

Breaking the gridlock: Reimagining cooperation in a polarized world

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Presentation Outline



- **Part 1:** Key findings from the 2023-24 Human Development Report.
- **Part 2:** Uganda's human development status: A comparative analysis for selected East African countries.
- **Part 3:** Key recommendations of the 2023-24 Human Development Report.

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Background of the Human Development Report



- The Human Development Report (HDR) is UNDP's flagship knowledge product. In 1990 UNDP published the first Human Development Report (HDR). The very first sentence of the 1990 report explained that "This Report is about people- and about how development enlarges their choices."
- The first HDR in 1990 introduced a new Human Development Index (HDI) to measure development progress- not simply by per capita income, as had long been the practice, but also by health and educational achievements.
- The HDI is a composite index of three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living.
- In the last 34 years, UNDP has produced more than 800 global, regional, national, and sub-national HDRs, and organized hundreds of workshops, conferences, and other outreach initiatives to foster human development agenda.

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Part 1

Key findings from the 2023-24 Human Development Report

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United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres message on the 2023-24 HDR

- “The Report calls for the urgent expansion of our systems of international cooperation, so that they can deliver on people's priorities: sustainable development; a clean environment; a livable planet; safety, security and dignity for all.
- September's Summit of the Future will consider exactly these questions. As we prepare for the Summit, I recommend the Human Development Report as an important contribution.
- It shows that solutions to global problems are within our grasp – by reimagining cooperation and uniting for a better world.”



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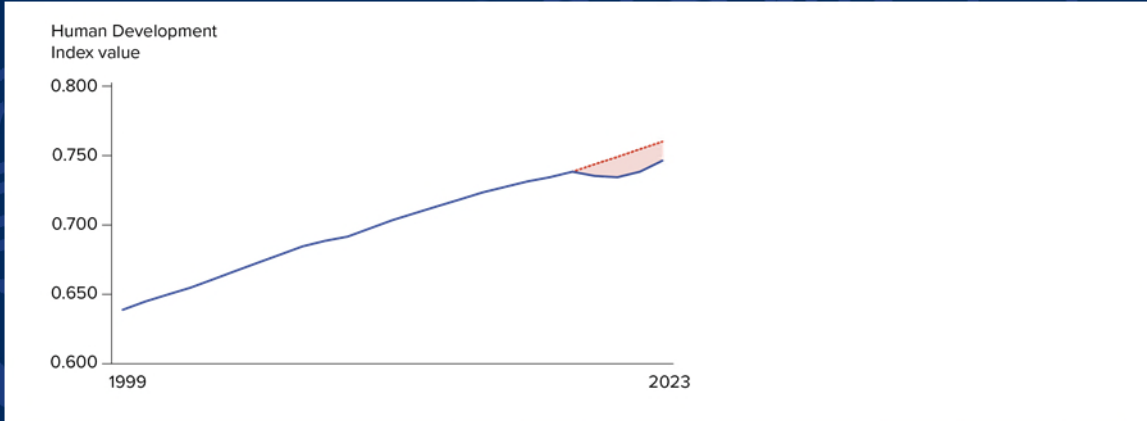
UNDP Administrator message on the 2023-24 HDR

“ The widening human development gap revealed by the report shows that the two-decade trend of steadily reducing inequalities between wealthy and poor nations is now in reverse. Despite our deeply interconnected global societies, we are falling short. We must leverage our interdependence as well as our capacities to address our shared and existential challenges and ensure people’s aspirations are met. ”



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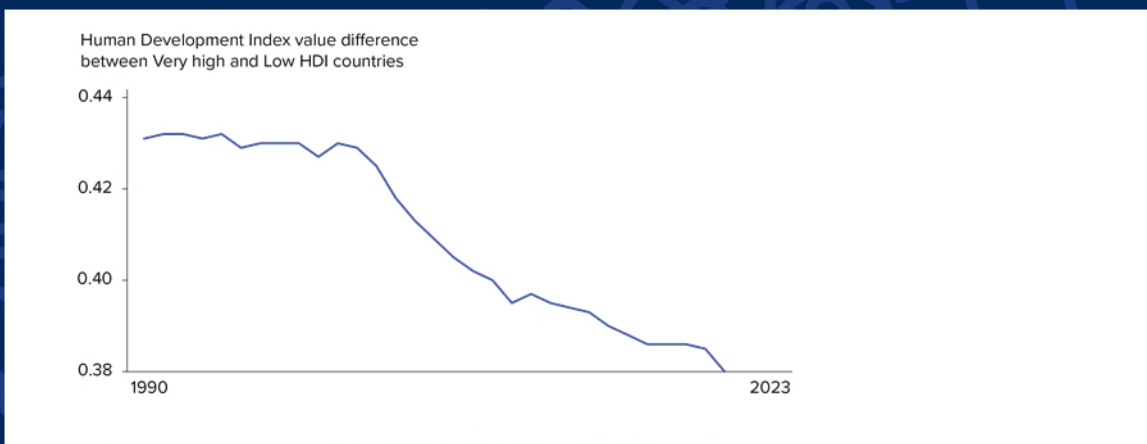
Where does the world stand with human development progress? **A permanent loss in human development progress?**



Source: Human Development Report Office

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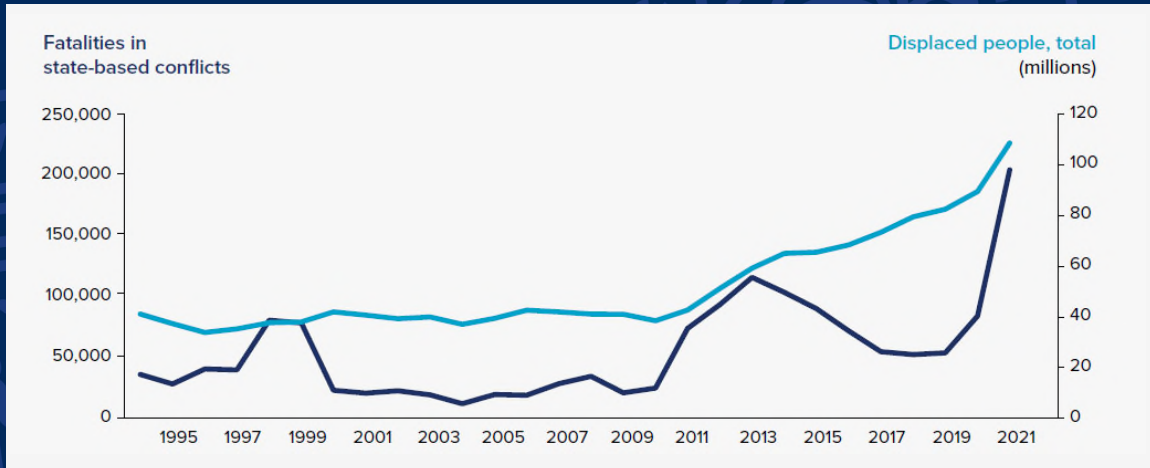
Before the pandemic, there was a convergence in HDI values between the richest and poorest countries. Now convergence was broken and inequality between countries is widening.



Source: Human Development Report Office

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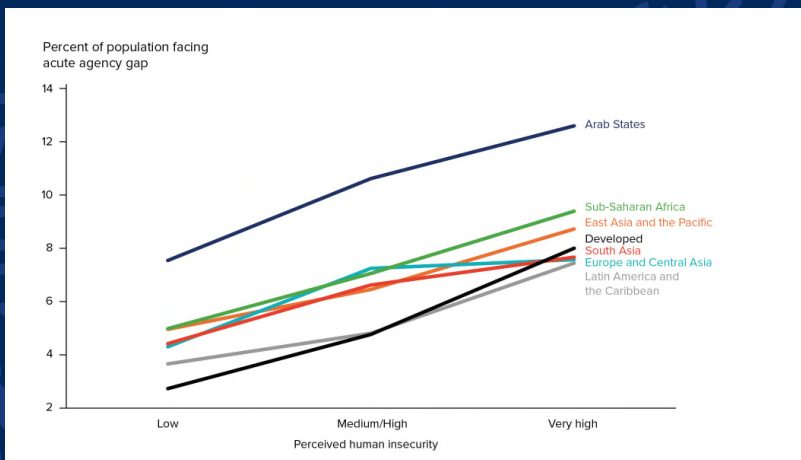
The human toll of gridlock: lives lost & people displaced



Source: Uppsala Conflict Data Program 2023; UNHCR 2023

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Feelings of insecurity are rising across the world, especially in the Arab and African region



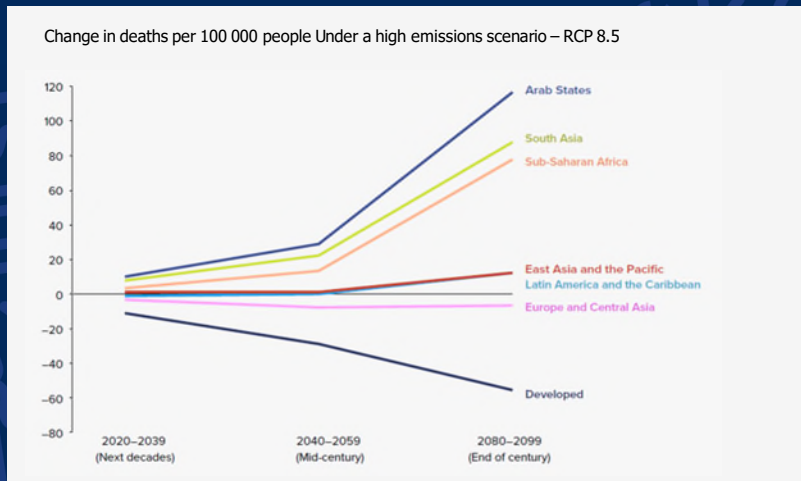
Source: HDRO based on World Values Survey, wave 7

Insecurity is closely linked to polarization

2/3 of countries show increases in polarization

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A 21st century architecture for cooperation



**Providing
global public
goods
reduces
inequalities
and yields
net benefits**

Source: Human Development Report Office based on Carleton and others 2022, and Human Climate Horizons: <https://horizons.hdr.undp.org/>

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Part 2



Uganda's human development status:

A comparative analysis for selected East African countries –undertaken by UNDP-Uganda using data presented in the report annexure.

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Uganda has made significant progress in human development – compared to its past as well as to neighbouring countries



- According to the 2023-24 HDR, Uganda's HDI value for 2022 is 0.550— which put the country in the medium human development category—positioning it at 159 out of 193 countries and territories.
- In the 2021-22 HDR, Uganda's HDI value for 2021 was 0.530 which put the country in the low human development category—positioning it at 166 out of 191 countries and territories.

Two positive things:

- Uganda has gained in the global HDI ranking by 5-7 places; and
- Graduation from low- human development category into the medium human development category – a milestone for celebration.

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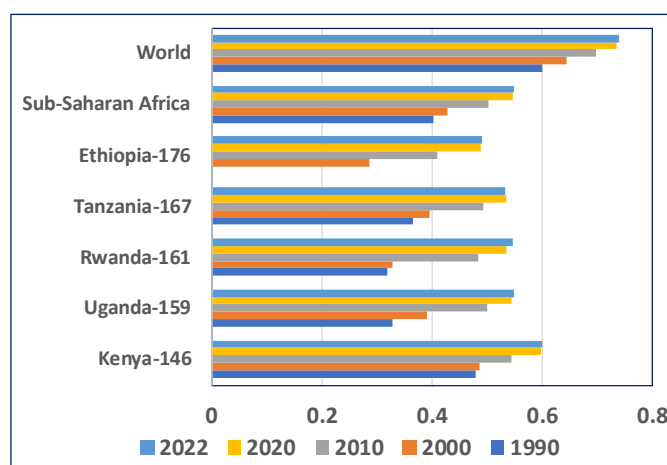
Comparative Analysis – Human Development Index Ranking and Trends 1990-2022



Between 1990 and 2022,

- Uganda's HDI value increased from 0.329 to 0.550 - an increase of 67.2 percent.
- Uganda's life expectancy at birth increased by 17.2 years,
- expected years of schooling increased by 5.8 years;
- mean years of schooling increased by 3.1 years;
- GNI per capita increased by about 153.1 percent.

HDI ranking in 2022 and Values over the period

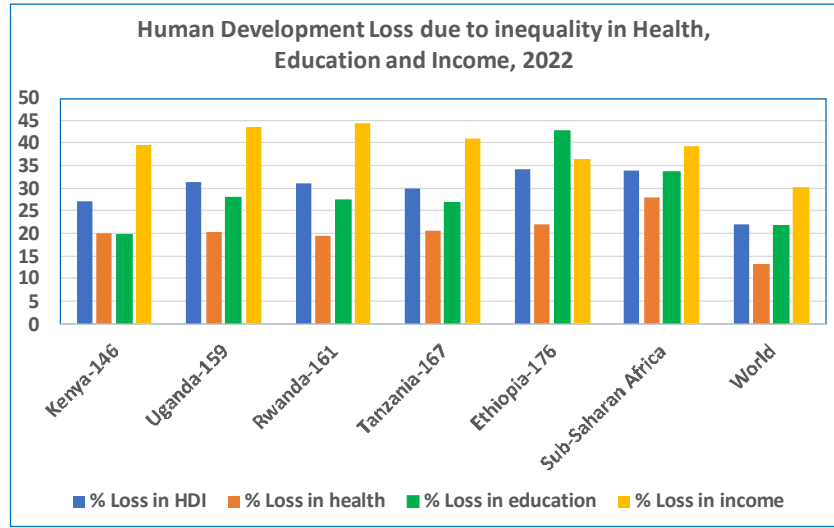


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Addressing Inequality is critical for accelerating & sustaining HD Progress in Uganda and Africa



- Uganda is losing its HDI value by about 31.4% due to inequality in human development dimensions.
- The HDI loss due to inequality is higher in Uganda than the average loss of HDI in the world (21.5%).
- But it is lower than that of Sub-Saharan Africa region (33.9%).
- In Uganda and the world, inequality in health sector is relatively low compared to inequality in education and income.

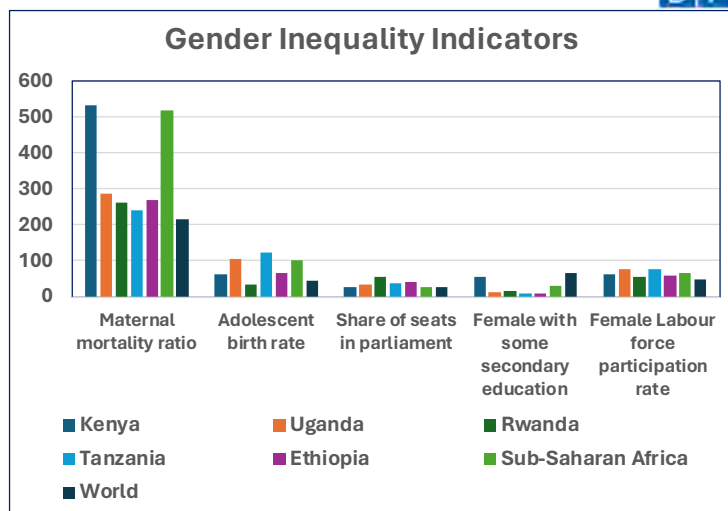
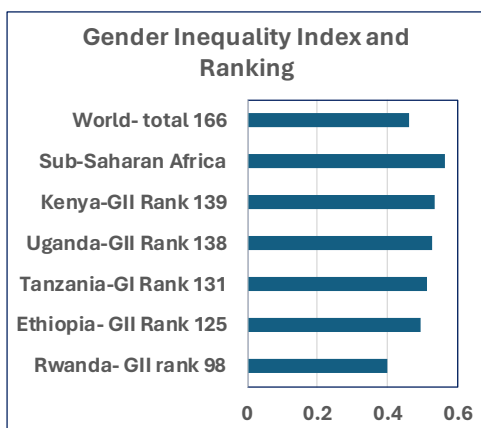


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Promoting Gender Equality and Women Empowerment is Key to Accelerate & Sustain HD Progress in Uganda and Africa

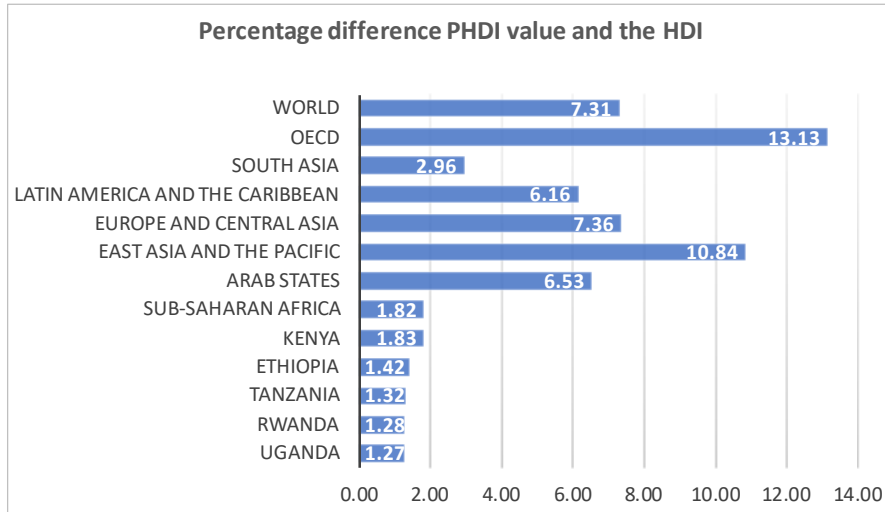


A low GII value indicates low inequality between women and men, and vice-versa



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Tackling Planetary Pressures will be Critical for Accelerating & Sustaining HD Progress in Uganda and Africa



Planetary pressures-adjusted HDI (PHDI) is the level of human development adjusted by carbon dioxide emissions and material footprint per person to account for excessive human pressure on the planet.

In 2022, Uganda's PHDI was 0.543 representing a loss of only about 1.27% compared to 1.83% in Kenya, 1.82% in Africa and 7.31% in the world.



Part 3

Key recommendations of the 2023-24 Human Development Report.

Recommendations: In the 21st Century context, there are opportunities to re-image international cooperation



To break this gridlock and scale up collective action, the HDR calls for:

- A new generation of Global Public Goods. Example includes-
 - Planetary public goods to achieve climate stability and tackle climate change related disasters;
 - Digital public goods for greater equity in harnessing new technologies for equitable human development.
- Strengthening global institutions that are people-centered (with emphasis in achieving human development and human security), co-owned (reflecting a fair distribution of power) and future-oriented (putting in place mechanisms to navigate an uncertain world).

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Recommendations: In the 21st Century context, there are opportunities to re-image international cooperation



- New and expanded financial mechanisms, prioritizing international cooperation that complements humanitarian assistance and traditional development aid to low-income countries.
- Reducing political polarization through new governance approaches focused on enhancing people's voices in deliberation and tackling misinformation.

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Implications for Uganda



- Uganda's graduation from a low to medium human development country group is a great milestone.
- To sustain and accelerate this great momentum and also taking into consideration the findings of the MTR of the NDP-III, there is a need to fast track on investment and innovation that will enable people to thrive in the face of multiple crises and uncertainty.
 - Investment —gender equality, human capital, renewable energy and insurance— including social protection— to build an inclusive and resilient communities.
 - Innovation and digital transformation in all sectors to accelerate socioeconomic transformation as well as to respond to emerging shocks.
- Uganda also needs to continue its ongoing institutions reforms that are people-centered and future-oriented.
- Given that the current international cooperation institutions no longer suffice to address complex and evolving global challenges of today, Uganda also needs to leverage its unique position as the chair of the G-77 (+China) and NAM groups to advocate for creation of a new 21st century development cooperation in the Summit of the Future in Sep 2024.

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Thank you

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