



## STATE OF UGANDA POPULATION REPORT (SUPRE) 2023 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### 1. Introduction

The State of Uganda Population Report (SUPRE) is an annual publication produced by National Population Council (NPC). The objective is to advance evidence-based advocacy for population and development. The report will highlight the critical population and development issues that impede national development and undermine the progress toward achieving a quality of life for the people of Uganda. The report also provides policy options for decision-making regarding the population.

### 2. Background to 2023 SUPRE

The third National Development Plan (NDP III) identified mindset as one of the key stumbling blocks to attaining development aspirations. The plan has a dedicated program dealing with mindset change and community mobilization. The Community Mobilisation and Mindset Change program of the NDP III operationalizes objective (iv), i.e., "Enhance the productivity and social wellbeing of the population." The overall Programme Goal is: To empower families, communities, and citizens to embrace national values and actively participate in sustainable development. The NDP III recognized that a general lack of responsibility and ownership of government programs is a severe obstacle to development attributed to the low popularisation and domestication of development initiatives, programs, and policies to lower levels, in addition to a passive, unproductive, and highly dependent population coupled with low literacy levels of citizens.

Mindset, population age structure, and wealth creation are multi-dimensional concepts requiring a thorough analysis of diverse variables within the Government's overarching theme of sustainable wealth creation. The SUPRE 2023 will examine how mindset, population age structure, and wealth creation are fundamental for sustainable growth and development in Uganda. Consequently, the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the SUPRE will run under the theme, "**Mindset Change for A Favourable Population Age Structure: A Prerequisite for Wealth Creation.**" The theme recognizes that a positive mindset, a balanced population age structure, and dynamic wealth creation policies are crucial in creating an environment conducive to long-term economic growth and stability.

Mindset refers to people's attitudes, beliefs, and assumptions about themselves and their world. It often shapes individuals' behaviors and decisions, influencing how they approach challenges, setbacks, and opportunities. Mindset can be either fixed or growth-oriented, with a fixed mindset characterized by believing one's abilities and traits are cast in stone. In contrast, a growth mindset emphasizes the potential for development and learning over time. Mindset is the primary factor that determines a person's attitude toward wealth creation. A growth mindset oriented toward creativity and problem-solving is more likely to lead to success in wealth

creation than a fixed mindset that thrives on short-term gains. Therefore, mindset change refers to transforming one's attitudes, beliefs, and values to adopt new ways of thinking and approaching challenges. In the context of wealth creation, a mindset change is critical as it enables individuals to see opportunities where others see problems and to approach challenges with an entrepreneurial mindset.

The population age structure of a country is a crucial determinant of its economic growth and development. A favorable population age structure refers to a demographic composition where the working-age population (15-64 years) is larger than the dependent population (those younger than 15 years and those aged 65 and above). A growing population with a significant proportion of working-age individuals has the potential to sustain economic growth and development. Such a population age structure is essential for wealth creation as it enables a higher proportion of the population to be economically active and contribute to the country's productivity.

Wealth creation is the process of generating financial prosperity for individuals, organizations, and societies. It involves creating a surplus of resources that can be used to invest, grow, and generate even more significant financial gains over time. Wealth creation can be achieved through various means, including investment in assets that appreciate in value, starting and growing profitable businesses, saving and investing wisely, and increasing personal income through career advancement and strategic financial planning. Ultimately, wealth creation is about building financial security and independence for oneself and one's family, as well as contributing to the growth and prosperity of the broader economy.

## **2.1 Sub Themes**

To explore the relationships between mindsets, population age structure, and wealth creation, the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of SUPRE will have six (6) sub-themes anchored on the NDP III and the National Population and Development Research Agenda 2020/21-2024/25.

### **2.1.1 *Uganda's Population Age Structure and Wealth Creation***

Uganda has a relatively young population, implying the majority of the population is in the dependent age group, which is a challenge for wealth creation. Uganda's population age structure significantly impacts wealth creation in the country. Uganda has a relatively young population, with a median age of 15.2 years, which presents opportunities and challenges for wealth creation. Investing in reducing fertility is essential to decrease the dependent population's proportion. However, the youthful population could be a significant asset if effectively harnessed. Creating a skilled workforce and fostering innovation and creativity requires Government and private sector investment. It also requires a supportive business environment, infrastructure development, and policies encouraging entrepreneurship and investment.

The sub-theme will explore the role of Family Planning (FP) as a driver in shaping population age structure, the relationship between population age structure and economic growth, gender disparities in Uganda's population age structure and their implications for wealth creation, the effect of migration on wealth creation, and the challenges and opportunities of Uganda's youthful population for wealth creation. The sub-theme will address the following specific questions:

- i) What is the role of family planning in shaping population age structure?

- ii) What is the relationship between population age structure and economic growth in Uganda?
- iii) What are the Gender disparities in Uganda's population age structure and their implications for wealth creation?
- iv) What is the effect of migration on wealth creation?
- v) What are the challenges and opportunities of Uganda's youthful population for wealth creation?

### **2.1.2 *Inclusive Education, Mindset Change, and Economic Growth***

An inclusive education system promotes equal opportunities for all learners, regardless of their circumstances, abilities, or disabilities. It ensures that all persons, regardless of physical, social, emotional, or intellectual needs, have access to quality education that prepares them for a productive workforce. The principle of inclusive education is that every child has the right to education which is a fundamental human right. Through various programs, the Government has made progress in ensuring the delivery of inclusive and quality education.

Inclusive education and mindset change are crucial elements that can contribute to economic growth and development in Uganda. Mindset change shifts people's attitudes and beliefs towards inclusivity, diversity, and equality. This sub-theme will look at the role of inclusive education in enhancing mindset change in propelling economic growth in Uganda, the programs in place to promote early childhood development, and explore how to strengthen the policy framework to prioritize inclusive education and promote a mindset change towards inclusivity, diversity, and equality in Uganda that can drive economic growth and prosperity for all. The sub-theme will address the following specific questions:

- i) What is the role of inclusive education in enhancing mindset change in propelling economic growth in Uganda?
- ii) What programs are in place to promote early childhood development?
- iii) How can we strengthen the policy framework to prioritize inclusive education and promote a mindset change towards inclusivity, diversity, and equality in Uganda that can drive economic growth and prosperity for all?

### **2.1.3 *Mindset Change and Skilling for Wealth Creation***

In Uganda, there is a need to prioritize mindset change and skilling as part of the country's development agenda. Skilling is one of the significant drivers of development and harnessing the Demographic Dividend. Skilling will significantly contribute to reducing unemployment levels among the youth by imparting the necessary skills that enable job creation rather than job seeking. The sub-theme aims to answer the following questions:

- i) What is the extent of government contribution to skilling?
- ii) What programs can support skilling for the out-of-school (apprenticeship)?
- iii) What are the barriers to job creation in the Ugandan, regional, and international markets?
- iv) To what extent has the Government integrated vocational education at all levels of education? (From Primary level to University level)
- v) How can the Mindsets of Ugandans be transformed to embrace Vocational Education?

### **2.1.4 *Investing in Agriculture for Wealth Creation***

Investing in agriculture is crucial for wealth creation, as it is the backbone of the economy, employing most of the population and contributing significantly to the country's GDP.

Agriculture accounts for over 70% of Uganda's employment and contributes 25% of its GDP, making it a robust economic growth and development sector.

There are promising developments in Uganda's agriculture sector, particularly in agribusiness and value chain development. Despite agriculture being the backbone of Uganda's economy, many youths are not engaged in agriculture and do not view it as a viable source of income and wealth creation. Many young people face challenges accessing land, capital, and other resources to start and grow successful agricultural enterprises. Realizing the full potential of the agriculture sector requires further investment in education and training, infrastructure development, policy, and governance reforms to create an environment for productive agrarian participation. Specifically, the sub-theme seeks to answer the following questions:

- i) What are the innovative agricultural practices adopted for sustainability?
- ii) How to leverage public-private partnerships in agriculture for wealth creation?
- iii) How has the infrastructure development supported agricultural transformation for wealth creation?
- iv) How do we leverage commercial farming for wealth creation?
- v) How is smallholder farming supporting wealth creation?
- vi) What are the existing initiatives to support smallholder farmers for wealth creation?

### **2.1.5 *Digital Transformation and Wealth Creation***

The use of digital technologies to transform business operations, processes, and models presents significant opportunities for wealth creation in Uganda. The Government and private sector need to prioritize investments in digital technologies and infrastructure to unlock the full potential of digital transformation. Digitalization of Government processes and increased utilization of ICT across the entire economy improves the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. It also increases productivity and enhances the quality of life of the Ugandan population. The sub-theme will explore issues to do with efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery, the role of ICT in enhancing youth employment, the strategies in place to ensure the accessibility and affordability of ICT services, and the extent ICT improves access to reproductive health services. The specific questions the sub-theme will address are:

- i) What is the role of ICT in enhancing youth employment?
- ii) What strategies are in place to ensure the accessibility and affordability of ICT services?
- iii) To what extent has ICT improved access to reproductive health services?

### **2.1.6 *Policy Frameworks for Mindset Change***

The policy frameworks provide a conducive environment for the implementation of wealth creation programs as well as a mindset change towards embracing the different programs. Policy frameworks are crucial for driving mindset change as they provide the guidelines for implementing programs to promote a positive attitude towards wealth creation. The questions the sub-theme will address include the following:

- i) Impact of citizen participation in enhancing the Demographic Dividend (DD)
- ii) What is the role of livelihood programs on sustainable household incomes?
- iii) What is the role of citizens in supporting development initiatives?
- iv) What are the challenges of existing wealth creation programs?
- v) What are the policy recommendations that can support mindset change?
- vi) What is the impact of credit delivery mechanisms by the Government on the household income of people experiencing poverty?

### **3. Who Submits an Abstract**

- i) Ph.D. students who wish to publish
- ii) Government officials from Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDA's), Researchers and practitioners from institutions, and Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) who wish to publish
- iii) Masters students

### **4. How to Submit an Abstract**

Use the abstract template on the website, [www.npcsec.go.ug](http://www.npcsec.go.ug), or request one from the email addresses provided below.

### **5. Abstract Submission Information**

An abstract should have the following:

- i) An abstract title
- ii) Key Words
- iii) Full name(s) of the author(s)
- iv) Author's job details (position, department, faculty, organization, university, city, country)
- v) The contact information of the author (s), including phone number and email address
- vi) The sub-thematic area of the SUPRE to which the presented abstract corresponds.
- vii) Word limit:400-500

### **6. Selection**

A multi-institutional Technical Working Group to oversee the development and production of SUPRE 2023 will review submissions received. The Technical Committee will comprise representatives from National Population Council, Ministries, Departments, and Agencies.

### **7. Publication**

The SUPRE 2023 Scientific Committee will process the best papers for publication.

### **8. Target dates/Deadlines**

- i) Advert for Abstract **12<sup>th</sup> May 2023**
- ii) Abstract submission deadline **16<sup>th</sup> June 2023**
- iii) Notification of acceptance **26<sup>th</sup> June 2023**
- iv) Full article submission **28<sup>th</sup> July 2023**
- v) Launch of SUPRE **26<sup>th</sup> October 2023**
- vi)

### **Further Inquiries**

Inquiries and submissions, with the subject heading "State of Uganda Population Report 2023" should be forwarded by email to the following addresses: [peterolemo@gmail.com](mailto:peterolemo@gmail.com), and copy to [samuelsamson.omwa@npcsec.go.ug](mailto:samuelsamson.omwa@npcsec.go.ug), or [omwa.ogwang@gmail.com](mailto:omwa.ogwang@gmail.com)