduce frequency of meetings;
- Organize Quarterly DPG-LDPG secretariat meetings to follow up on above and secretariat to provide quarterly updates to LDPG;
- Further details are available in the PPT attached in the email. Please note this is a living document that will be updated with most recent information as and when available.

## 2020 NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FORUM (QUARTET)

- **Theme:** “Promoting an effective partnership for delivery of National Development Plan 3”;
- **Background:** The Government of Uganda and the LDPG are implementing a framework for partnership dialogue and increasing effectiveness of development assistance in support of national goals and to ensure transparency and accountability between Government and Development Partners as well as to Ugandan citizens in the management of development cooperation. The National Partnership Forum is a key milestone in this framework and till date four High-level and three technical forums have been held;
- **Focus:** As the Government embarks on launching NDP3, and several DPs are in the process of renewing or have just renewed their Country strategies, it creates an opportunity to reinforce the partnership and ensure a strategic engagement to enable sustainable development outcomes in Uganda. This includes ensuring a balance between investments in infrastructure, economic growth and human development while ensuring value for money, women’s economic empowerment to boost productivity, increase economic diversification and income equality in addition to other positive development outcomes;
- **Date:** The T-NPF will take place on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at Emin Pasha hotel;
- **Objectives:**
  - Strengthen the dialogue on budget processes for implementation of NDP3;
  - Promote change management for effective delivery of NDP3;
  - Explore options for strengthening alignment, capacities and coherence of the partnership;
- **Participants:** The meeting will be chaired by the Head of Public Service and Secretary to Cabinet and will be attended by approximately 60 participants including Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Cooperation and Agencies, and government and development partner sector focal points. Representatives from civil society, private sector and academia will also be invited to participate;
- **Interactive format:** The meeting format will include plenary sessions, panel discussions and formal presentations. Technology will be used to focus the discussion during the meeting and to ensure participants are able to actively engage in the discussion prior, during and after the meeting;
- The output of this meeting should position us to have a **successful High-level NPF** which has been planned for the 17th June 2020;
- **A concept note** with relevant details will be shared with LDPG members for their feedback and formal invites are expected to be circulated 2 weeks prior to the event.
- The quartet will **inform the PDG** members on the planned technical and High-level NPFs during their meeting tomorrow, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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## THE REACTION FROM THE MEMBERS AND RESPONSES:

- It is important to highlight that **previous NPFs** of which the last meeting dates to almost two years, were well attended and prepared but could have been more effective in strengthening the partnership and achieving impact for sustainable development outcomes. To improve effectiveness, the NPF task-force agreed to not build on previous matrixes for results and to focus of the meeting on strengthening the dialogue on budget processes while ensuring coherence, and a well-coordinated approach is in place for the implementation of NDP3;
- Suggest including key findings/lessons learnt from NDP2;

## AID MANAGEMENT PLATFORM UPDATE (ADVISOR TO MOFPED)

- The Aid Management Platform (AMP) was launched in November 2014 with the aim to accurately capture external resources in the budget estimates and accounting systems. The system, once fully implemented, will increase transparency, accountability and aid effectiveness.
- Most members know the history- the LDGP report for 2017 reported 'on still very significant gaps in the information provided by LDPG members, and special effort is required in early 2018 to ensure that the information on AMP is comprehensive and up-to-date. This statement still holds true today in 2020!
- There is a clear commitment to capture off budget resourced by all partners into the Aid Management Platform. However, there seems to be a gap in understanding between GoU and DPs on implementation of AMP.
- Government's opinion is that DPs are not serious about their responsibility to update AMP and several trainings have been done but no real progress has been made and the main issue is the lack of information regarding off-budget projects- subsequent incomplete reporting on the budget. There is a sense that we don't know how much we don't know!
- On the part of DPs there is a range of issues including ICT issues:
  - The challenges include firewall issues related to the setup of the platform
  - Updating access for trained persons – passwords etc
  - ICT not allowing access to the AMP site because it is listed as suspicious industry filtering standard.
  - Difficulty adding to lists of implementing agencies beneficiary agencies (for grants etc)
  - Not capturing multinational funding (discuss with Austria)
- **ToR MoFPED TA.** The TA shall, in coordination with the LDPG secretariat, facilitate MoFPED to come up with a framework for regular update of the AMP platform. Amongst others:
  - Enhance the levels of technical support for the system
  - Assess the quality of data in the AMP and the level of analysis and reporting
  - Advise MoFPED to ensure utilization of the data in the system (through publication of ODA)
  - Suggest a framework to link the AMP data analysis and reporting to the national planning, reporting (system is only good if useful)
  - An assessment mechanism for reporting on DP's not using the system shall be established.
  - DPs are updating AMP as required/expected
  - Assess and identify key challenges of partners not using the system/procedural constraints
  - Assess the linkages among the AMP and existing financial planning, monitoring and reporting tools (example IFMIS, FinMAP)
  - Propose features to enhance the dashboards. If possible, aggregation of operational and financial performance data
  - Enhance the levels of technical support for the system
- Tasks fall largely under duties of the colleague M&E expert supporting the Advisor to MOFPED who will resume inputs from next month. However, we are meanwhile following up, collecting information and trying to get an

update of AMP before 31 March 2020. We have sent request via LDPG members and MoFPED is doing some outreach. MoFPED is willing to follow-up individually with DPs responsible. We will continue with a big push towards updating for the 31st March. If not online then we will collect the information off-line and have it inputted. We can then engage in April to brainstorm on on-going AMP problems and find longer term solutions.

## PRESENTATION ON DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS REPORT (UNDP)

THE PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTED *(for further details see PowerPoint presentation attached in the email)*

- Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation is a multi-stakeholder platform to advance the effectiveness of development efforts by all actors, to deliver results that are long-lasting and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- UNDP/OECD are preparing the country profiles
- The Global Partnership monitoring provides information to track progress of countries in implementing SDG targets 17.15, 17.16 and 5c.
- The monitoring framework tracks country-level progress using 10 indicators along the 4 principles.
- Reporting to the framework is voluntary and country-led.
- Uganda did not participate in 2014 but participated in 2016 and 2018.
- Uganda has high quality result framework, but partners alignment is moderate
- Snap shot of the data shows that some partners are fully drawing results indicators from partner country-led results frameworks
- Strengthened public financial management (PFM) systems have not been matched with significantly increased use by development partners
- Predictability of aid is declining over time and compared to other LDCs
- Aid on budget by partner- mixed result (see excel for further details)
- Reinforcing a whole-of-society approach to development needed globally; Uganda has no reporting on inclusion indicators
- Mixed result on Mutual accountability and transparency mechanisms
- Issues for further discussions:
  - Quality of data need further improvement;
  - How to systematically discuss development effectiveness in the Ugandan partnership platforms- beyond every 2 years survey period.
  - Government institutions are changing the way they organize themselves to manage development co-operation, including reshaping co-ordination mechanisms and structures in response to the 2030 Agenda.
  - Development partners role in the changing development cooperation landscape merit further attention.

### THE REACTION FROM THE MEMBERS:

- The excel file that captures budgets by partner should be circulated prior to publishing the report. This way the DP can ensure all information is accurately reflected. UNDP confirmed that the file had been circulated multiple times and should therefore accurately reflect inputs provided;
- To what extent does the report measure confidence in political leadership? Considering the impact on how financing is done in Uganda would be good to include/know;



- One of the indicators measures the systems in place to track development cooperation. The result indicates that AIMS, DMS and FMIS are systems in place in Uganda. However, the last result refers to excel-based systems or similar which are not in place. Should this not be considered positive?
- There are many platforms. Maybe time to merge some of them to be effective;
- The lack of accurate, updated and coordinated information/data is a problem in Uganda. We should consider using the NPF platform to improve data/information management and agree on concrete steps.
- UNDP informs the members that a review of the architecture in Uganda has been conducted (report will be shared).

## ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Title	Organization
Nicole McHugh	Deputy Head of Mission	Embassy of Ireland
Antony Thompson	Country Manager	World Bank
Andrew Ockenden	Head of Aid	DFID
Mizuki Watanabe	Coordinator for Economic Cooperation	Embassy of Japan
Clara Mira	Resident Representative	IMF
Rosa Malango	Resident Coordinator	United Nations
Eva Lescauwaet	Snr. Operations Officer - DE	World Bank
Elea Wermelinger	Head of Cooperation	Embassy of France
Joris Van Bommel	Head of Cooperation	Embassy of the Netherlands
Laura Gonzales	Resident Legal Officer	USAID
Zenya Chrysostomidis	Head of Cooperation	Embassy of Norway
Henrik Jespersen	Deputy Head of Mission	Embassy of Denmark
Doreen Prendille	Deputy Representative	UNICEF
Ola Hallgren	Head of Cooperation	Swedish Embassy

Miriam Malmqvist	Senior Solutions and Development Adviser	UNHCR
Richard Walker	Senior Economist	World Bank
Yemesrach Assefa	Economist	UNDP
Elkhidir Daloum	Representative/Country Director	WFP
Iris Knabe	Head of Cooperation	German Embassy
Alexandre Breckx	Deputy Head of Cooperation	Belgian Embassy
Richard Walker	Senior Economist	World Bank
Daniel Lukwago	DEG DPG secretariat/WB consultant	World Bank
Elizabeth Carabine	ECC DPG/Regional Senior Climate Expert	Embassy of the Netherlands
David Githiri	ECC DPG/Senior Technical Coordinator	UNHCR
Florene Arribas	Intern	Embassy of France
Rebecca Nakumansi	Coordination Analyst	UNRCO
John Murphy	Advisor to MOFPED	MOFPED/EU
Asel Abdurahmanova	Head of RCO	UNRCO

