Status of evaluating SDGs in Uganda

By
Margaret Mary Kakande
Head, Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
UGANDA
Presentation Outline

• Introduction
• Alignment of the national development strategy and plan with the 2030 Agenda
• The role of evaluation in SDG reviews in Uganda
• Challenges and achievements in institutionalizing evaluation of SDGs in the country.
Introduction

Leaving none behind, requires three mutually reinforcing “levers” identified as cornerstones that countries need to embrace:

1) empower through civic engagement and voice;
2) enact through integrated, equity-focused SDG policies, interventions and budgets; and:
3) examine, through use of disaggregated and people-driven data and information.
Uganda has embraced the three levers

• Civic engagement has continued to prevail and generate constructive debate on issues of sustainable development.

• The legal and policy framework is very conducive for the SDGs. There is also Government’s commitment to apply a Human Rights Based Approach to development.

• Statistical capacity has been enhanced. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) has adopted the shared methodologies developed for Tier III indicators, and data is available for 140 indicators.
The National development strategy and plan is well aligned with the 2030 Agenda

• The Plan has identified interventions under three broad categories as SDG Accelerators – Environment, Governance and Industry.

• These three categories link to NDPIII interventions in Private Sector Development, Development Plan Implementation; Community Mobilization and Mindset Change, the Governance and Security Programme, Public Sector Transformation, Human Capital Development, Regional Development, Mineral Development, Sustainable Development of Petroleum Resources, Manufacturing, Energy Development, Climate Change, Natural Resources, Environment and Water Management.
Evaluation has played a critical role in SDG reviews

- The first VNR in 2016, assessed country readiness to implement the SDGs. This covered legal and policy frameworks, institutional capacity, budgetary operations, and monitoring and evaluation practices. A long-term simulation model was used.

- At policy level, prioritization and mainstreaming of SDGs in national policies, plans, strategies and M&E frameworks was recommended.

- A Minister responsible for SGD was appointed and SGD Secretariat established to ensure effective mainstreaming of SDGs.
Evaluation role stepped up in second VNR

• The public consultation assessed areas of good performance and aspects for improvement
• How the country can advance the principle of “leaving no one behind” in the implementation of the SDGs was also reviewed;
• Local innovative practices that have enabled achievement of the SDGs noted;
• Opportunities that can be harnessed by government and non-state actors to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda noted.
Baseline indicators established for evaluating SDGs

• One of the key achievements in fostering institutionalization of SDGs has been the identification of baselines for 140 indicators.
• Capacities of National Statistical Systems enhanced to produce high quality, comparable and regular disaggregated statistics to address national data gaps is well coordinated through the National Statistical Indicator Framework.
Inadequate funding still limiting effective institutionalization of evaluation of SDGs

• There are many programmes that should have been evaluated to inform SDG implementation. A few evaluations have been undertaken in the areas of education, social protection, women’s empowerment, and industrialization.

• There should have been evaluations on the poverty reduction programmes, climatic change issues and infrastructural development to mention a few.
Conclusion

• Evaluation of SDGs is critical for meaningful National Reviews. However there is need for significant levels of funding to conduct the evaluation studies to feed into the Reviews.

• When all is said and done, effective integration of SDGs into national policy, planning, budgeting and M&E frameworks is the one sure way of achieving the complex and inter-related SDG objectives.
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO ME

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