



**ssnup**

Smallholder Sustainability  
Upscaling Programme

## ENHANCING FINANCIAL INCLUSION FOR SUSTAINED INCOME GROWTH FOR SMALLHOLDER HOUSEHOLDS IN UGANDA



Africa



Latin America



Asia



Financial services delivery



Capacity building for end beneficiaries



Market access and product development



Management systems improvement

### CONTEXT

The majority of Uganda's 46 million people live in the rural areas. Agriculture is Uganda's main economic sector, accounting for 27% of gross domestic product (GDP) and employing 73% of the labour force. Over the past three decades, agriculture share to GDP on average has experienced a slow but almost steady decline from 53.7% in 1982 to 23.7% in 2020 due to growth in the industrial and service sectors. Despite this decline, agriculture remains the key source of exports contributing 46% of total exports. main agricultural exports are led by coffee, which consistently generates significant revenue, followed by cocoa beans, fish/fish fillets, tobacco, tea, and cotton, with growing exports in horticulture like vanilla, fruits, and vegetables, driving foreign exchange earnings.

### CURRENT STATUS OF THE BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

VisionFund Uganda Limited (VFU) is a Tier 3 microfinance institution that was established in 1996 by World Vision Uganda. It is registered as a credit-only MFI and regulated by the Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority. VFU serves low-income clients living in vulnerable and rural communities. As of 2023, it counted 285 employees, 21 branches and over 40,000 borrowers including 9,000 borrowers in the agricultural portfolio. VFU's strategic direction is to increase access to finance for women and refugee communities practicing agriculture while aligning the footprint with programmes of World Vision Uganda.

### OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The objective of the project is to increase VisionFund Uganda's capacity to enable the development of suitable agricultural products for smallholder households in the West Nile Region of Uganda.

The expected results of the project are:

- Establish one agriculture lending unit within VisionFund Uganda.
- Train 200 staff on newly developed value chain loan products.
- Disburse 3,000 loans to smallholder farmers active in recommended value chains.

### PRIORITY TOPICS

Environment and climate change

Food security and improved nutrition

Gender equality

Fair agrifood systems



### IMPACT INVESTOR



### BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

VisionFund (MFI) - Uganda

### TARGET

3,000 smallholder farmers

### AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Multiple

### STARTING DATE

April 2025

### DURATION

18 months

### TOTAL TA BUDGET

€114,040  
Including €82,687 (73%)  
contribution from SSNUP

