

# The Danish Union of Teachers in *Uganda*

Partner in Uganda	DLF cooperates with UNATU, the independent Uganda National Teachers' Union, who has 155,000 members out of a potential membership of approximately 200,000 educators in all sectors.
Development goal	This is a social dialogue project in collaboration with LGDK (Local Government Denmark) and ULGA (Ugandan Local Government Association). The overall objective is "to contribute to the improvement of quality of Education in Uganda through social dialogue among stakeholders in the education sector". As representatives of the employers and the employees at district level, ULGA and UNATU will jointly conduct evidence-based advocacy among decision makers to ensure that laws, regulations and guidelines at national level are conducive for Local Governments to provide proper services in education. ULGA and UNATU will also work towards strengthening coordination and collaboration among all education stakeholders at District level in three pilot districts. This will include empowering head teachers and chairs of SMCs and PTAs in all public schools to ensure that teachers become more professionally motivated. The synergy between the activities at national and district level is to test national policies at district level and to generate knowledge and highlight issues from district level to be utilized in evidence-based advocacy at national level.
Time frame and budget	The project cooperation began in November 2015 and is expected to be finalised in November 2018. The budget is 300,000 €, financed by Danida/Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Country facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uganda is located on the northern shores of Lake Victoria in East Africa and borders to Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Congo and Rwanda</li><li>• Uganda has some 38m inhabitants, of whom half are under 15 years of age</li><li>• Approximately 85 percent of the population work in the agricultural sector and 73 percent of the population over 15 years of age can read and write</li><li>• The GNP is 640 USD per inhabitant, and 25% of the population lives under the poverty line of 1,25 USD per day</li><li>• The starting salary for a teacher in Uganda is a monthly 100 USD.</li></ul>
Background and project development	<p>Uganda started a Universal Primary Education (UPE) programme in 1997. UPE resulted in drastic increase in overall enrolment in primary education, from 2.5 million to over 8 million currently. However, the drastic increase in enrolment escalated the already existing gaps in the quality of education.</p> <p>The official teacher-pupil ratio is 1:53, but in some class rooms there are more than 200 pupils. Other factors that exuberated the poor quality of education include, but are not limited to; the decreasing education budget, inadequate infrastructure, inadequate teacher support, motivation and professional development, lack of accommodation particularly in the hard to reach areas, inadequate instructional materials, limited participation of parents in the learning process, which is reflected in failure by the parents to provide lunch to their children while at school.</p> <p>It is against this background that a joint intervention has been developed by the Teachers Unions and Local Government Associations of Denmark and Uganda to address some of the highlighted challenges majorly through social dialogue.</p>

