



UNITED NATIONS
FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT 2021

U-Report UGANDA
VOICE MATTERS



UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT DIALOGUE 2021

U-Report Poll Results



Overview

The principle of embracing multi-stakeholder inclusivity in the sub national and national Food System Summit dialogues creates a need to strive to showcase as many voices as possible, capturing diverse cultural, professional and gender specific perspectives to ensure design policy options that deliver against multiple public goods and across these various systems. Mobile technology and SMS platforms of recent have represented low-cost means with the potential to reach a wide population and foster open dialogue on issues of public concern

It is against this background that the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Uganda partnered with UNICEF to develop a concept for the use of the U-report as an innovative component under the communications area to offer a platform that complements the planned dialogues to showcase as many voices as possible on the food systems.

U-Report:

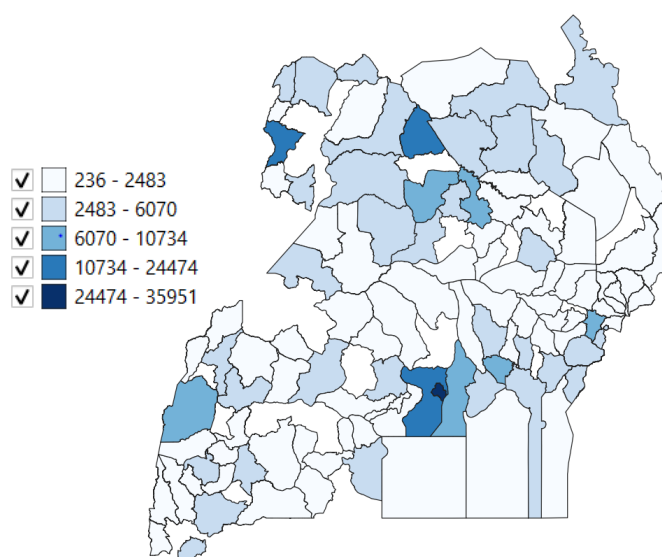


U-Report is a free SMS-based platform that allows Ugandans to report on issues affecting them and their communities as well as to get real-time information and feedback on new initiatives or campaigns. U-report offers young Ugandans and the public at large a chance to voice their opinions on pertinent issues like health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, youth unemployment, HIV/AIDS, disease outbreaks like Ebola and COVID-19 and natural disasters like drought, floods and landslides.

U-REPORTERS IN UGANDA TODAY

523,684 PARTNERING WITH 15,924,795 U-REPORTERS

IN 86 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE



Objectives of using the U-Report Uganda

- To compliment the media plan to raise greater awareness and provide valuable information on the food system summit
- Amplify the voices of more people including youth and women on issues regarding food systems in the country and what should be done for the future
- Using the platform to encourage dialogue among the population on issues related to food systems

Expected outcomes

- Views from more people including youth and women involved in food systems in Uganda taken up to inform the Uganda commitment paper from the national dialogues
- More people made aware of the food systems summit
- More dialogues among the population about food systems encouraged

Participating groups

Gender: 71% of U-Reporters who participated in the food systems summit dialogue polls were male while 29% were females. This is mainly male dominated because currently they are the majority of U-Reporters registered on the system nationally. However steps are underway to close the gap between males and females

Age Groups: The majority of U-Reporters (52%) who participated were between 24—64 years old. This is so because U-Report mobile phone and its this age group that most people do own phones

Occupation: The majority 27% of the the U-Reporters who participated in this survey were students while 19% were farmers

Gender

Age Groups

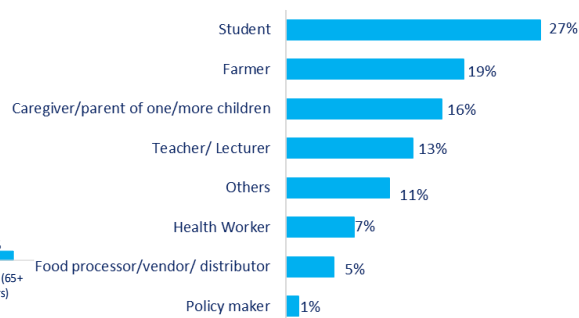
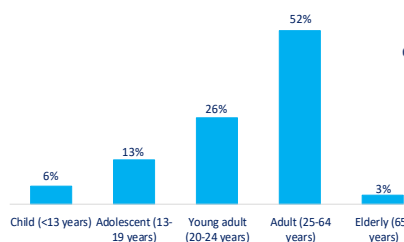
Occupation



71%



29%



Poll Summary

- Poll questions and awareness messages were developed alongside **05** action tracks and these were run concurrently across all the districts. Each track had atleast 10 main questions and about 05 follow up questions.
- **Questions/Messages:** Messages were both informational and poll questions. Informational messages were sent subsequently with poll questions to create awareness about the food systems dialogue, poll questions were either multiple-choice allowing a single answer, or open ended response allowing U-Reporters to express themselves freely without having to select from any given options
- **Dates:** All the five action tracks were run within the months of July through August 2021 which each action track running on weekly basis. Action track 1 was run on 16th July and the last action track 5 was run on 16th August, and closed on 21st August 2021.
- **Sample Size:** The initial and consent message was sent to a group of **264,000** randomly selected U-Reporters to ask to introduce the food systems summit dialogue and ask for their consent to participate and **67,970** U-Reporters consented. A group composed of these consented U-Reporters was then created and made a target group upon which all the five action tracks were surveyed on.
- All the five action tracks generated an overall total of **941,720** messages in form of poll responses and comments of U-Reporters expressing their own independent views about the food systems summit dialogue.
- Links to poll results in the U-Report public website
 - Action Track 1: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5193/>
 - Action Track 2: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5195/>
 - Action Track 3: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5230/>
 - Action Track 4: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5259/>
 - Action Track 5: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5260/>

Action Track	Poll Date	No of Polls/ Messages	No of Participants	Total No of responses
Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy	16/07/2021	24	39,607	399,070
Action Track 2: Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns	26/07/2021	10	49,894	274,743
Action Track 3: (i). Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production (ii). Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people (iii) Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil function for sustainable food production	01/08/2021	14	29,247	131,038
Action Track 3: (i). Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production (ii). Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people (iii) Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil	31/07/2021		29,352	131,792
Action Track 4: 1) Promoting full and productive employment and decent work. 2) Transforming smallholder to commercial agriculture. 3) Reducing risks for the country's poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups.	08/08/2021	10	9,218	59,931
Action Track 5: (i) Building resilience requires that people, institutions, infrastructure, services of the Food Systems have the capacity to anticipate shocks, manage risks, prevent or reduce exposure, absorb (respond to and cope), adapt to evolving risks. (ii) A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems (iii) Enhanced market information helps to Prevent overreaction to shocks and gives an opportunity to informed decision making	16/08/2021	10	10,942	76,938

Results

About the Data

This poll series data reflects the information provided by the respondents, and is not statistically representative of young people globally, or in any specific country or region. U-Report as a community does not have a goal of statistical representativeness among its membership and no sampling stratification was employed. Post-stratification weighting was not applied during the analysis of this poll.

U-Report data should not be used as a single source of information to make decisions, but rather should be used to complement more statistically robust methods of gathering data.

UNICEF values the voices of young people and seeks to recognize their experiences and views, and the data are considered a reliable reflection of the information the respondents have provided to UReport.

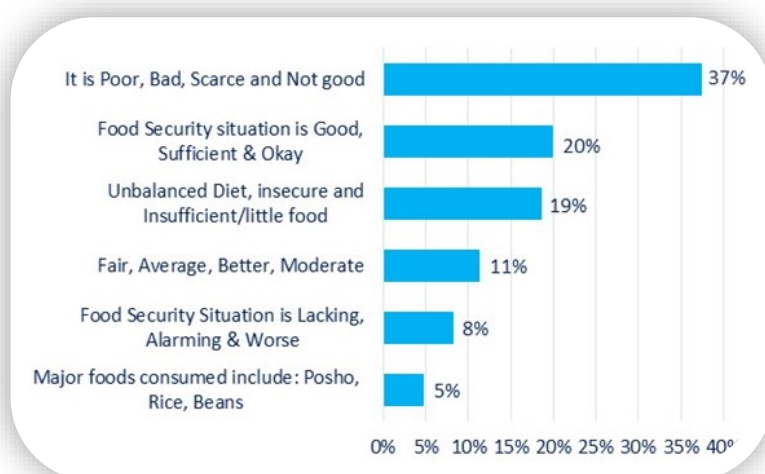
Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy”

- ⇒ Action Track poll questions were developed based “ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy” thematic area and was further subdivided into two three parts : A). Food Security B). Safe Food and C). Nutitios food .
- ⇒ 24 polls questions including follow up questions were administered in this action track, **39,607** U-Reporters opted in to participate thereby generating a total of **399,070** messages including poll responses and comments triggered by the informational messages and questions.
- ⇒ Polling dates: Respondents started polls between 16th upto 22nd 2021, and data was last collected for analysis on 26th July . Link to poll results: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5193/>

PART A: Food Security

QN One: How can you describe the food security situation in your household and community?

39,607 Total Participants



U-Reporters in their own words

““Food Security” situation in yumbe district is worst ,insufficient, unsafe and not nutritious for an active and healthy life. all year round worsened by rampant drought” U-Reporter M, Yumbe

“At the moment things are not good because most parents had just paid fees for their children. And the little which has remained can not sustain for long” U-Reporter, F Kampala

“Food is sufficient in my house besides we are farmers hence most of our food comes from the garden.” U-Reporter, M, Zombo

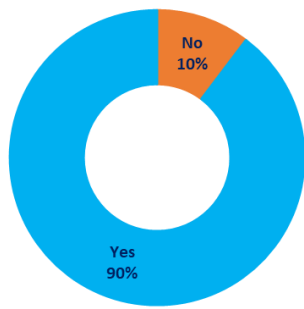
“Before covid 19 pandemic my family and community food security was fair but currently some members in the community have single meal”. U-Reporter, M, Bulambuli

“Food security dependng on my household is inadequate, and in the community its worse because we are in lockdown and people arent working so we are starving”. U-Reporter, F, Iganga

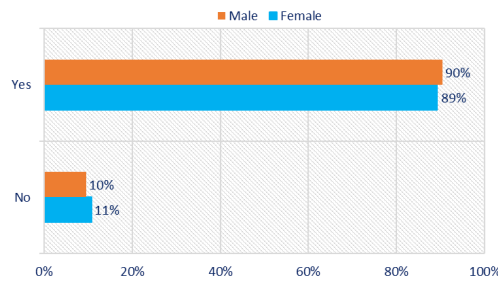
Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy”

QN Two: Do you sometimes face food inadequacies?

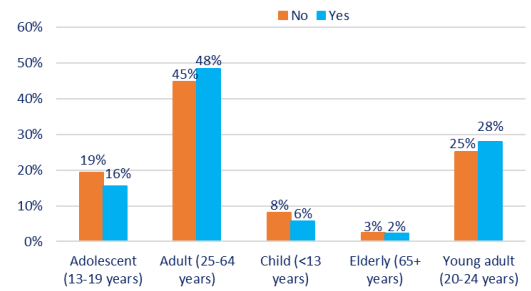
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups



23,619 Participants

Overall food inadequacies or lack of food was over 90%, with smaller portions of respondents indicating food adequacies.

Gender: While there are some slight variances, the trends on food inadequacies are very similar among different genders.

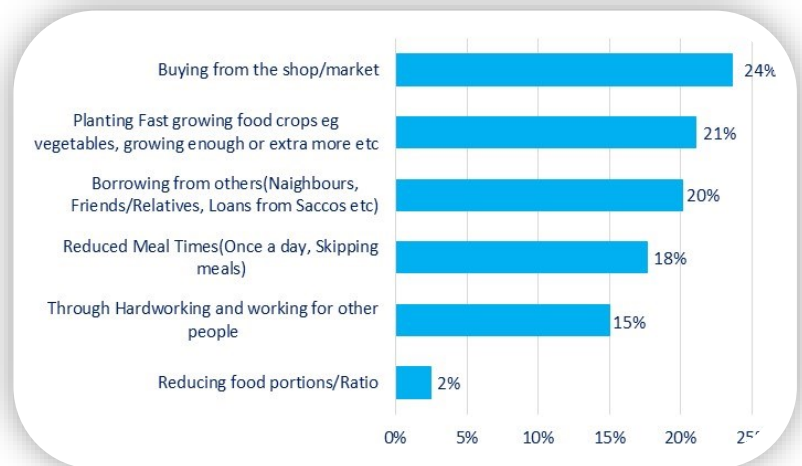
Age groups: The young adolescents 13 -19 the majority 19% indicated No. Reason for this is believed to be due to the sacrifice parents/adults make in terms of food so that the young ones have what to eat

Follow up to those who said “YES”: In that case how do you recover/cope up from lack or food inadequacies?

19,749 Total Participants

A follow up question was sent to those that responded affirmatively to food inadequacies in question two so as to ascertain ways in which they cope up with the situation.

The majority 24% indicated that they buy from the shops and markets, 21% cope through planting fast growing food crops such as vegetables and growing plenty or extra more so that they are left with what to consume in the future.



QN Three: What could be the common reasons as to why some people do not have enough food sometimes?

21,233 Total Participants

This was an open ended question and the majority 37% mentioned about poverty related issues due to lack of jobs and money in response to the above question

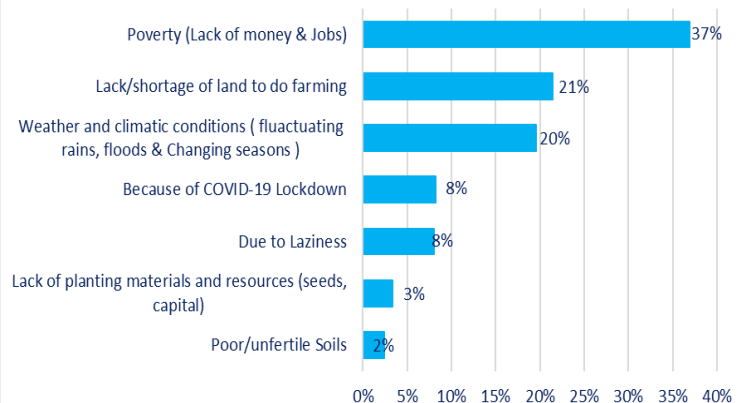
U-Reporters sample quotes

“Some are many in families and they lost their jobs because of lockdown, and in this case, they don’t have money to buy enough food for the family”

“it is because when they work and get money are able to buy food of that day and a have a feeling that also tomorrow were going to work and we buy other food”

“Some are in town areas where by they don’t have land to grow their own food, and some they lack jobs so that they can buy food for their families”

“It is commonly brought by poor harvest due to bad weather and that is what is happening right now in karamoja sub-region.”



Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy”

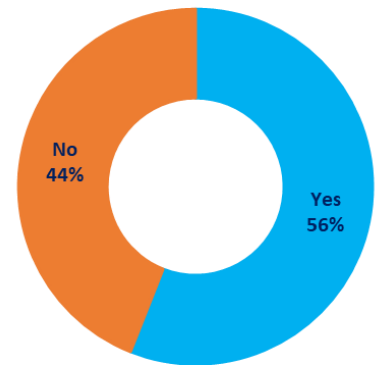
QN Four: On average, are people involved in both food production and animal husbandry to ensure diversity of food (e.g., cereals, legumes, fruits, vegetables, milk, fish, meat and oils among others) are available for consumption? Yes or NO?

20,490 Participants

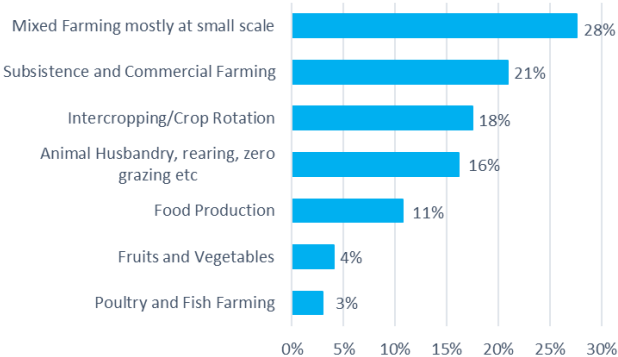
The majority **56%** responded affirmatively that people in their communities are involved in both food production and animal husbandry. A follow up question was sent to both those who responded with YES and those with No to probe more on the reasons and challenges for their responses respectively;

Follow up to “YES”: **10,567** responses received, Majority **28%** mentioned mixed farming at small scale as the common farming methods practised in their communities

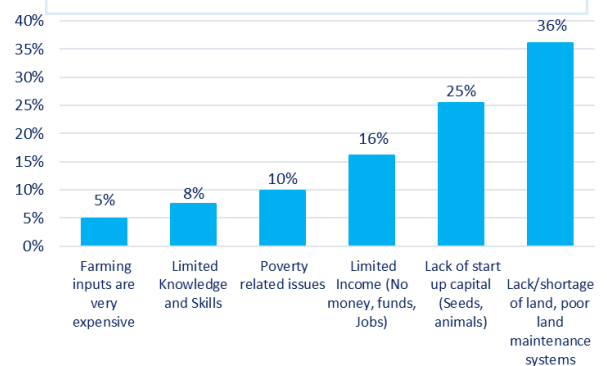
Follow up on “NO”: **8,530** total responses received. Among the key challenges they faced include lack of “land of land for cultivation” and lack of start up capital.



Follow Up for “YES”: If so, which methods



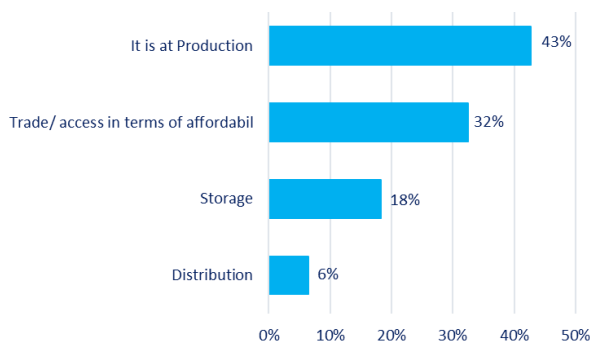
Follow Up for “NO”: If not, what is the challenge?



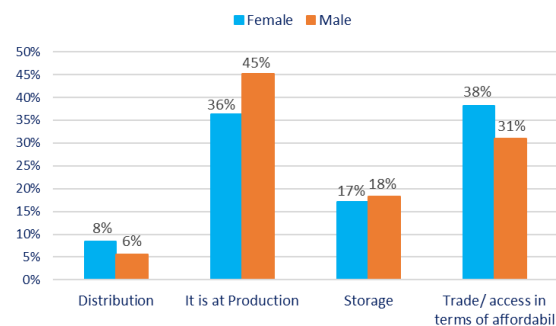
QN Five: Where is the critical challenge of food security A). It is at production B). Storage C). Distribution D). Trade or access in terms of affordability.

16,712 Total Participants

General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



QN Six: How best should the Government of Uganda fix the food insecurity problem in your area?

17,490 Total Participants

Sample U-Reporters responses in their own words

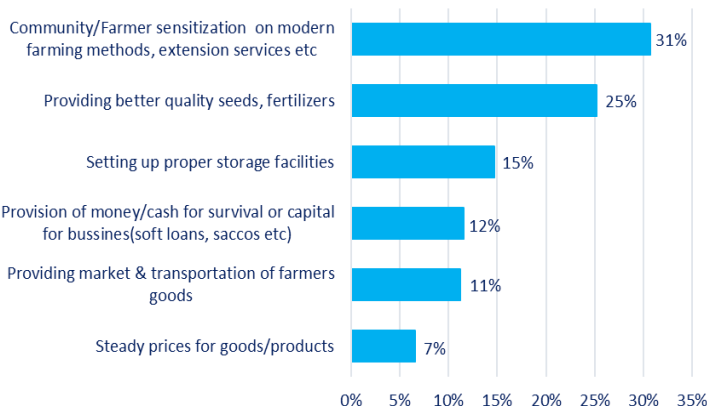
“Introducing food Sacco where each individual is requested to contribute either food or money in the sacco WC will be used in times of need”

“The government must intervene quickly by giving some money 2 suport them b,se the rate of malnutrition z very very high p,ple will begin dying soon”

“Providing insecticides to prevent damage on crops by the pests, creating more better roads for transporting food to markets and building more ware houses”

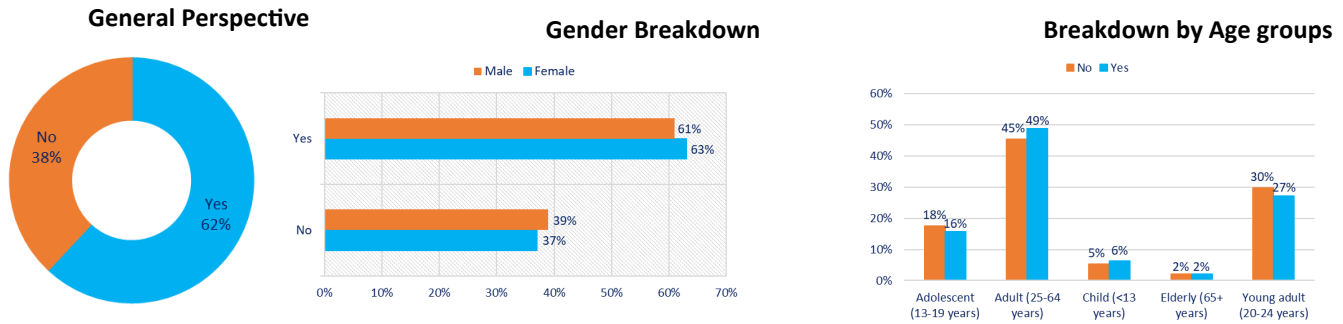
“By suprtng home steads,farmers via creatng community based devt prjcts and regulatng prices to prvd engh for citizens to secure engh for the future security”

“Sensitizing people how 2 store their food for future use provision of insecticides & other preservatives 2 keep our food fresh and free from weavels”



Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy”

QN Seven: Do you believe that the Parish Development Model is an opportunity to address food insecurity at the grass roots? YES or NO



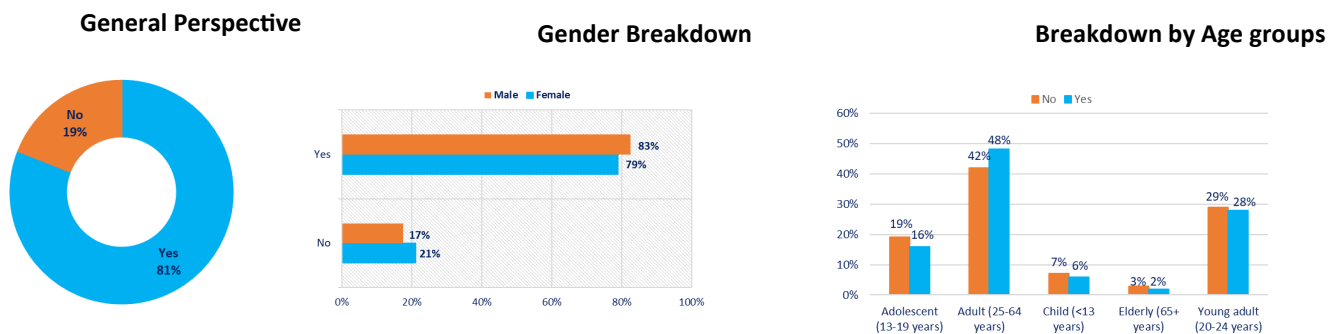
17,074 Total Participants

Overall the majority **62%** of U-Reporters who participated in this poll believe that the parish development model addresses food security at the grass roots

Gender Comparison: More women **63%** responded affirmatively as compared to their male counterparts. This is probably because women are always available and take part in these initiatives than men

PART B: Safe Foods

QN Eight: Are you worried of the safety of food whenever you visit the market? YES or NO

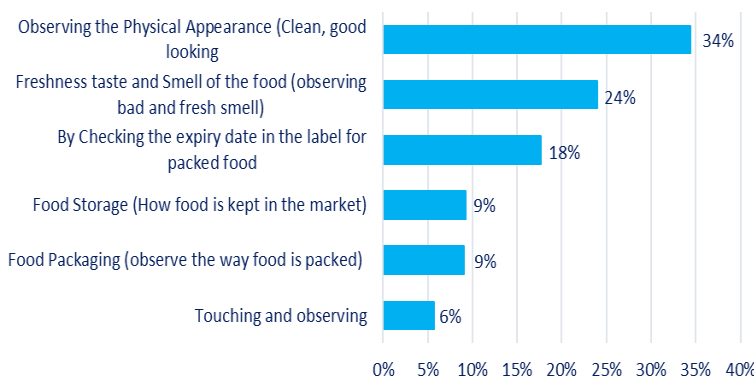


14,347 Total Participants

This was the first question of Part B “Safe Foods” of the first action track. Overall, the majority 81% worry about the safety of food in markets and 19 % said they are not worried at all.

Gender Breakdown: More males 83% seem to worry about the safety of food in markets as compared to the females. Amongst the agegroups, More U-Reporters between the age bracket of 25-65 years indicated that they worry about the food safety in the market as compared to other age groups

QN Nine: How do you always know whether the food you buy or use is safe?



Sample U-Reporters quotes

“Like wrapped food i check on the expiry date and unwrapped one easy to identify because you might it rotten and appearing different from the good ones”

“If the packaging used is safe and clean,if the natural characteristics like colour,texture, taste etc haven't changed. If the environment and handler”

“when it is stil fresh,maybe it can be safe coz we dont have advanced food storages lke large area refrigeration for perishable foods like fish,fruits

“The appearance of the food appeals your eyes towards it and the way the vendor handles food when giving you plus the environment around the food area”

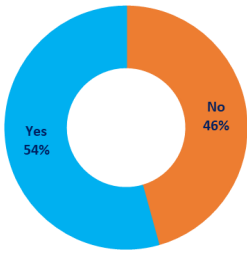
“It should be fresh and clean, the person selling or cooking should be clean and the environment at the same time.”

“I am allowed to see and to touch the I'm going to buy before I buy so that makes me to take unsafe food”

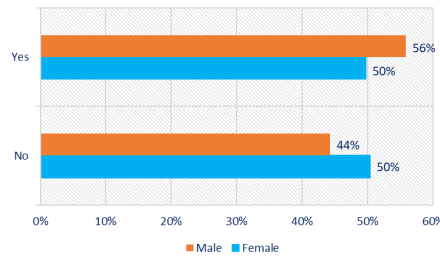
Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy”

QN Ten: Are cases of food-related illnesses common in your household or community? YES or NO

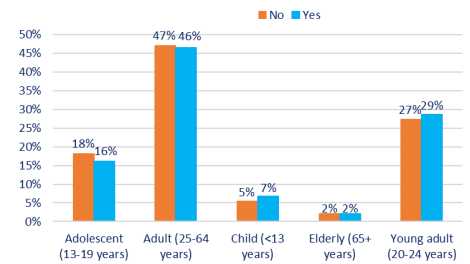
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups

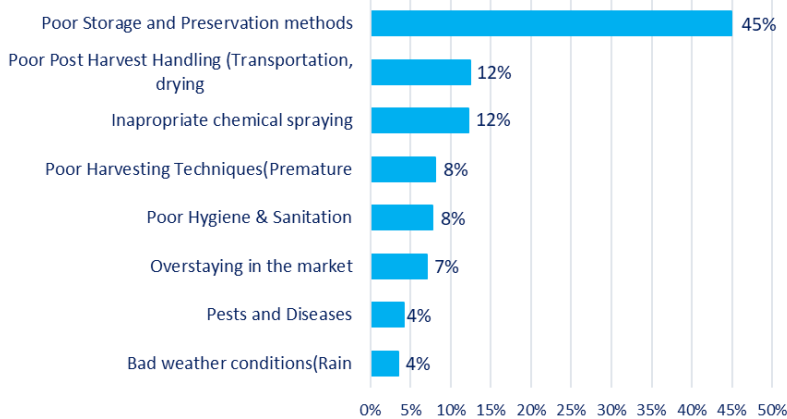


12,324 Total Participants

Food Related Illness: overall **54%** of U-Reporters who participated in this poll believe that the illness associated to food are common in their community while **46%** disagree

Compared by Gender, more men **56%** seem to be affected by food related illnesses as compared to women

QN Eleven: Which activities/actions/practices in your area commonly lead to food becoming unsafe?



10,975 Total Participants

When asked about the practices that lead to food becoming bad in their areas, the majority 45% mentioned about "Poor storage and preservation methods"

U-Reporters quotes in their own words

"Spraying using the wrong drugs forexample some people use wrong drugs to spray their tomatoes and they endup making losses"

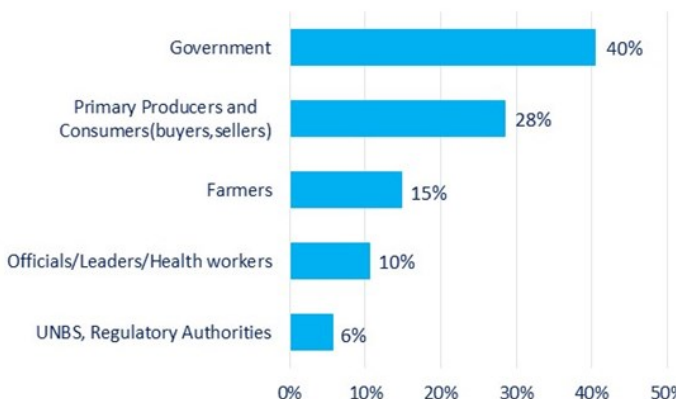
"Poor storage building and presereving equipments especially perishable goods and much is kept in bulky in semi processed or form and many are still cons"

"Miss use of insectise in time of production and storage and some time at time of transportation to market place"

"hygiene (places, people and food itself) corrupt heath inspectors end up allowing unsafe foods ignorance of

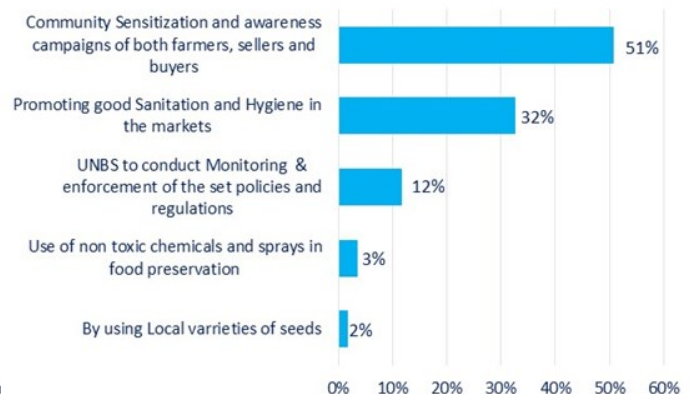
QN Twelve Who is to blame for unsafe food finding its way to the market and on our plates?

10,617 Total Participants



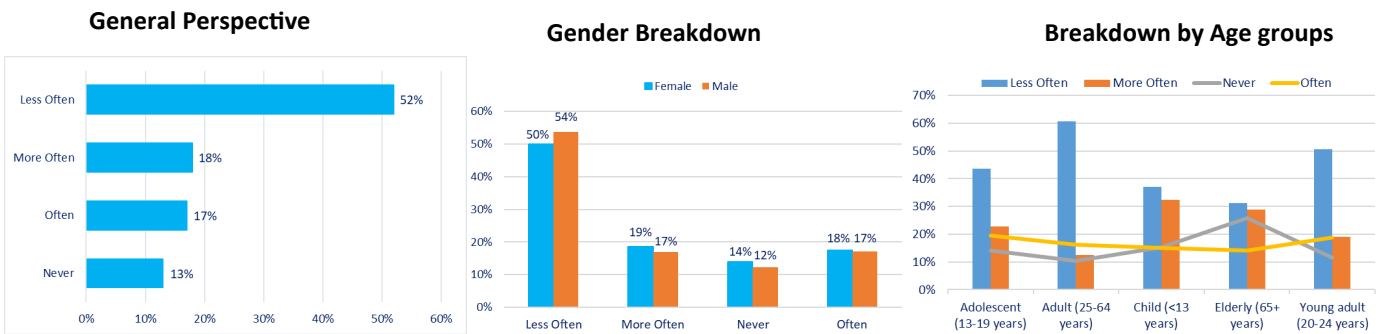
QN Thirteen: What measures should be put in place to ensure that Ugandans access safe food?

10,033 Total Participants

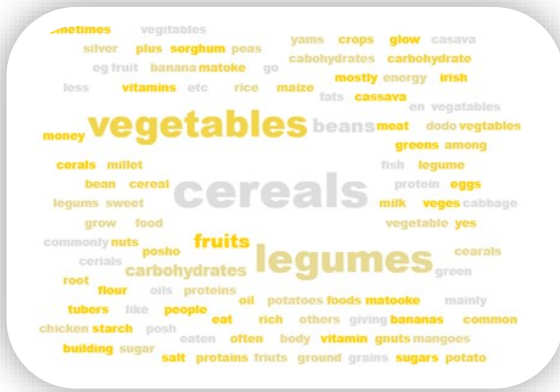


PART C: Nutritious Food

QN Fourteen: On average, how often do people eat a diversity of food groups at meal time e.g., cereals, legumes, fruits, vegetables, milk, fish, meat and oils among others?



QN Fifteen: Follow Up for often, more often: If so, kindly tell us which are those commonly eaten food groups? **7,798** Participants



QN Sixteen: Follow Up for less often, and never: If so, kindly tell us what is the challenge?

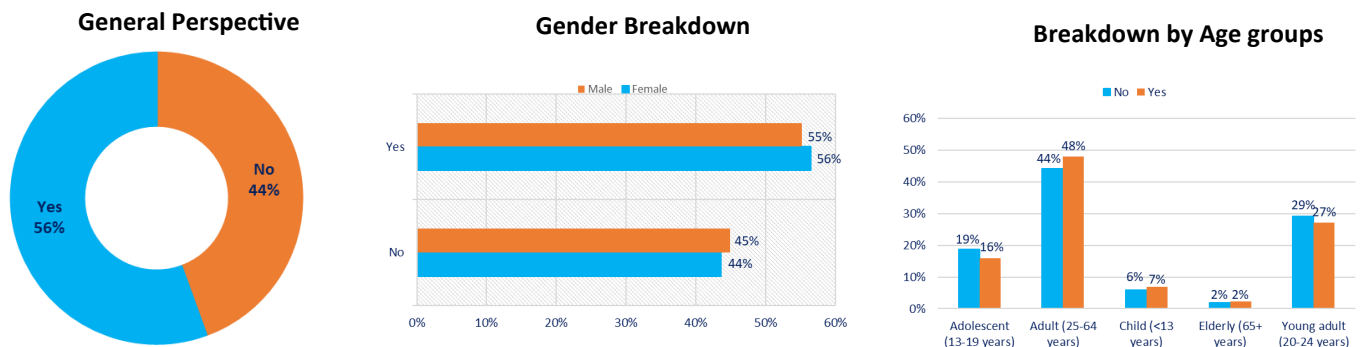


When asked how often people eat a diversity of food groups at meal times, the majority 52% said they eat these less often and only 18% said more often.

Follow up to often and more often: When asked about the commonly eaten food groups, Cereals, Legumes, and vegetables were the top 3 commonly eaten food groups.

Follow Up for less often, and never: Poverty, lack of money are among the key challenges as to why these foods are less often or never consumed at all

QN Seventeen: Are problems of overweight, obesity and diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cancers common in your community? YES or NO



8,752 Participants

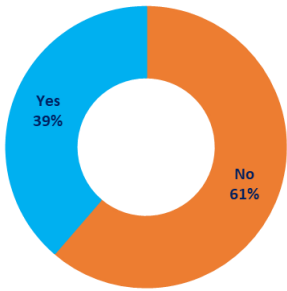
Overall, 56% of the respondents said that problems of obesity and diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cancers are common in their communities

When compared by gender, women seem to be more affected with 1% edge as compared to males, adults between 25—64 years seem to be the most affected as compared to other agegroups

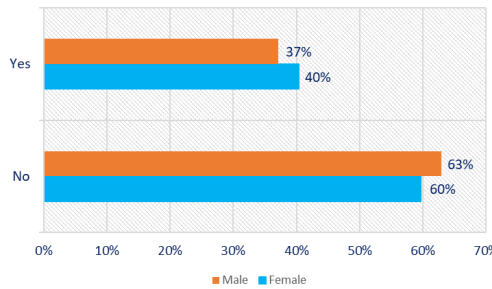
Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all with focus on ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition including diet-related non-communicable disease, and enabling all people to be well nourished and healthy”

QN Eighteen: Are people in your area aware that eating foods that contain too much energy/calories can increase risk of non-communicable diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cancer? Yes or No

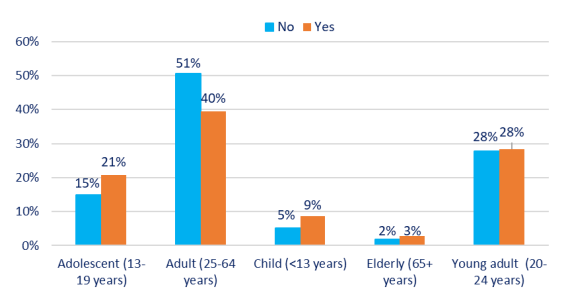
General Perspective



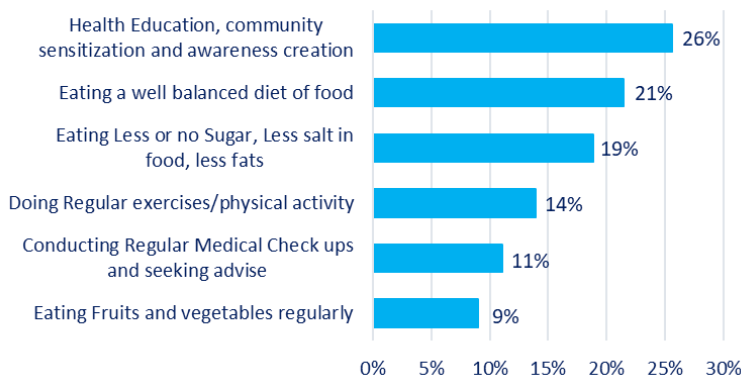
Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups



Follow Up for “Yes”: If yes, what is being done to reduce these risks?



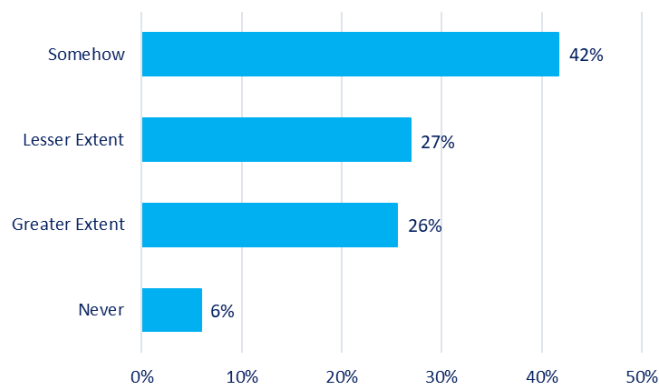
8, 531 Participants

When asked about awareness of the contributing factors to non communicable diseases like diabetes, Hypertension and cancer, only 39% of the participants were aware while the majority 61% were unaware.

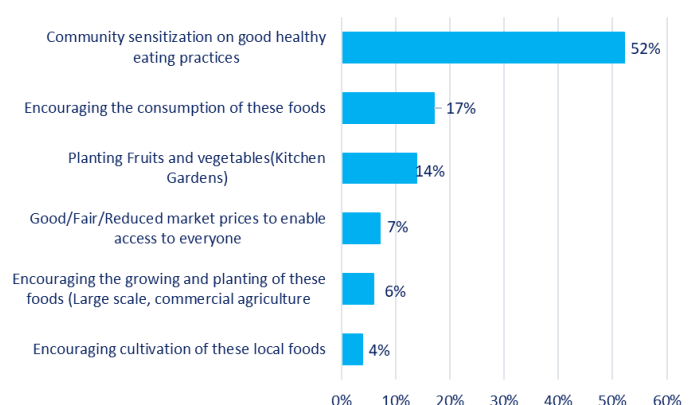
Awareness levels were higher in women 40% compared to the males 37%. This is possibly because its women who spend more time in food related activities in purchasing and cooking so they are well informed on healthy and unhealthy foods

A follow up question was asked to those who had indicated “YES” (Awareness) and they were asked on what is being done to reduce the risks associated to non-communicable diseases. Results recieved indicated that Health education,community sensitization and awareness creation (26%) is one of the top measues preferred by the respondents

QN Nineteen To what extent are people valuing and consuming fruits and vegetables in your community? **(8, 069 Participants)**



QN Twenty: How can local, safe & nutritious foods be promoted to reduce malnutrition (in Uganda)? **(7,341 Participants)**

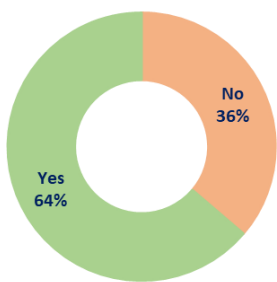


Action Track 2: Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns

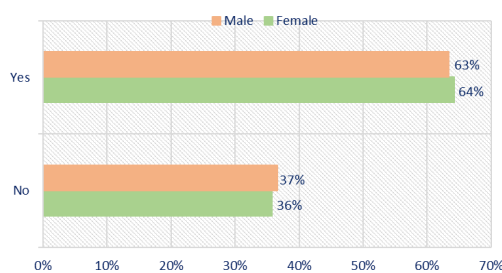
- ⇒ Action Track poll questions were developed based “Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns” thematic area
- ⇒ 10 polls questions alongside 07 Informational messages were administered in this action track, **49,894** U-Reporters opted in to participate thereby generating a total of **274,473** messages including poll responses and comments triggered by the informational messages and questions.
- ⇒ Polling dates: Respondents started polls between 26th July and was closed after on 1st august 2021. Link to the U-Report poll results in the public website: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5195/>

QN One: Do you think your diet is healthy? A). Yes B). No

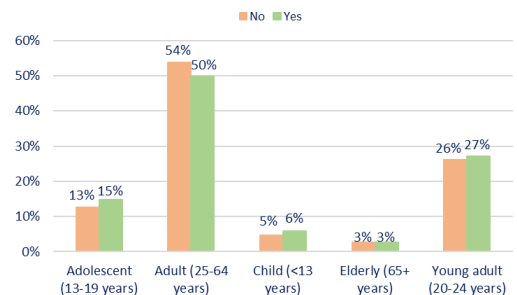
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups

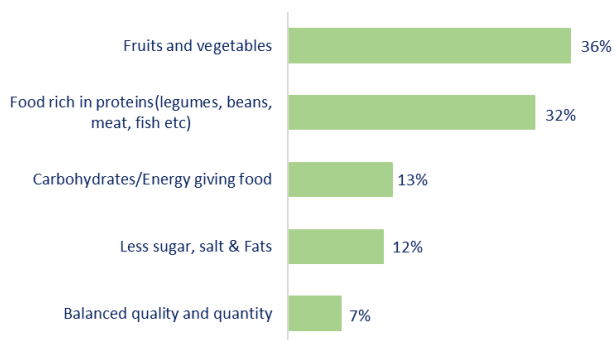


40,429 Participants

An informational message was sent to the participants about a healthy diet and kinds of food that constitute it to enhance their knowledge before the actual question was asked. When asked whether their diet is healthy or not, the majority 64% responded with Yes and 36% said No

More women believe that their diet is healthy as compared to the males 63%. When compared amongst different agegroups,

QN Two: What would a healthy and sustainable diet mean/look like for you?



23,114 Participants

This was an open ended question and the majority of U-Reporters 36% believe that a healthy diet to the m is composed of fruits and vegetables, 32% mentioned that Food rich in proteins.

Sample U-Reporte quotes

“Eating well cooked and clean food like vegetables, fruits, meat, Cassava, beans at least balancing it and eating at least two or three times a day”

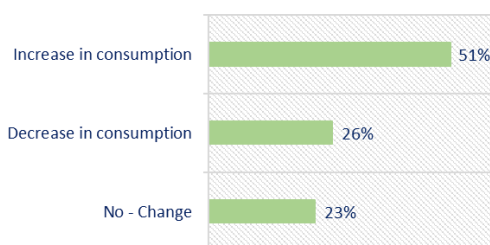
“A diet with all vitamins, proteins and carbohydrates, but due to Covid, its hard for me to have a healthy diet.”

“Actually ,a healthy and sustainable diet food would have quantity & quality suitable for consumption. Should not bring any health problem to a person.”

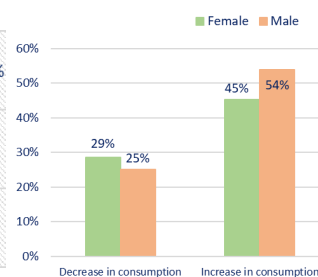
QN Three: Have you observed any change in the consumption of processed foods in your community/place of work/among households/ your children/ or in yourself? A). Increase in consumption B). Decrease in consumption C). No change .

20,199 Participants

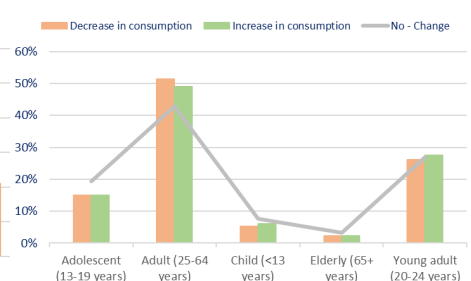
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups



Action Track 2: Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns

QN Four: What factors would you attribute this change to?

19,925 Participants

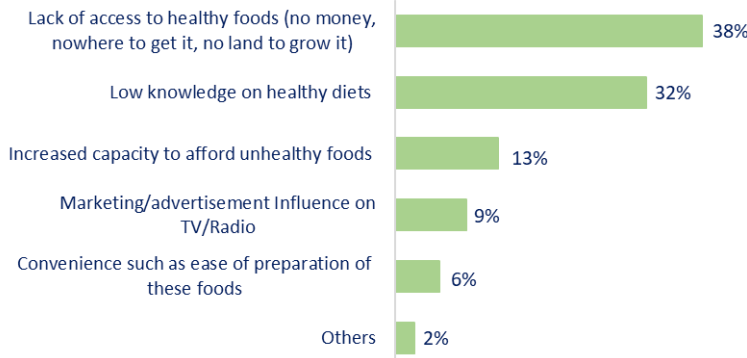
When asked about factors they attribute to the increase in the consumption of processed foods. 38% of U-Reporters mentioned Lack of access to healthy foods, 32% mentioned limited knowledge on healthy diets among others.

Other factors attributed to the changes - U-Reporter's sample quotes
 "Went home during lockdown where some are bought and some from garden sometimes"

"Increased knowledge on the risk of eating processed foods and availability of unprocessed foods since food is home grown"

"I said no change, people in the community have continued to depend on processed food, because of their availability and no any other options"

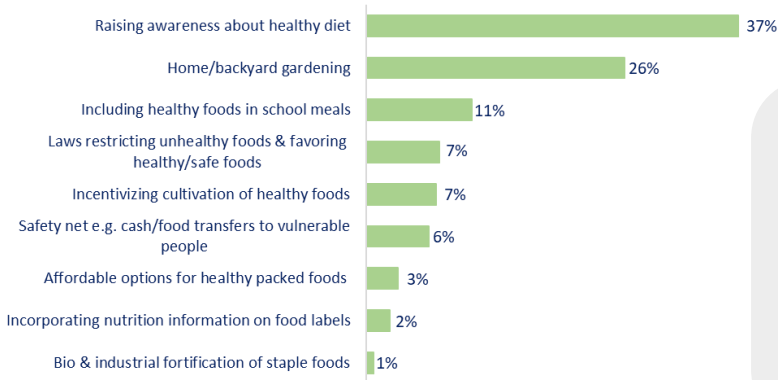
"We know the disadvantages of taking processed food. we discourage children and ourselves from taking them. we prepare snacks with less"



QN Five: What measures can you, ur family, school or community take to ensure continuous access of healthy and safe food?

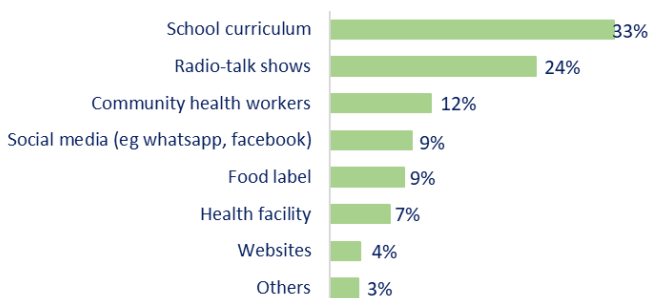
16,623 Participants

When asked about measures they can take to ensure continuous access of healthy and safe food, 37% of U-Reporters mentioned that raising awareness about healthy diets, 26% believe that setting kitchen gardens in the backyard is the best way to go.

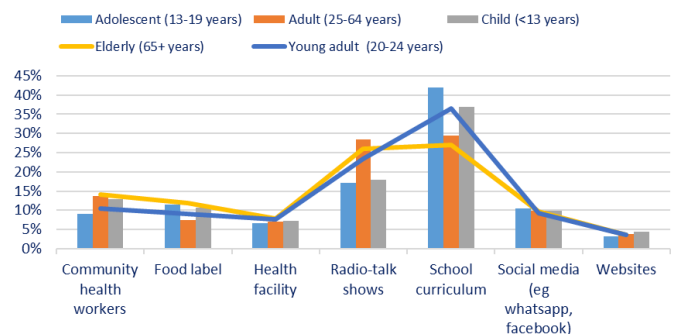


QN Six: What ways do you learn about healthy diets?

General Perspective



Breakdown by Age groups



15,333 Participants

Overall, 33% of the respondents mentioned that they learn about healthy diets through the school curriculum, 24% mentioned through Radio talk shows

Compared by different agegroups, the majority of adolescents 13-19 years mentioned through school curriculum. This is mostly because the majority of school going children are under this age.

Other ways to learn about healthy diets - U-Reporter's sample quotes

"Ceminers concerning food quality and health, from the experts who teach people abt food balance in the community"

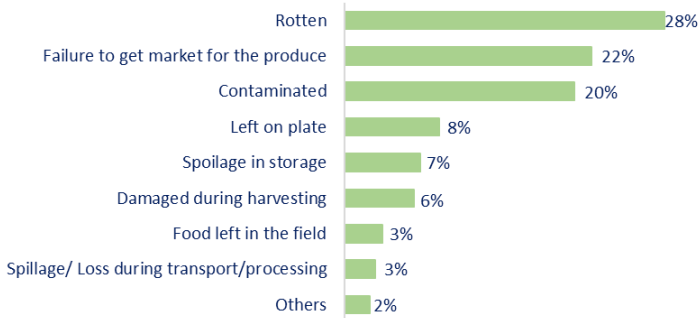
"From friends especially when someone had illness and was advised to eat certain food he/recommends me and that's how we do it with other stuff"

"my personal research project at the University as a research student at makerere university"

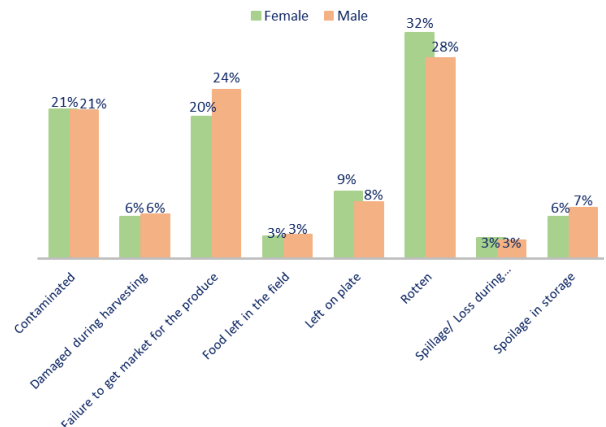
Action Track 2: Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns

QN Seven: What are the reasons people in your community/school/place of work/among households waste/throw away food?

General Perspective



Gender Perspective



14,091 Participants

Most respondents mentioned food rotting 28% is the key reason as to why food gets wasted, 22% mentioned Failure to get market for their products. When compared by different age groups, most males 24% mentioned failure to get market for their produce, this is mostly because more men are engaged in trading and hence they experience market factors than women. On the hand the majority of women mentioned food rotting probably because they are the ones involved in the kitchen work and witness the balance of food prepared on daily getting to waste.

Other reasons for food waste - U-Reporter's sample quotes

"First and foremost ignorance of people on how make use of surplus foods produced"

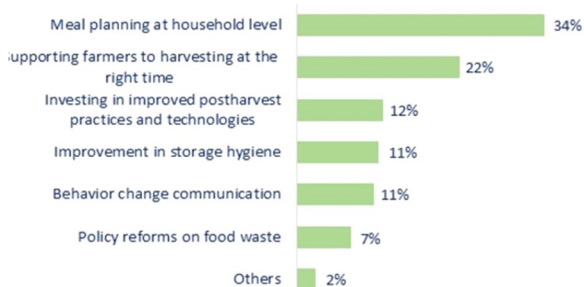
"There is a point when we prepare too much that we can't consume hence the balance we throw"

"Greed, if the food was shared, nobody would be hungry and nothing would be wasted, poor storage and waste during harvest are added to that"

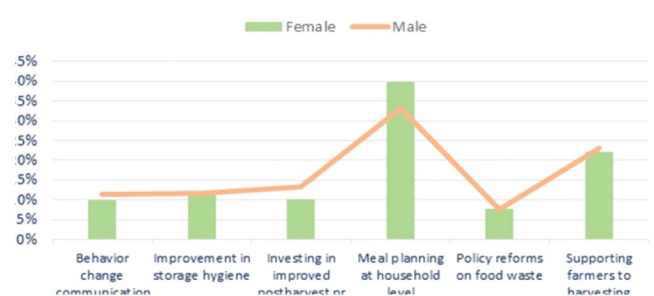
"Low prices and some times are in plenty especially fruits, and lack of processing factories such as ovacado, mangoes guavas, etc"

QN Eight: What do you think needs to be done to support you, ur school or community to reduce the amount of food wasted?

General Perspective



Gender Perspective



Other to reduce food wastage - U-Reporter's sample quotes

"Teaching farmer good farming methods like crop rotation and advising them on the dangers of monocropping"

"Improve the feeder roads so that even the local markets can be easily reached"

"Harvesting equipments lyk carpets should be provided"

"Creating market for their products and increasing on the price of agricultural products"

"just getting some money to people such that they can know that they are lead by people not those who puts in their stomachs yet the people are totally dying"

Action Track 3: Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production , Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people and Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil

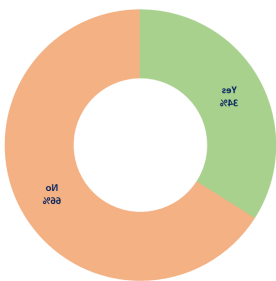
- ⇒ Action Track 3 poll questions were developed based on three thematic areas of : (i). Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production (ii)Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people (iii)Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil
- ⇒ 10 polls questions including were administered in this action track, **29,354** U-Reporters opted in to participate thereby generating a total of **131,792** messages including poll responses and comments triggered by the informational messages and questions.
- ⇒ Polling dates: Respondents started polls between 31st July upto 8th August 2021. Link to poll results: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5230/>

PART (i)

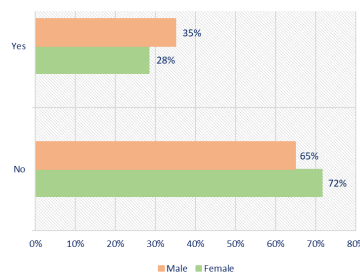
“Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production”

QN One: Do you know of any current interventions in Uganda and your area in particular that promote protection of natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production? YES or NO

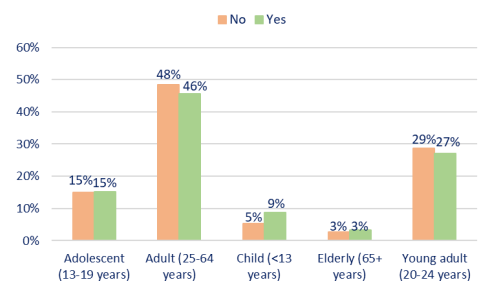
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups



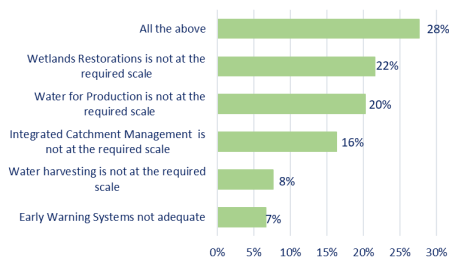
25,700 Participants

Overall the majority of U-Reporters **66%** did not know of any current interventions on protection of natural ecosystems while 34% responded affirmatively

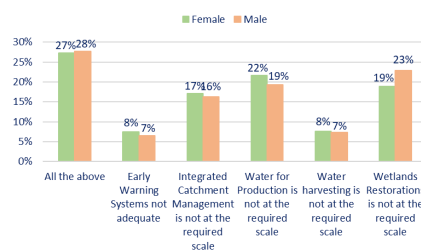
Gender Comparison: Most male 35% are aware of interventions on protection of natural ecosystems as compared to women. This is most likely because Men are the most active in the fields of farming as women concentrate most in domesticated work

QN Two (Follow up to Yes): What are the current Challenges?

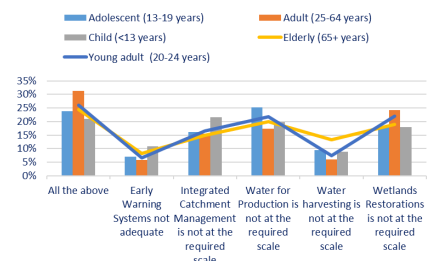
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups



6,447 Participants

A follow up question was sent to those who had responded “YES” to question one to find about their current challenges. Overall the majority **28%** selected all the given options as some of the current challenges faced

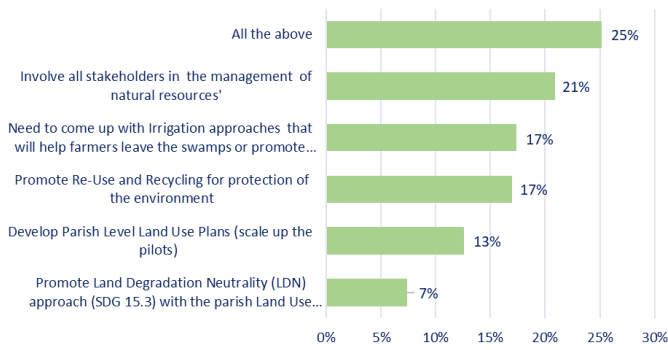
Gender Comparison: As much as there is general consensus on all the listed options, Most males **23%** indicated a challenge in “Wetland restoration is not at the required scale” while their female counterparts (**22%**) mentioned that “Water for production is not at the required scale”

This is so mainly because men are so much involved in the wetland reclamation practices while women are more concerned about water due to their involvement in domesticated work

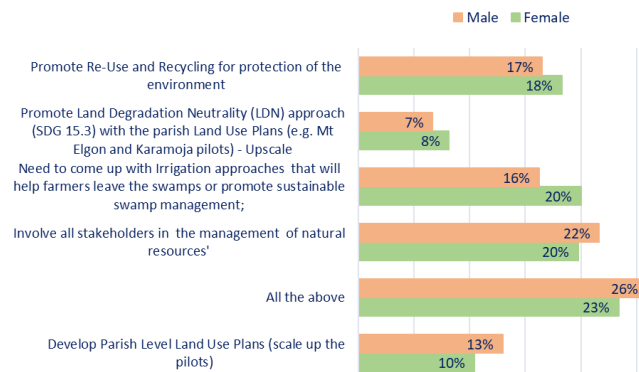
Action Track 3: Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production, Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people and Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil

QN Three (Follow up to Yes) What are the Gaps and Emerging Issues?

General Perspective



Gender Perspective

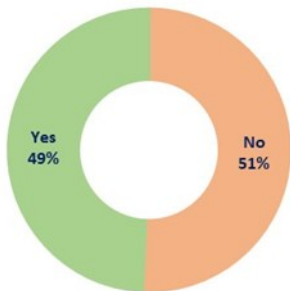


PART (ii)

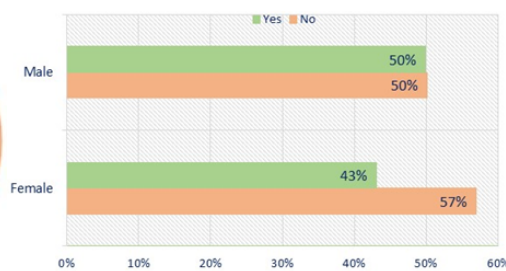
“Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people”

QN Four: Do you know of any current interventions in Uganda and your area in particular that is helping to sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people? YES or NO

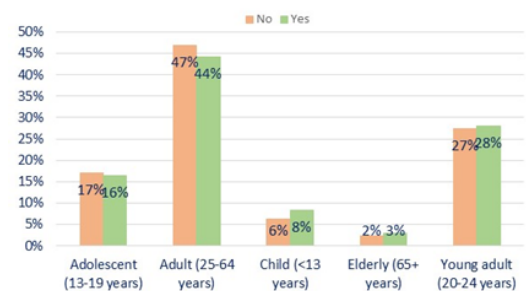
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups



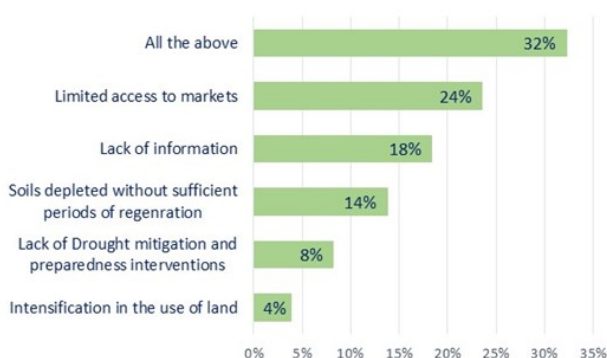
15,487 Participants

Overall **49%** of U-Reporters polled know of interventions helping to to manage food production systems to benefit both nature and people, the majority **51%** did not know of any

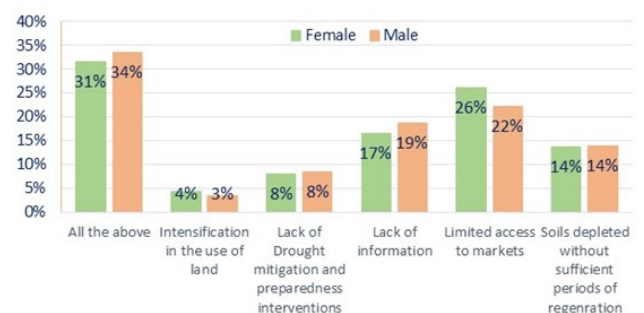
Gender Comparison: Knowledge and awareness levels of the interventions undertaken are much lower in female

QN Five: Follow up to “Yes” If yes, what are the current Challenges?

General Perspective



Breakdown by Age groups



Action Track 3: Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production, Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people and Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil

6,447 Participants

As much as the most of the U-Reporters selected all the given options as the the challenges faced by the current interventions to manage food production systems, among the top key challenges include Limited access to markets(24%), Lack of information (18%) among others.

U-Reporters sample quotes

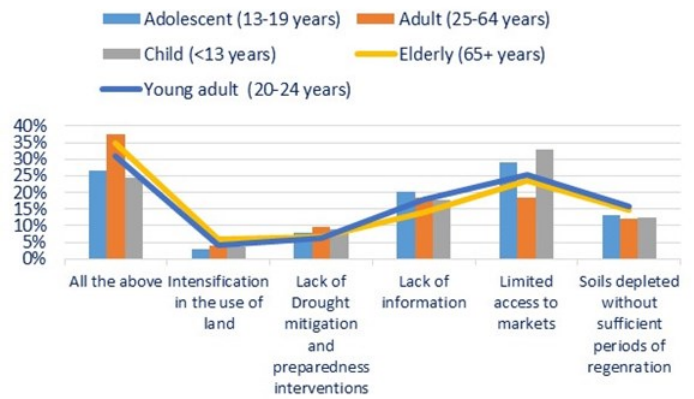
“The mass is ignorant about the environment so there is need to educate the mass and also involve all the stake holders with in the concerned areas”

Lack of knowledge from the local people about the usefulness of the eco systems

“Deforestation and river encroachment has led to climate change hence a change in farming seasons leading to poor crop yields.”

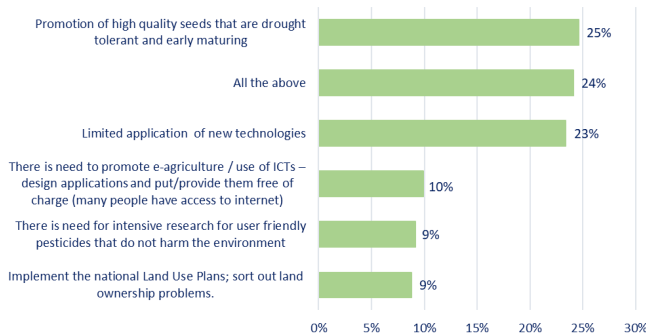
Policy in Uganda is driven by the interest of those in authority such that an ordinary citizen can't utilize any resource gazzated by government in turn benefit the ecosystems.

Breakdown by Age groups

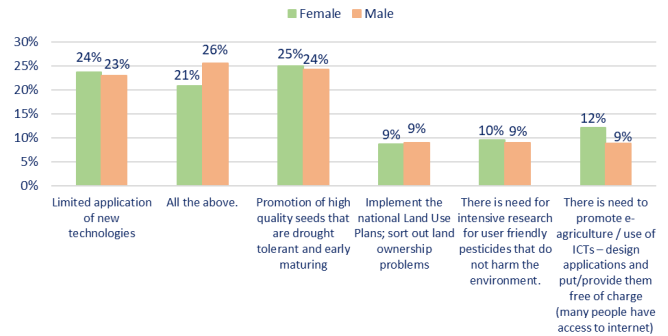


QN Six: What are the current Gaps and Emerging Issues?

General Perspective



Gender Perspective

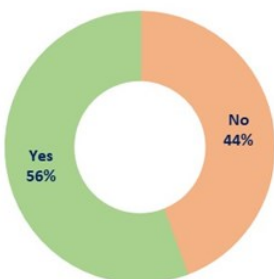


PART (iii)

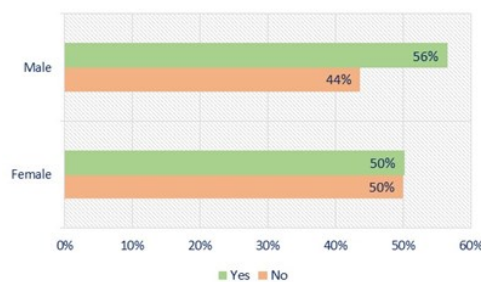
“Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil ”

QN Seven: Do u know of any current interventions in Uganda & ur area in particular that is helping to restore degraded ecosystems & rehabilitate soil function for sustainable food production? Yes or No?

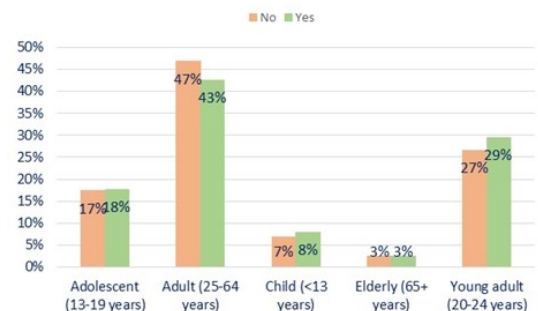
General Perspective



Gender Breakdown



Breakdown by Age groups

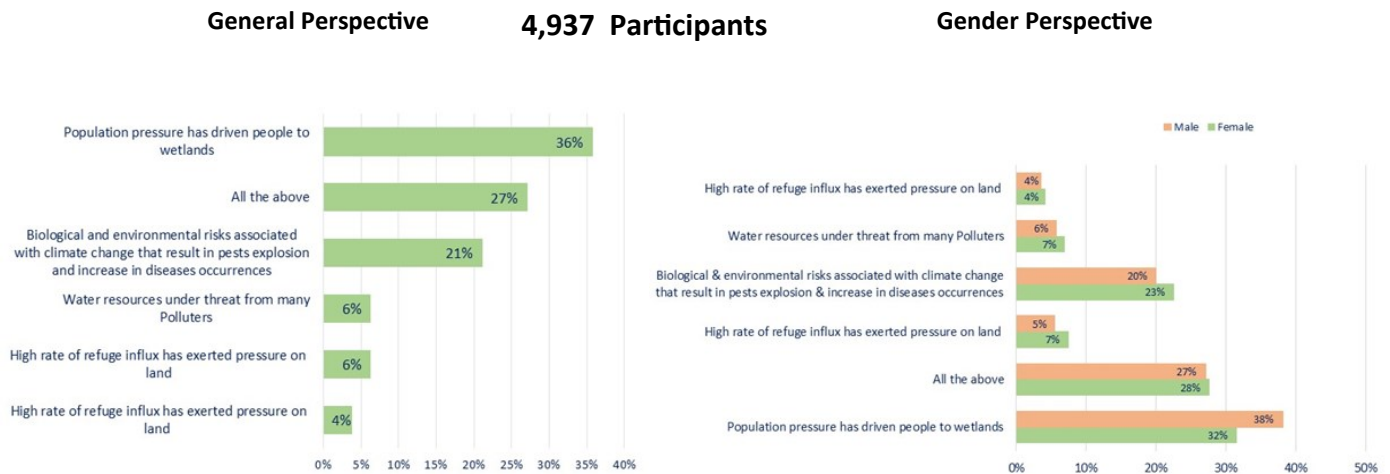


12,154 Total Participants

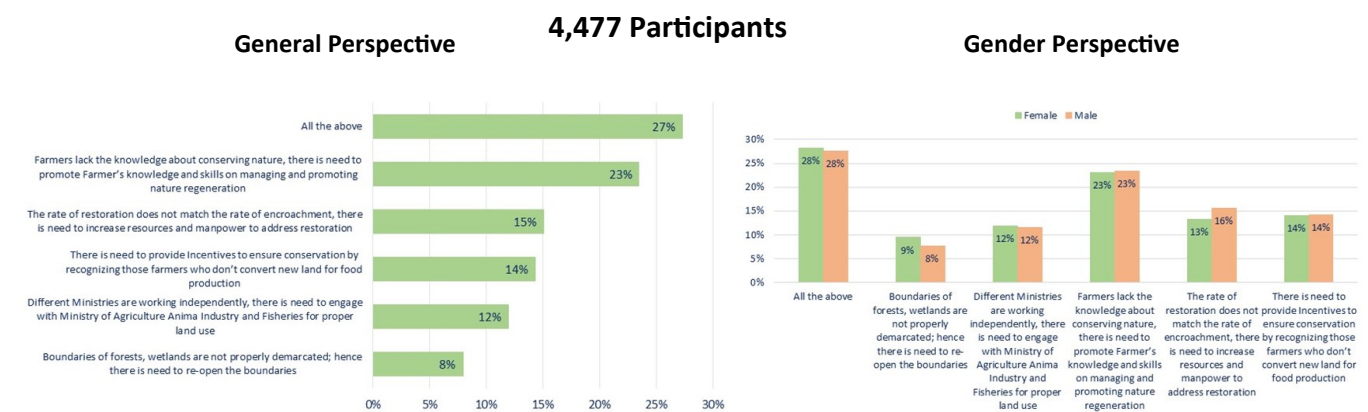
The majority 56% of U-Reporters polled know of current interventions aimed at restoring degraded ecosystem while 44% did not know of any. **Gender Comparison:** Knowledge and awareness levels of the interventions undertaken are much greater in male (56%) as compared to their female counterparts. This is probably because men are believed to be more informed than women

Action Track 3: Protect natural ecosystems against new conversions for food and feed production , Sustainably manage existing food production systems to the benefit of both nature and people and Restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil

QN Eight: Follow up to “Yes” on Question 7: what are the current Challenges?



QN Nine: Follow up to “Yes” on Question 7: If yes, what are the current gaps and Emerging Issues?



Action Track 4: “A). Promoting full and productive employment and decent work B). Transforming smallholder to commercial agriculture C). Reducing risks for the country’s poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups”

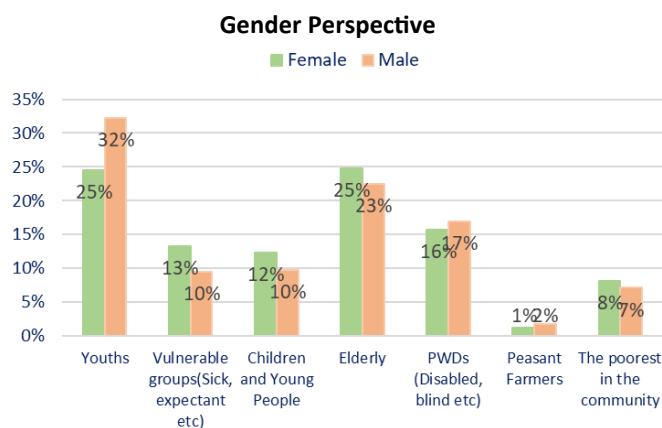
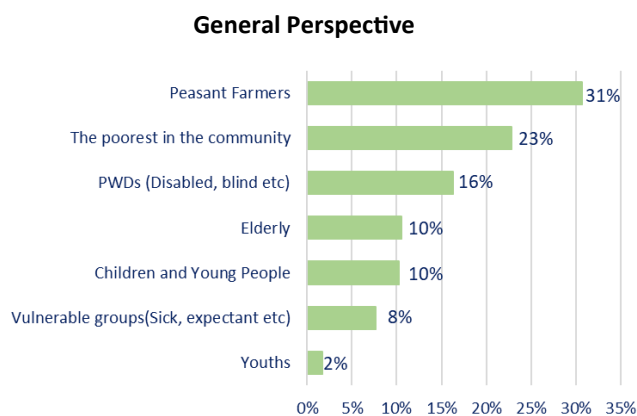
- ⇒ Action Track 3 poll questions were developed based on three thematic areas of : (A). Promoting full and productive employment and decent work B). Transforming smallholder to commercial agriculture C). Reducing risks for the country’s poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups”
- ⇒ 10 polls questions were administered in this action track, **9,218** U-Reporters opted in to participate thereby generating a total of **59,931** messages including poll responses and comments triggered by the informational messages and questions.
- ⇒ Polling dates: Respondents started polls between 8th upto 16th August 2021. Link to poll results:

<https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5259/>

PART (A)

“Promoting full and productive employment and decent work ”

QN One: *What groups are most excluded from full, productive and decent work within the food systems activities and related sectors*

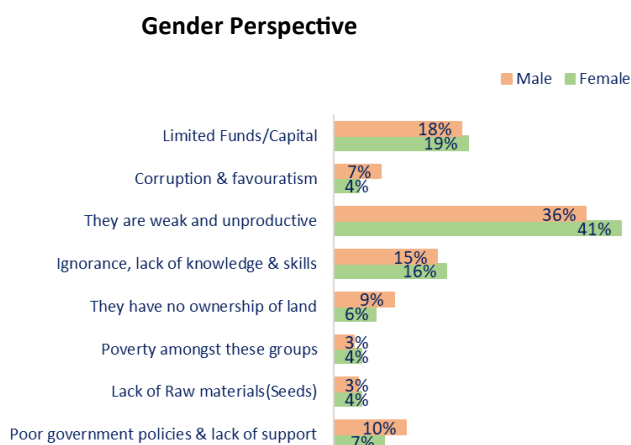
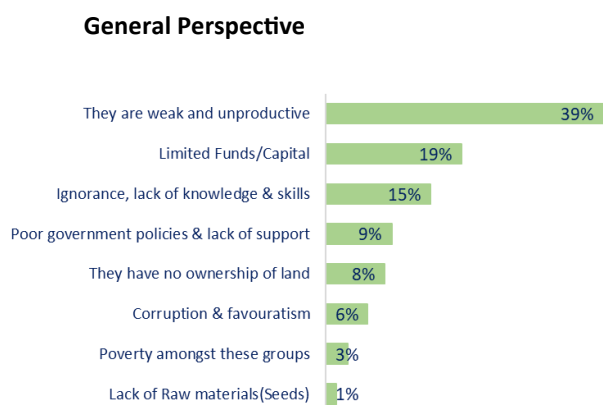


8,983 Participants

Overall the majority of U-Reporters **33%** mentioned peasant farmers as the most excluded group of people. Among other groups include;

- Vulnerable groups(Sick, expectant etc)
- Children and Young People
- Elderly
- PWDs (Disabled, blind etc)
- Peasant Farmers
- The poorest in the community

QN Two: *What are the reasons why they are left out?*



7,730 Participants

Overall **39%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned “Being weak and unproductive” is one of the reasons the mentioned groups are most excluded from full, productive and decent work within the food systems activities and related sectors.

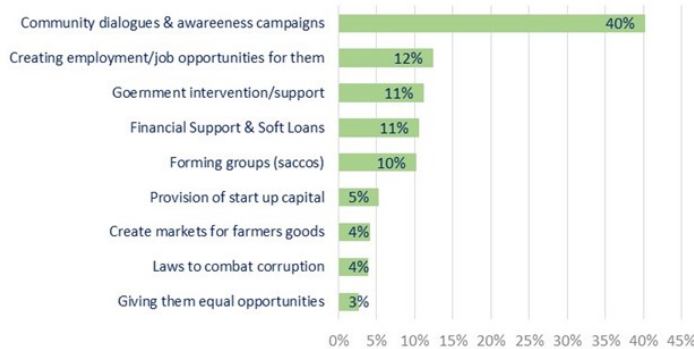
Other reasons include;

- Lack of Raw materials(Seeds)
- Poverty amongst these groups
- Corruption & favouratism
- They have no ownership of land
- Poor government policies & lack of support

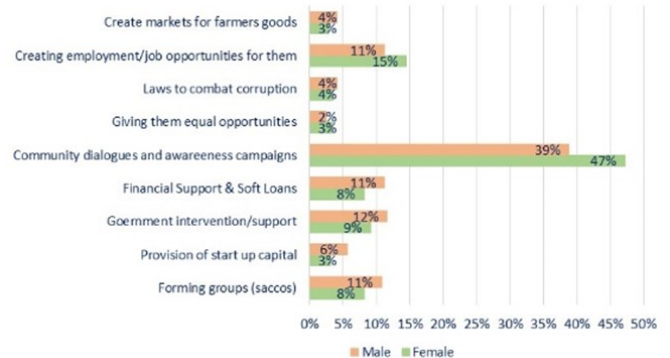
Action Track 4: “A). Promoting full and productive employment and decent work B). Transforming smallholder to commercial agriculture C). Reducing risks for the country’s poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups”

QN Three: *What should be done to ensure that these groups are integrated & get opportunities for full & productive employment & decent work within the food systems/other sectors?*

General Perspective



Gender Perspective

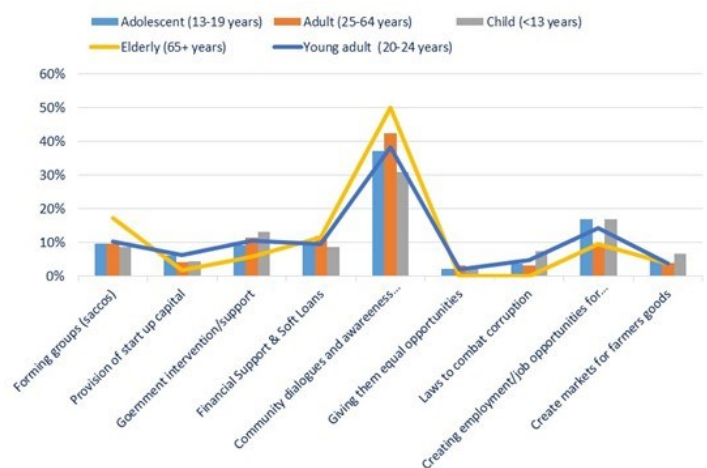


6,582 Participants

The majority **40%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned the need to carry out “Community dialogues & awareness campaigns” is one to integrate and get opportunities for full and productive employment/ decent work within the food systems. Other reasons include;

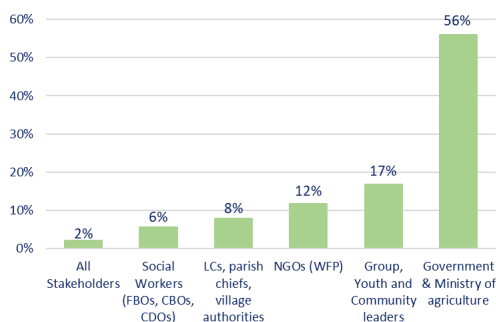
- Giving them equal opportunities
- Laws to combat corruption
- Create markets for farmers goods
- Provision of start up capital
- Forming groups (saccos)
- Financial Support & Soft Loans
- Goerment intervention/support
- Creating employment/job opportunities for

By Agegroups

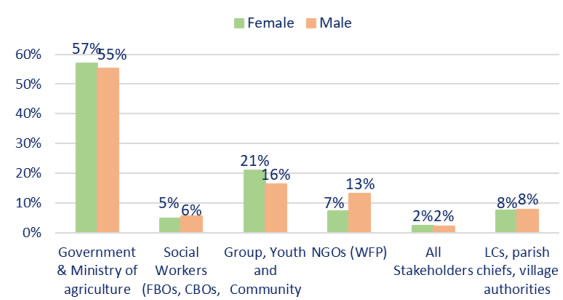


QN Four: *Who should be responsible in ensuring that these groups are integrated & get opportunities for full/productive employment & decent work?*

General Perspective



Gender Perspective



5,661 Total Responses

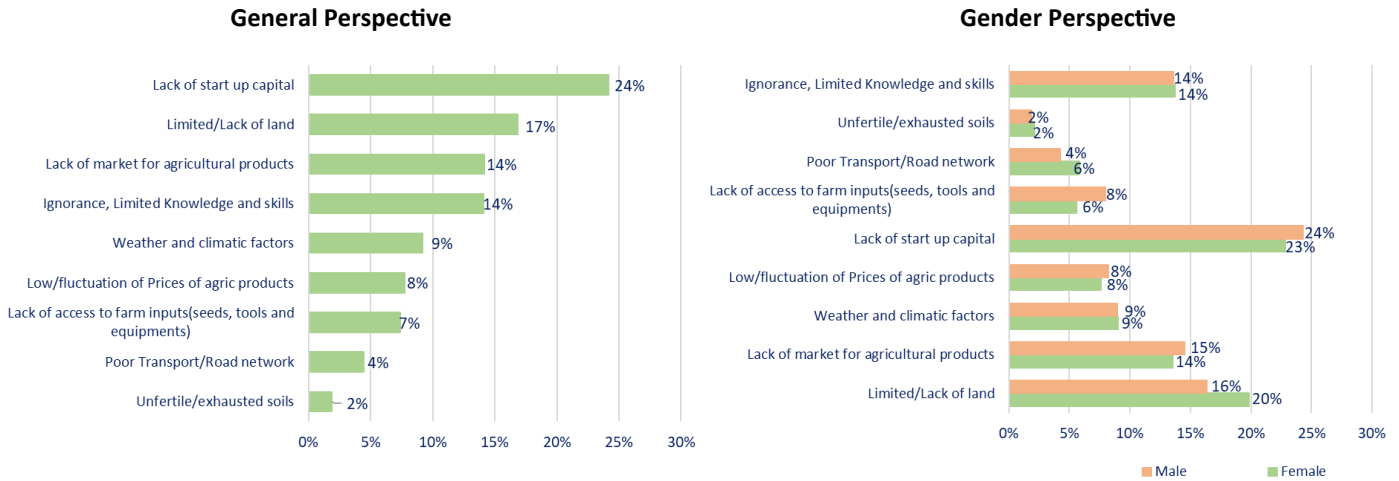
The majority **56%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned “Lack of start up capital” as one of the challenges that hinder small holder farmers. Other include;

Unfertile/exhausted soils, Poor Transport/Road network, Lack of access to farm inputs(seeds, tools and equipments), Low/fluctuation of Prices of agric products, Weather and climatic factors, Ignorance, Limited Knowledge and skills, Lack of market for agricultural products and Limited/Lack of land

PART (B)

“Transforming smallholder to commercial agriculture”

QN Five: *What challenges hinder smallholder farmers particularly youth, women, vulnerable & marginalized from making a sustainable living/livelihoods from agriculture?*

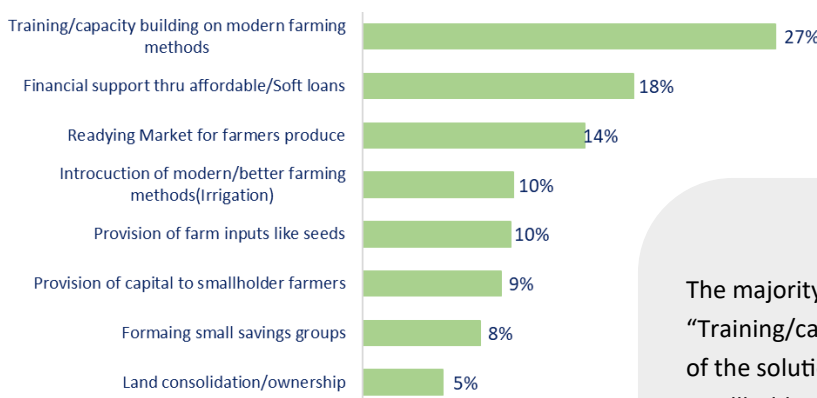


5,661 Participants

The majority **56%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned “Lack of start up capital” as one of the challenges that hinder small holder farmers. Other include;

- Unfertile/exhausted soils
- Poor Transport/Road network
- Lack of access to farm inputs(seeds, tools and equipments)
- Low/fluctuation of Prices of agric products
- Weather and climatic factors
- Ignorance, Limited Knowledge and skills
- Lack of market for agricultural products

QN Six: *What should be done to address these challenges to enable smallholder farmers benefit from the food system thru increased productivity & incomes improved food security and nutrition*



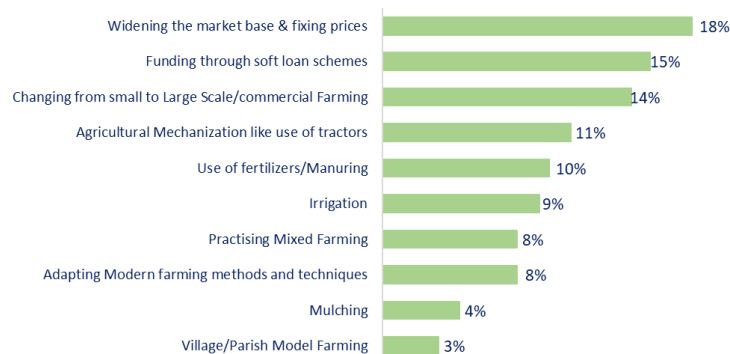
5,086 Total Participants

The majority **27%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned “Training/capacity building smallholder farmers” as one of the solutions to address challenges faced by smallholder farmers. Othersolutions include;

- Land consolidation/ownership
- Formaing small savings groups
- Provision of capital to smallholder farmers
- Provision of farm inputs like seeds
- Introcution of modern/better farming methods (Irrigation)
- Readying Market for farmers produce
- Financial support thru affordable/Soft loans

Action Track 4: “A). Promoting full and productive employment and decent work B). Transforming smallholder to commercial agriculture C). Reducing risks for the country’s poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups”

QN Seven: What are some of the good practices and models that can transform smallholders from subsistence to commercial agriculture?



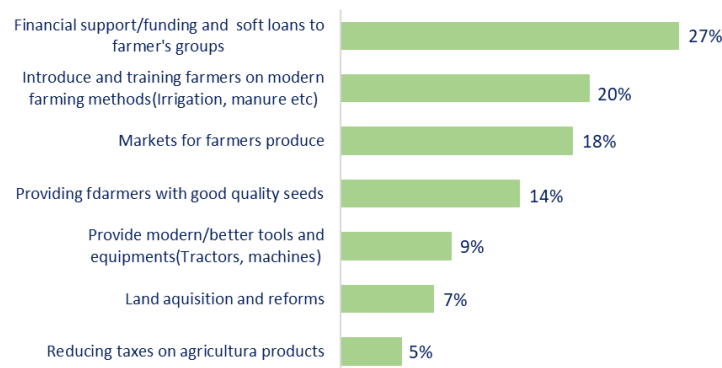
5,086 Total Responses

The majority **18%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned “Widening the market base & fixing prices” as one of the good practices that can transform smallholder farmers from subsistence to commercial agriculture

Other good practices include;

- Village/Parish Model Farming
- Mulching
- Adapting Modern farming methods & techniques
- Practising Mixed Farming
- Irrigation
- Use of fertilizers/Manuring
- Agricultural Mechanization like use of tractors
- Changing from small to Large Scale/commercial Farming
- Funding through soft loan schemes

QN Eight: What interventions and reforms should Government undertake to transform subsistence into commercial agriculture



4,144 Participants

The majority **27%** of U-Reporters polled mentioned “Financial support/funding and soft loans to farmer's groups” as one of the interventions & reforms Government should undertake to transform subsistence into commercial agriculture. Othersuggested reforms include;

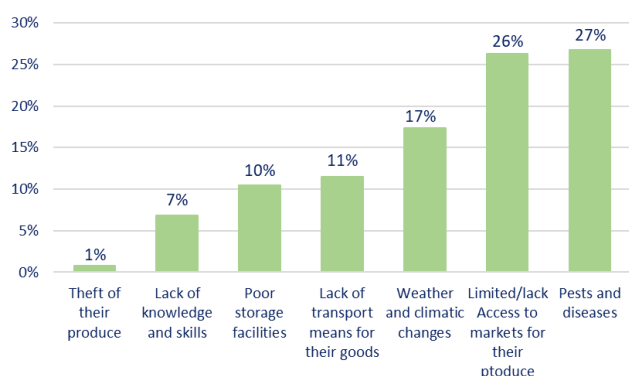
- Reducing taxes on agricultura products
- Land aquisition and reforms
- Provide modern/better tools and equipments(Tractors, machines)
- Providing farmers with good quality seeds
- Markets for farmers produce
- Introduce and training farmers on modern farming

PART (C)

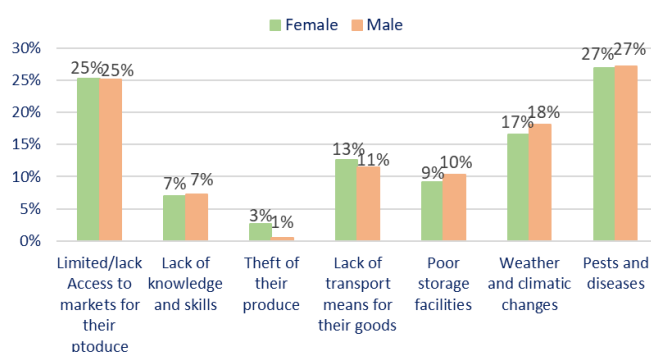
“Reducing risks for the country’s poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups”

QN Nine: What risks do the poorest, vulnerable and marginalized groups face in their pursuit of improved food security and nutrition and means of earning decent living?

General Perspective



Gender Perspective

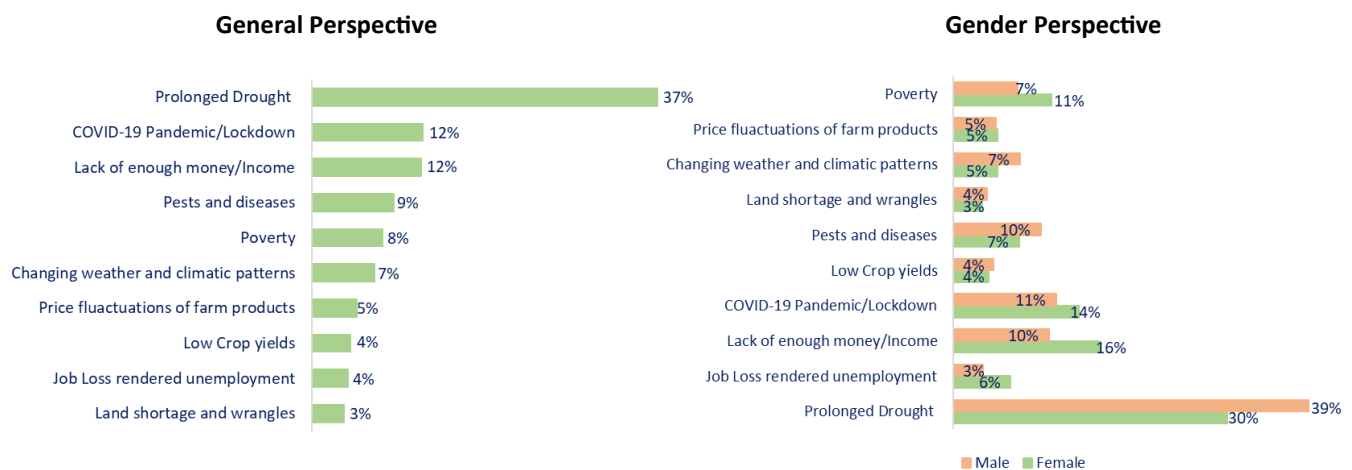


- ⇒ Action Track 5 poll questions were developed based on three thematic areas of : (A) Building resilience requires that people, institutions, infrastructure, services of the Food Systems have the capacity to anticipate shocks, manage risks, prevent or reduce exposure, absorb (respond to and cope), adapt to evolving risks. (B) A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems (C) Enhanced market information helps to Prevent overreaction to shocks and gives an opportunity to informed decision making
- ⇒ 10 polls questions were administered in this action track, **10,942** U-Reporters opted in to participate thereby generating a total of **76,978** messages including poll responses and comments triggered by the informational messages and questions.
- ⇒ Polling dates: Respondents started polls between 16th August upto 22nd August 2021. Link to poll results: <https://uganda.ureport.in/opinion/5260/>

PART (A)

“Building resilience requires that people, institutions, infrastructure, services of the Food Systems have the capacity to anticipate shocks, manage risks, prevent or reduce exposure, absorb (respond to and cope), adapt to evolving risks ”

QN One: Over the past 12 months, what are the shocks that you have experienced in your household and have affected food availability?



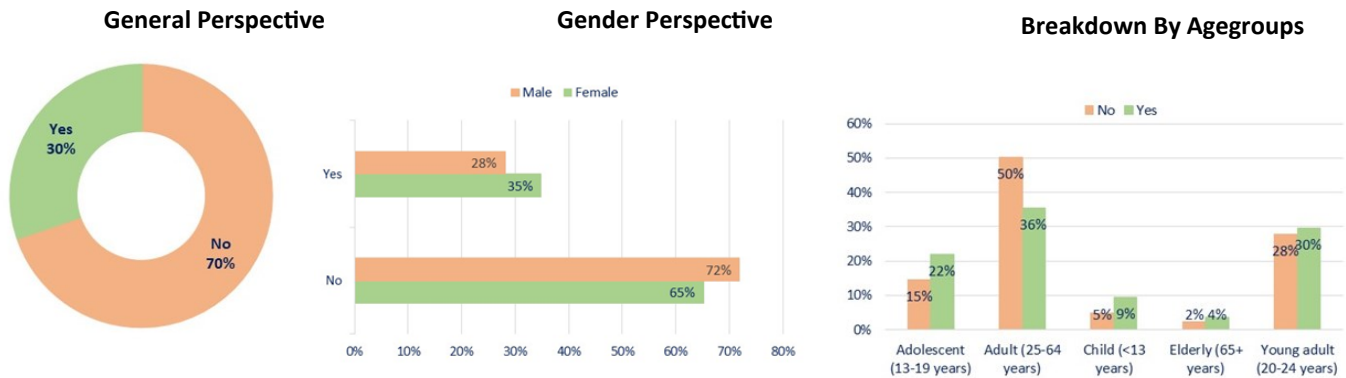
10,598 Participants

Overall the majority of U-Reporters **37%** mentioned “Prolonged Drought” as one of the of the shocks they experienced and have affected food availability. Other shocks mentioned include;

- Land shortage and wrangles
- Job Loss rendered unemployment
- Low Crop yields
- Price fluctuations of farm products
- Changing weather and climatic patterns
- Poverty
- Pests and diseases
- Lack of enough money/Income
- COVID-19 Pandemic/Lockdown

Action Track 5: A). Building resilience requires that people, institutions, infrastructure, services of the Food Systems have the capacity to anticipate shocks, manage risks, prevent or reduce exposure, absorb (respond to and cope), adapt to evolving risks. B). A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems. C). Enhanced market information helps to Prevent overreaction to shocks and gives an opportunity to informed decision making

QN Two: In your locality, are there mechanisms in place to detect climate, environmental, natural, health and economic shocks/disasters and stresses that can affect food production? **YES or NO**

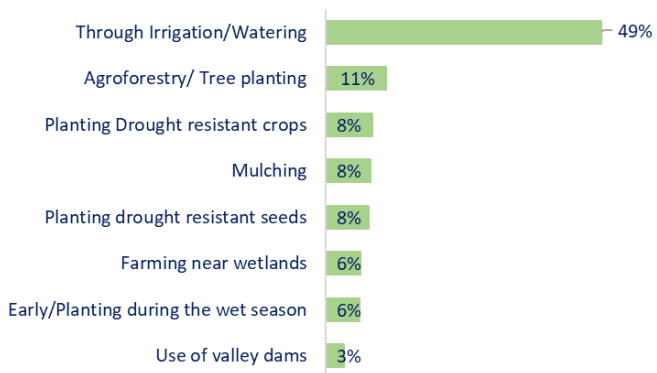


9,655 Total Participants

Overall the majority of U-Reporters **70%** did not have any mechanisms in place to detect climate, environmental, natural, health and economic shocks/disasters and stresses that can affect food production

Gender Comparison: Most females **35%** responded affirmatively as compared to their male counterparts.

QN Three: How are small scale farmers supported to withstand drought in your area? (List as many ways as possible)

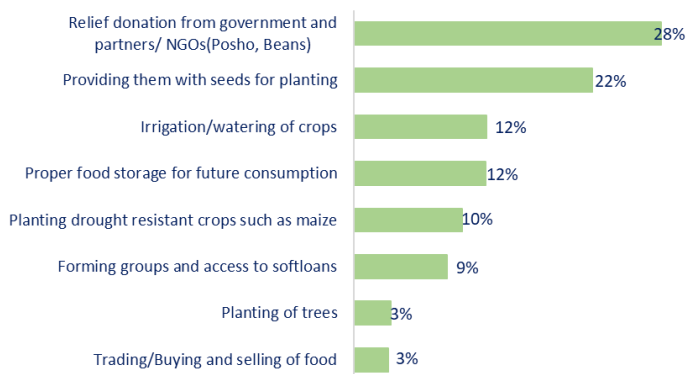


7,598 Total Responses

Overall the majority of U-Reporters **49%** mentioned “Through Irrigation/Watering” as one of the ways small scale farmers are supported to withstand drought. Other ways mentioned include;

- Use of valley dams
- Early/Planting during the wet season
- Farming near wetlands
- Planting drought resistant seeds
- Mulching
- Planting Drought resistant crops
- Agroforestry/ Tree planting

QN Four: In instances of shocks/stresses, how are people supported in your area to withstand the effects especially to do with food availability?



7,598 Total Responses

Overall the majority of U-Reporters **49%** mentioned “Relief donation from government and partners/ NGOs(Posho, Beans)” as one of the ways people are supported to withstand effects of shocks/stresses. Other ways mentioned include;

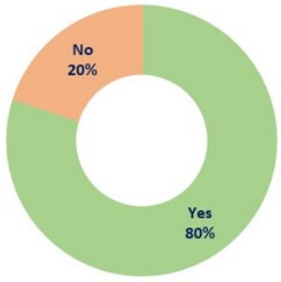
- Trading/Buying and selling of food
- Planting of trees
- Forming groups and access to softloans
- Planting drought resistant crops such as maize
- Proper food storage for future consumption
- Irrigation/watering of crops
- Providing them with seeds for planting

Action Track 5: A). Building resilience requires that people, institutions, infrastructure, services of the Food Systems have the capacity to anticipate shocks, manage risks, prevent or reduce exposure, absorb (respond to and cope), adapt to evolving risks. B). A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems. C). Enhanced market information helps to Prevent overreaction to shocks and gives an opportunity to informed decision making

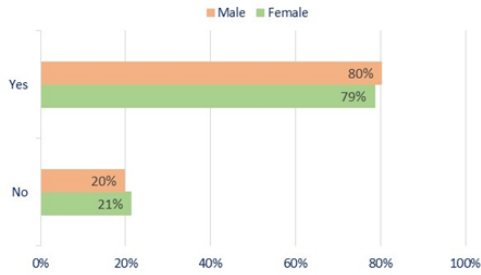
QN Five: Has Covid-19 been a major problem in your area? YES or NO

6,263 Participants

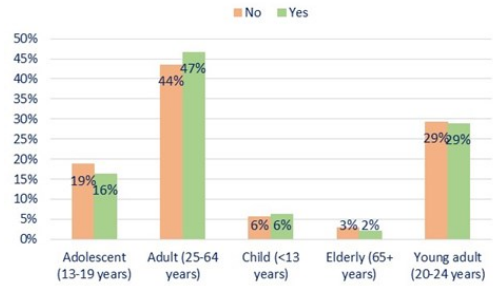
General Perspective



Gender Perspective



Breakdown By Agegroups



Follow up to Yes: If yes, what have the individuals in your area done to cope with its effects on food availability? (List as many ways as possible)



4,399 Total Responses

Among the key activities people have resorted due to the effects of COVID-19 include;

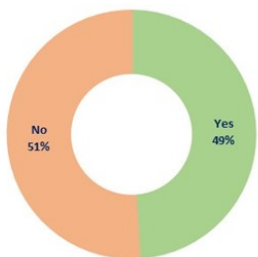
- Farming/digging in the gardens
- Buying and selling of produce
- Storing enough food at home
- Observing SOPs, social distancing, wearing masks

PART (B)

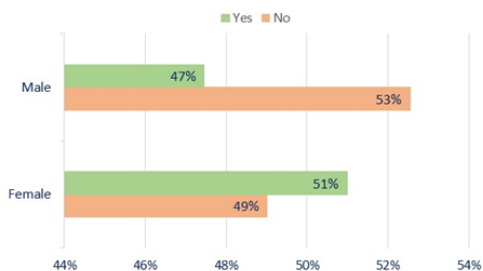
“A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems”

QN Six: Is there a system in your district to predict occurrence of environmental related disasters such as floods, drought, locusts, crop/animal diseases, pandemics etc. that are known to affect food availability and utilisation? YES or NO

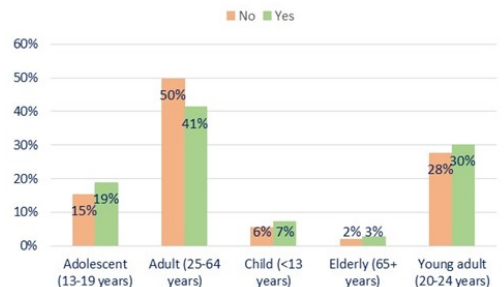
General Perspective



Gender Perspective



Breakdown By Agegroups



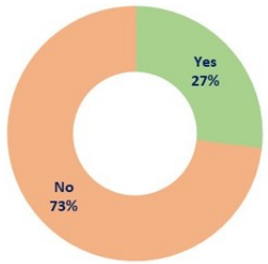
5,096 Participants

Overall 49% of U-Reporters have a system in their districts to predict occurrence of environmental related disasters, 51% reported that they do not have

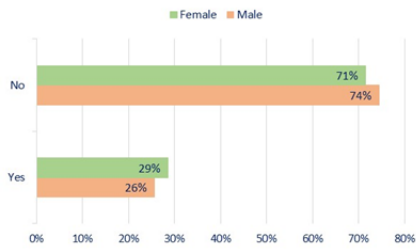
Action Track 5: A). Building resilience requires that people, institutions, infrastructure, services of the Food Systems have the capacity to anticipate shocks, manage risks, prevent or reduce exposure, absorb (respond to and cope), adapt to evolving risks. B). A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems. C). Enhanced market information helps to Prevent overreaction to shocks and gives an opportunity to informed decision making

QN Seven: In the past 24 months, have you or anyone in your household or village participated in a survey to obtain information on shocks or stresses that affect food production/storage/transportation/processing YES or NO

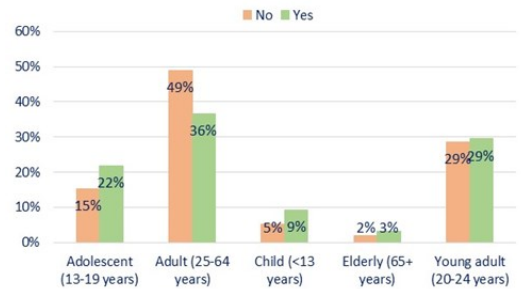
General Perspective



Gender Perspective



Breakdown By Agegroups



5,232 Participants

When asked if they have ever participated in the survey to obtain any information on shocks, stress, 27% of U-Reporters said yes, 73% said No. More males 74% indicated to have participated as compared to the females

Follow up QN to “Yes” If yes, who collected the data/information?

1,355 Total Responses

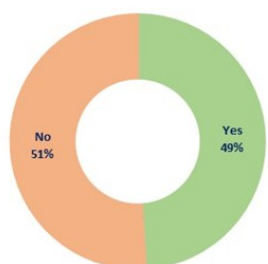


PART (C)

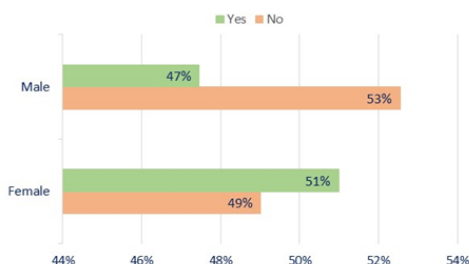
“A functional early warning system is vital in Anticipation, Prevention and Adaptation to vulnerabilities shocks and stress to food systems”

QN Eight: Do you regularly receive market information on food such as food prices, food prices/scarcity? YES or NO

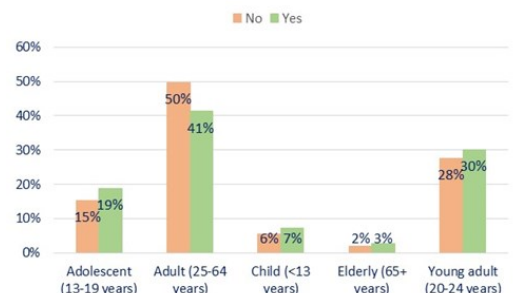
General Perspective



Gender Perspective



Breakdown By Agegroups



Follow up QN to “Yes” If yes, which are the common sources of that information? (List as many sources as possible)

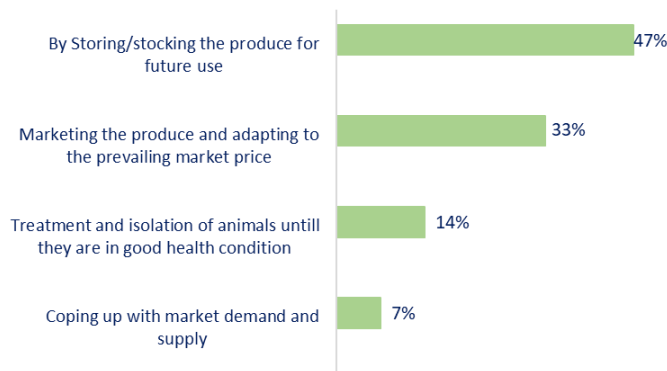
5,096 Participants

49% of U-Reporters reported that they regularly receive market information on food such as food prices.

A follow up question was sent to those who had responded with “YES” to find out their common sources of information. The majority mentioned that its through Radios, Television, Newspapers, Social Media among others



QN Ten: How do farmers in your area deal with price fluctuations of foods and or animal products (milk, meat and eggs) brought about by the shocks and stresses such as floods, drought, animal diseases, covid-19?



4,356 Participants

47% of U-Reporters reported that farmers stock their produce for future use, 33% said Marketing their produce and adapting to prevailing market price are some of the ways they deal with price fluctuations of foods and animal products.

Challenges

- There was little time to run all the 5 action tracks and this affected the response rate. The recommended time for each poll is to run between 7-14 days before its closed and results analyzed and for these polls, all the 5 action tracks were spread across one month.
- Question fatigue by the participants: Each action track was composed of at least 10 poll questions excluding the follow up questions. This is quite much for the participants and most of them did not complete responding to all the questions they received

Recommendations

- Early planning of the polls to be run at least two months for all the five action tracks to allow ample time for the participants to respond and data analysis and report writing
- Reduce the number of questions being asked in each of the action tracks to at least 07 questions per track. Also keeping the messages short, direct and in a simpler language is vital. The recommended text message length for U-Report is 160 characters maximum