

UGANDA



May 2023 - Hybrid



UGANDAN YOUTH FUTURES – INITIAL THINKING

INITIAL FUTURES ATTITUDE

Ugandan youth are optimistic about the future.

Predominant images generated in the workshops: **happy people**, various **symbols of money and wealth** including the typed word ‘millionaire’, but no predominant themes.



PROBABLE FUTURES

“The Hoe Doesn’t Lie, But is It Tech-Friendly?”

These futures explored themes around **‘Enkumbi Terimba’**, the hoe never goes wrong, representing the commitment to agriculture as the backbone of culture and economy, acknowledging technological advancement is necessary alongside this.

Ugandans wish to be free of colonial legacies and embrace new possibilities while honoring their roots.

DESIRABLE FUTURES

The 4th Estate

The public has surpassed the press as the ‘4th Estate’ where freedom of speech and access to information are human rights codified by laws; **Ugandan citizens now control narratives.** Renewable energies, universal access to healthcare, the end of tribalism and peaceful changes in leadership enable possibilities of Ugandans to embody values of **‘Umoja ni nguvu’- ‘we are stronger together’**



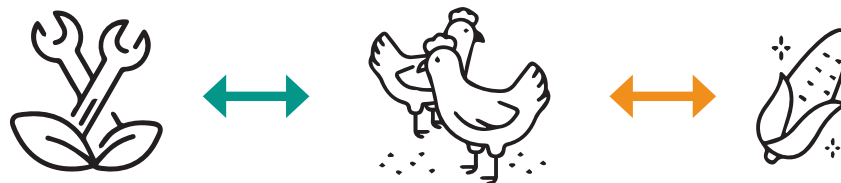
REFRAME METAPHOR

“The Fluid Currency Society”



Africanicity Flows

Uniquely African ways of thinking, being, and doing thrive in “A Fluid Currency” society. Through metaphors like “Different colors’ one people” and “My life, my choice”, participants explored the possibilities of Ugandan life in a world where people can be “Hobbyists-at-large”; where **value creation and exchanges come in many different forms**, the least important of which is actual money.



EMERGING POLICY ISSUES RAISED BY YOUTH



CIVIC SPACE

- Peaceful transition of power
- Young leaders in governance
- Nepotism & corruption-free society
- Respect of humanity & human rights
- Capacity-building for resilient, focused youth
- Free and autonomous press
- Transition from military state to civilian state



EDUCATION SPACE

- Improved learning technologies
- Education investment, skill-training for youth boom
- Digital literacy education
- Align TVET and education with market needs

SOCIETAL WELLBEING SPACE

- Access to quality health services
- Improved and advanced public infrastructures



ECONOMIC SPACE

- Tech-driven transformation of agriculture
- Stable economy by 2035 bolstered by investment
- Digitisation of society
- Creating more Job creators instead of job seekers
- Investment in key sectors e.g. agriculture, manufacturing, services, tech
- Increased usage of digital currencies
- Access to (digital) personal, professional development platforms



VIABLE TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATIONS

- **Climate Education:** Integrating climate education, creating eco-conscious citizens, and leading advocacy for sustainable practices
- **Agriculture Re-imagined:** Revitalizing agriculture through cooperatives, empowering farmers with collective bargaining, and encouraging youth participation
- **Innovation Hubs:** Establishing nationwide innovation hubs, supporting young entrepreneurs, fostering local innovation, and facilitating global partnerships
- **Youth Empowerment through Internet Access:** Lobbying for data tax subsidies, reducing internet costs, and empowering youth for economic growth through tech-driven startups
- **Kiswahili for Regional Collaboration:** Adopting Kiswahili, breaking barriers within the East African Community, fostering regional collaboration, trade, and transformative development
- **Youth-Driven Research and Development:** Prioritizing youth-led R&D, allocating resources to innovative projects, encouraging entrepreneurship, and addressing pressing economic needs.



UGANDA VISION 2035



In 2023, Uganda grappled with multifaceted challenges, including a high rate of job seekers, an outdated education system, and inadequate healthcare infrastructure. However, amidst these hurdles, the youth of Uganda found inspiration in the successes of neighbouring countries and embarked on a transformative journey. They advocated for comprehensive changes, reimagining education with mandatory vocational training and promoting talent development. In agriculture and healthcare, they prioritized education, increased pay for health workers, and focused on disease prevention. Embracing technology, the youth initiated digital advancements, environmental policies, and innovations in waste management. While preserving key aspects of the old system, including peace, accessible education, and democratic principles, the Ugandan youth ushered in positive transformations. With improved education, infrastructure, and a thriving economy, Uganda emerged as a beacon of progress, demonstrating the power of innovation, conservation, and a united youth in shaping a hopeful future.

