

	digital connectivity energy transport health education and research	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities@	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line: 14.020121 Total estimated cost: EUR 15 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 15 500 000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing</b>	Indirect management with entrusted entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.1.			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

Uganda remains one of the poorest countries in the world. The majority of Uganda's population continues to be employed in low productivity / low value sectors including primary agriculture and micro services. In 2019/2020, 12.3 million people (30.1% of the population) lived below the poverty line of USD 1.77 per person per day (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2021). The challenge for Ugandan policy makers is therefore to manage the labour force's transition from a predominant involvement in low productivity subsistence agriculture to increased involvement in higher productivity sectors which can deliver higher wages, faster employment growth and increased resilience.

The Government of Uganda recognises that the tourism sector can play an important role in driving the transition towards higher productivity and inclusivity, including in rural and remote areas of the country. The third National Development Plan (NDP III)<sup>1</sup> and the Uganda Vision 2040<sup>2</sup> identify tourism as a fundamental opportunity to facilitate socio-economic transformation and emphasise the importance of gender mainstreaming and social transformation<sup>3</sup>. The EU-Uganda Forest partnership identifies tourism as one of the priority areas to benefit forest-dependent communities and promote conservation. Aligned with this strategic priority and the goals of the Forest Partnership, the objective of the Action is to support the Government of Uganda to increase the adoption of sustainable practices within the Ugandan sustainable tourism sector, while stimulating SME growth and local ownership in the tourism value chain, thereby contributing to inclusive and more resilient growth. The development of the sustainable nature-based tourism sector presents significant challenges that the Action intends to help address.

First, leisure tourism is based on tourism circuits, often multi-day, that connect tourism sites, services and attractions into packaged experiences for visitors. Businesses, including accommodation, attractions, catering, service providers, will need to come together to develop, promote and operate attractive and sellable circuits. These tourism circuits will need to be able to demonstrate their sustainability credentials, based on a sustainability certification system tailored to Uganda. Moreover, there is a need to diversify the offer beyond National Parks to other natural landscapes. This includes areas where communities can have a significant role in the potential revenue

<sup>1</sup> <http://library.health.go.ug/sites/default/files/resources/Third%20National%20Development%20Plan%20III%2C%202020-21-2024-25.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://npa.go.ug/vision2040/>

<sup>3</sup> [vision20204011.pdf \(worldbank.org\)](#)