

Climate Change DATASET: Youth Perceptions on Energy Transition, Urban Transport and the Role of Women in Climate Change Adaptation in Uganda

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Introduction

This data set aims to provide significant evidence on perceptions about energy transition, urban transportation in Kampala city, and women's struggles in confronting climate change action. Furthermore, the dataset (osf.io/qathv) provides youth thoughts that are crucial for critical future studies and stakeholder decision-making processes.

Understanding Ugandan youth's perceptions of energy transition and climate adaptation is vital for developing comprehensive and effective strategies. Current research recommends that Ugandan youth are mainly concerned about the impacts of climate change and support a transition to cleaner energy sources. However, fluctuating levels of awareness and modifications in viewpoints based on education, urban or rural back-grounds and socioeconomic status highlight the need for targeted education and policy initiatives. Incorporating youth voices into the nation's climate and energy strategies will play a fundamental role in determining a more ecological and prosperous future for Uganda and its youth population.

Energy transition and climate change adaptation are persistent worldwide distress. Like many African nations, Uganda suffers unique challenges in this context. Uganda heavily depends on wood fuels such as firewood and charcoal for most household cooking needs, both rural and urban.

Uganda, situated in East Africa, is already experiencing the adverse effects of climate change, including unpredictable rainfall patterns, increased temperatures, and extreme weather occurrences. Climate adaptation and mitigation strategies are essential for the country's socioeconomic development.

The association between youth attitudes and socioeconomic standing is significant. The need for intensifying access to clean energy foundations has to be emphasized. The youth believe that investments in renewable energy know-how can reduce the country's dependence on untenable energy sources such as firewood and charcoal.

Many young Ugandans wish for vigorous participation in influencing climate and energy policies. They support youth forums, mentorship programs, and the establishment of youth-led enterprises to drive sustainable change. Youth proposals that the transition to clean energy should create job opportunities, chiefly in rural areas where unemployment is a distress.

Appealing to youth in the deliberations and procedures of climate adaptation and energy transition benefits the country and delivers chances for youth's professional development. Dynamic contribution in advocacy, innovation, and leadership roles empowers young people with services valued for their forthcoming careers.

Women face several encounters when it comes to contributing to the energy transition. These challenges include limited education and information access, socio-cultural norms dictating household roles, and insufficient access to contemporary energy technologies. These obstructions often lead to continuing traditional energy foundations, even when cleaner substitutes are obtainable.

Methodology

The study was conducted across Uganda in East Africa. The survey was shared nationally on major online/social media such as WhatsApp, LinkedIn, and Twitter, among others. Most responses were from the youth, who also happen to be the primary users of such media. Social media has been widely used in data collection by survey software because of its advantages over traditional face-to-face data collection techniques. The qualitative part of the online questionnaire included structured and semistructured questions. The questionnaire was pretested and shared with experts for professional and technical consideration. For example, the study consulted the professional gender body (Non-Governmental) in Prague, the Czech Republic, for their opinions and advice about questions to deal with women regarding climate change and energy. The questionnaire was launched online on 18/01/2023 and closed on 02/04/2023. Although 1844 respondents visited the questionnaire link, only 1138 completed it. This accounts for approximately 62% of respondents.

The collected data were checked for accuracy, and simple description graphs and tables were made to illustrate the data. The links to the raw data are also available: osf.io/qathv.

Presentation of research findings

Household cooking energy sources responses were 320, about 28% (Firewood), 739, about 65% (Charcoal), 507, about 45% (Gas), 276 about 24% (Electricity-hydropower). Energy transition from wood fuels to cleaner energies was as follows: 771 about 68% (Yes), 275 about 24% (No).

The current energy culture in Uganda is dangerous for the climate, 910 (80%) responded yes, 97 (9%), while 131 (12%) responded. Energy alternatives WTP responses were as follows: 992, about 87% (Yes) and 146, about 13% (No).

Climate change's impact on women revealed that about 66% of the respondents believe so, while roughly 18% and 16% do not believe and do not know, respectively. Regarding whether women participate less in climate change adaptation, 591 roughly 52% believe so, and 334 about 29% believe it is false.

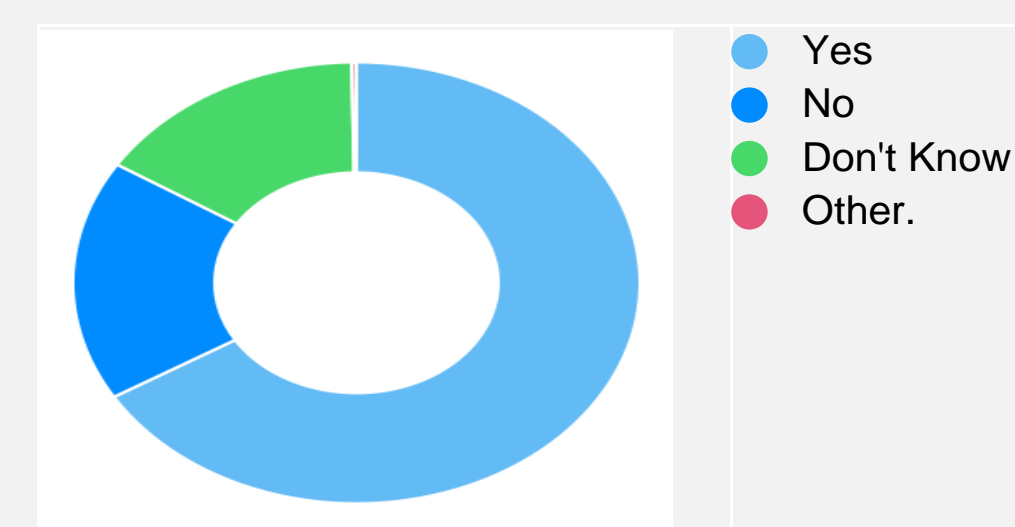


Figure 2: Youth perception of women's role in Climate Change

The rationale for perceived women's less participation in climate adaptation activities showed (multiple responses) that 648, about 57%, perceive it because women do not own land, 427, approximately 37%, due to care work and other household responsibilities, 500 about 44% do not have the power to make significant decisions on activities on land, 436 around 38% limited information, 342 about 30% account for lack of financing, and other reasons 2.5%.

Results

The data characteristics include gender of 64% (728) males, 35.9 (408) females and 0.2% (2) others. The age results of the respondents are as follows: the majority of the respondents were youth, composed of 92%. 18-25 were 60.4%, and 26-35 were 31.6%. The age group 36-45 accounted for 7%, leaving the other age groups less than 0.5% of the respondents (Table 1).

Table 1. Age distribution of the study.

Answer	Responses	Ratio
18-25	687	60.4%
26-35	360	31.6%
36-45	86	7.6%
46-55	3	0.3%
56-65	2	0.2%
66+	0	0.0%

Main conclusions

These data results signify the challenges and opportunities in Uganda's energy landscape. The youth population, representing the country's future, plays a vital role in shaping Uganda's energy transition. Understanding their perspectives and aligning policies and initiatives with their interests is essential for Uganda's sustainable and prosperous energy future.

More so, the survey results emphasize the need for gender-sensitive climate adaptation measures and the potential for eco-friendly public transport solutions in Uganda. Addressing gender disparities and fostering sustainable transportation systems are crucial steps toward a more climate-resilient and environmentally responsible future. Lastly, this dataset brings researchers and policy decision-makers data for a comprehensive understanding of Uganda's energy, public transport system, climate setting, and the part played by women.