The AAS 2018 confirms that the agricultural sector is still the largest employer in Uganda and it remains essential to secure the livelihoods of the Ugandan population.

The sector is characterised by a predominance of agricultural households operating less than one hectare and a minority of households farming more than two hectares.

Maize, banana-food (matooke), cassava and beans are by far the primary crops grown in Uganda. The 2018 beans production was similar to level of 2017, while the other crops showed an increase compared to the previous year.

Women work on the farms more than men. Yet, the survey reveals that women have less tenure rights over agricultural land.

The survey findings suggest that further effort is needed to modernise the Ugandan agricultural sector, through the adoption of improved seed varieties, fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation systems and more efficient practices.
Key findings

The results of the AAS 2018 are disseminated as an integrated set of complementary products. The Survey Report contains an analytic presentation of the survey findings; the Annex Tables include a broader set of findings; the Thematic Multidimensional Tables allow an interactive use of the information.

> The AAS 2018 confirms that the agricultural sector is still the largest employer in Uganda and it remains essential to secure the livelihoods of the Ugandan population.

> The sector is characterised by a skewed land distribution pattern, with predominately agricultural households (66.2 percent) operating less than one hectare and a minority of households (13 percent) farming more than two hectares.

> Despite a relatively wide variety of agricultural production, maize, banana-food (matooke), cassava and beans are by far the primary crops grown in Uganda. In 2018, agricultural households produced 3.4 million metric tonnes (MT) of maize (1.7 Mt/Ha); 6.5 million MT of matooke (12.3 MT/Ha); 4.4 million MT of cassava (8.7 MT/Ha) and 728,000 MT of beans (0.6 MT/Ha). However, large variations are observed across the agro-ecological zones (ZARDIs) of the country (Figure 1).

FIGURE 1. Share of total production across the ZARDIs: beans, maize, banana and cassava

The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap is a multi-partner programme that seeks to bridge the global agricultural data gap by transforming country data systems in 50 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America by 2030. While Uganda has been conducting ad-hoc agricultural surveys over the past 60 years, no streamlined data collection system was in place to ensure a regular flow of agricultural information. In 2016, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) established the Uganda Annual Agricultural Survey (AAS). However, multiple obstacles continued to challenge regular data collection. As of 2018, the AGRISurvey programme has been providing financial and technical assistance to the AAS, supporting two rounds of data collection (2018 and 2019). Its implementation in Uganda is made possible through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) funding, and the coordination of the FAO Uganda Office. The continuation of the work will be secured through the 50x2030 Initiative.

Main Achievements

The collaboration between FAO and UBOS led to significant improvements for the AAS in the following domains:

Survey design
To ensure cost-efficiency and sustainability, the number of visits and the content of the questionnaires were optimised. This resulted into a survey based on four visits (two per season), which generates data for the monitoring of Uganda’s National Standard Indicators, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) framework and SDG indicators on labour productivity, income of small-scale farmers (SDG 2.3.1; SDG 2.3.2) and gender equality on tenure rights over agricultural land (SDG 5.a.1).

Institutional collaboration
The AGRISurvey programme has successfully fostered the collaboration between UBOS and other relevant national stakeholders, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). The institutional collaboration has been strengthened through the creation of an *Agricultural*...
AGRISurvey is currently implemented in eleven countries around the world and is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS).

Statistics Coordination Committee (ASCC) operating alongside the existing National Agricultural Statistics Technical Committee (NASTC). The ASCC aims to enhance the coordination between projects and initiatives on agricultural statistics and ensure coherent planning. Furthermore, a community of data use institutions and agencies has been consistently consulted throughout the survey cycles.

Use of technology
The use of new equipment improved the quality of the interviews, in particular regarding the measurement of area planted. The administering of questionnaires for field data collection was done through an innovative system for Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI), by means of a user-friendly and free-of-charge software (Survey Solutions). Automated features such as response checks and smart question sequencing have significantly improved data quality already at the collection phase.

Improved dissemination and data use
AGRISurvey has been supporting UBOS in setting-up a comprehensive statistical dissemination programme of the AAS results in compliance with international standards. This includes the distribution of survey micro-data. Anonymized micro-data files of the 2018 agricultural year will be released in September 2020 on the UBOS Micro Data Archive and will allow data users and researchers to conduct a personalised analysis, according to specific policy or programme needs.

The programme has widely promoted the dissemination and use of the survey findings, relying on the established institutional coordination processes. As a result, the 2018 estimates have been extensively used for the formulation of the Uganda Agricultural Sector Strategic Plan 3 (ASSP-3) prepared by MAAIF.

Capacity Development
During the first two years of implementation in Uganda, technical support was provided on the development of electronic questionnaires in Survey Solutions, the processing and analysis of the data and the adoption of anonymization techniques. The training of technical officials and statisticians on the survey methodology and software will ensure the longer-term country ownership and sustainability.

Future perspectives
Under the auspices of the 50x2030 Initiative, the Uganda National Panel Survey (UNPS) and the AAS will evolve in 2021 into the AAS/UNPS Integrated Survey Programme.

The calendar of the survey programme envisages a sample of households (HHs) receiving an agricultural and poverty questionnaire on annual basis. Such sample is biennially expanded through an additional sample of agricultural households receiving an agricultural questionnaire. In addition, the institutional farms are interviewed on annual basis.

This approach will guarantee a regular flow of agricultural statistics, with a greater accuracy when surveys run in parallel, and a radical reduction of the survey cost for UBOS. In addition, it implies harmonization of the survey methodologies and internal cross-fertilization of skills and competencies.

The AAS/UNPS Integrated Survey Programme Calendar

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AGRISurvey Programme

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AGRISurvey Agricultural Integrated Surveys Programme

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Statistics - Economic and Social Development
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