



Uganda

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## Health Systems

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Only 49% of households in Uganda have access to health care facilities in Uganda. Access to health care facilities has been limited by poor infrastructure, especially in the rural areas where the majority of the population live.

In order to address these issues, the Government of Uganda has developed a Health Sector Strategic Plan which addresses the issues of access by utilising the existing political structure of the country. This is a five level political structure with the district at the apex. In the parish level, it is expected that there will be minimal facilities to be able to directly address the immediate health needs of the village dwellers.

It should however, be noted that the human resource base for the health sector is grossly inadequate. Therefore in the first few years of the implementation of HSSP, capacity building of the human resource base is one important aspect that the Government is addressing.

Decentralization in Uganda is part of the 1995 National Constitution. While the line Ministries are responsible for policy, standards, guidelines and monitoring of activities, the direct implementation of the various programmes have been placed in the hands of district officials. Decentralization is still in its early days in Uganda. Therefore, there are issues like ownership of the programmes, planning cycles and accountability which still need to be improved upon.

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