

Our Vision for Uganda is that it respects the rule of law, human rights and transparency to ensure that services are delivered to everyone equally without any segregation or misappropriation of the national resources.

We the Ground Level Panel offer the following recommendations to inform the five transformative shifts identified by the UN High Level Panel in their report on the post-2015 development agenda:

### 1. Leave no one behind

This aligns with our vision for a Uganda with equal opportunities for all. We believe that bottom up planning processes where the people decide what is to be done by their government must be a priority. Gender is important to focus on, specifically women's empowerment. In regards to ethnicity, it is important that this is focused on bringing people together rather than separating them. There must be structures to ensure that implementation of this vision is not discriminating nor exploitative. This needs to include inclusive programmes and policies, feedback mechanisms for government at all levels, community monitoring of development programmes, enforcement of the law by all especially by security personnel. We believe that there needs to be more support for civil society to contribute to national development plans. We believe that achieving universal human rights means access to free education and health; having political freedom and economic development; and this can only be achieved when people have peace and security in their lives.

### 2. Put sustainable development at the core

This links to our vision, however, we believe that to be sustainable, development needs to consider all areas and not only the environment and natural resources. We believe that peace and security are critical for achieving sustainable development and that people should have the opportunity to determine their own development with the necessary capacity and economic resources.

Laws protecting the environment must be enforced. Developed countries should take responsibility for their role in climate change, as well as conflict and exploitative extraction of natural resources. All foreign investment should create economic opportunities for Ugandan people and external investors should respect local customs and culture. There should be investment in innovative livelihoods that protect the environment.

## A Vision for Development

Perspectives from the Uganda Ground Level Panel on a Post-2015 Framework



*"Giving an example of our community the Batwa, we were initially in the forest but after being sent out of the forest nobody came back to find out how we are surviving and coping with the situation. There was lack of follow up and so they left us behind."*



*"When you look at this tree, there is peace in the leaves which implies development comes from down to the top ...to be successful it has to be well rooted."*

### 3. Transform economies and jobs for inclusive growth

This connects strongly with our vision for the economic development of Uganda, we feel that the focus on youth is important. We believe that peace and good governance is needed for economic transformation. Education is also key and requires investment. It should include practical skills to enable Ugandan job-seekers to become job-creators. More accessible health services will contribute to improved wellbeing and enable individuals to pursue their livelihoods.

Investors must support the livelihoods of the communities in which they work, particularly where natural resources are the basis of business. Government and the private sector should support small businesses to develop new, innovative ideas and find new markets. This will strengthen their income and resource base.

### 4. Build peace and effective, open and accountable institutions for all

This connects strongly with our vision as we feel that peace and effective, open and accountable institutions relate to each other deeply. . We believe that freedom from violence, conflict and oppression is important and should not only be present in writing. We should continue to work for peace as peace is the starting point and will lead the way for good governance. Openness and trust by all will result in more stable societies. Leaders should be held accountable for following the rule of law and ensuring peace. Governments should use peaceful methods to resolve conflict at home and between countries

### 5. Forge new global partnerships

The Ground Level Panel acknowledges that Uganda already has many partnerships globally. Some partnerships are built by the government with other countries and investors, and others between national and international NGOs. These partnerships are vital to promote economic development and tourism, and build peace between nations. We also see opportunities for citizens to unite together and build platforms for home and global conversations. All these groups can work hand in hand to achieve a global partnership for development.

The Uganda Ground Level Panel convened for five days, from 6th to 10th July 2013. The 12 panellists came from different parts of the country and each had personal experiences of the poverty and social exclusion that the post-2015 development agenda presented by the UN High Level Panel in their report aims to address. Through their discussions the Ground Level Panel developed the ideas and recommendations in this briefing.

The Uganda Ground Level Panel was facilitated by Restless Development as part of Participate, a global initiative.



***"Yes people teach but a problem in the education system is that it is not practical. They teach people to look for jobs not to create jobs. It is encouraging job seeking not job creating."***



***"Peace and accountable institutions are related as they are led by leaders who are supposed to bring peace in the country, for example the LCIs and LC3s from grassroots up..."***



***"There are those international organizations that work as watchdogs and help monitor whether governments are governing in line with international laws, for example human rights"***