



Thematic focus:
Security & Rule of Law

Lira City

Uganda

The Sustainable Development through improved Local Governance Programme (SDLG) in Lira City aims for (a) Improved leadership engagements and collaborations to bring together **conflicting perspectives** into suitable local government **service solutions**; and (b) Improved **own source revenue** in support of **Local Economic Development** (incl. youth employment) and **social protection**. The project will contribute to more sustainable futures for those in fear of conflict and those who feel left behind. We will work on improving leadership, governance and mandate.

Lira City is one of the newly created cities that started operations in 2020. Becoming a city in a strongly urbanising context puts lots of pressure on the governance system, public service delivery, employment and community engagement. Trust in local governance should increase to result in increased local revenue and ultimately better service delivery.

Project activities

- Support the localisation of national policies and legislation in response to the identified needs and aspirations of the City priorities and existing capacity
- Facilitate engagements and guidelines for city operations with key social and economic stakeholders and partners.
- Organise community awareness and sensitisation programmes, follow up engagements and feedback sessions to ensure positive community engagement in the plans, aspirations and vision of the city.



Lira City Profile

Lira City is one of the 10 cities that were created by the Government of Uganda to boost urbanisation and promote Local Economic Development. Lira City was created by a merger of Lira Municipality and Lira Sub County. It has 4 divisions, 26 parishes and 64 villages.

Lira City started as a trading centre in 1919. In the rural parts of Lira, people engage in agriculture, producing cotton, sunflower, peanuts and sesame. There is an ongoing permanent settlement of people that are attracted by the opportunities the city has to offer. The night population is projected at 204,000, and with a total day population of 500,000 people (52% of these female and 48% male). The youth constitute up to 70% of the total population in Lira City. The city is faced with a number of service delivery challenges, including poor physical planning and revenue mobilisation. With this comes the challenge of slums that are on the increase, and (youth) unemployment is a societal problem that will have significant consequences in time to come. Lira has a vast community of former Internally Displaced Persons. This group is among the poorest and most vulnerable. Lira also has a high number of street children.





International

Who we are:

VNG International are experts in strengthening local government in developing countries and countries in transition. Local governments play a key role in the provision of basic services including water, waste management, health care and housing. They have a profound impact on areas such as safety, food security, rule of law and women's rights. This is how our projects contribute in a sustainable way to better futures for people, communities and countries.

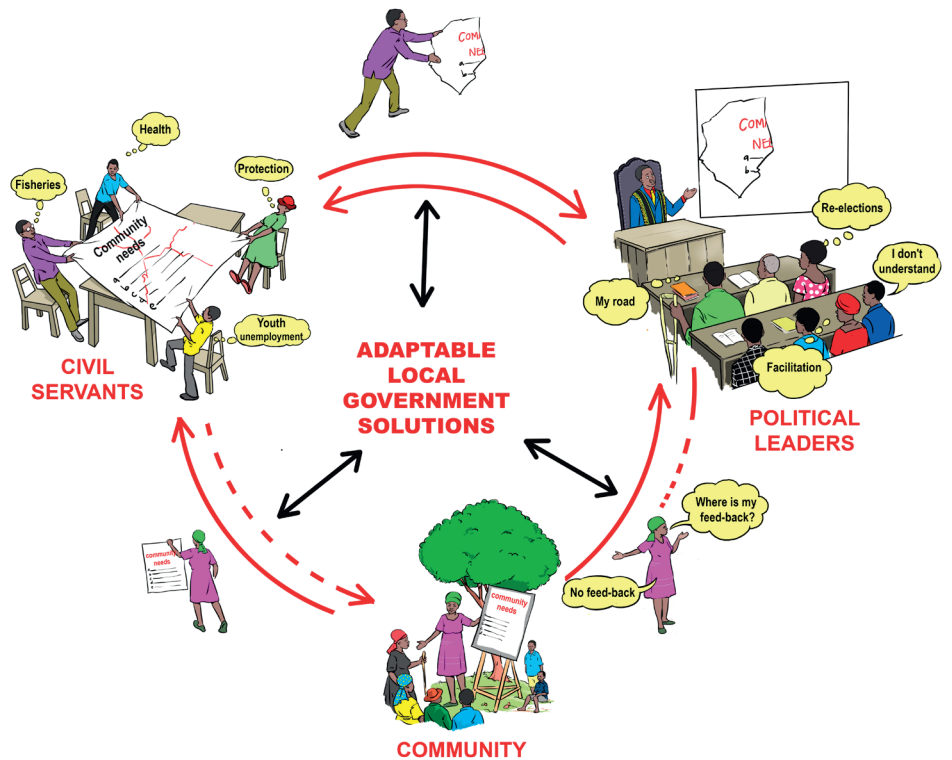
The SDLG Programme

The Strategic Partnership between The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and VNG International is 5-year programme, focused on 4 thematic priorities: Security & Rule of Law, Migration, Local Revenue Mobilisation, and Integrated Water Management. This Sustainable Development through improved Local Governance programme (SDLG) is currently being implemented in multiple countries. Despite the diverging contexts and themes, the SDLG programme pursues one overall objective: To empower local governments and their representative bodies to shape a more sustainable future for their communities.



Scan me to learn more about SDLG

Scan here to meet our wonderful team in Uganda



- Support platforms for engagement of special interest groups (Youth, PWDs, women and the elderly) to identify their issues, document concerns and share information for possible intervention with stakeholders and partners.
- Stimulate engagements across technical and political structures to improve on collaborations, coordination and decision-making process.
- Develop and adapt integrity measures and standards for leaders to instil a sense of duty and responsibility to fight corruption.
- Organise peer to peer sessions for leaders to share information, experience and knowledge on their roles and responsibilities thus improving leadership performance and growth.

Involved parties

- Elected leaders, division and ward structures of the City
- Lira District
- Community groups, Civil Society Organisations, Community Based Organisations
- City Development Forum (CDF)
- Chamber of Commerce
- USMID
- Ministry, Department and Agencies (Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Trade, Local Government Finance Committee (LGFC))
- Private sector actors and business associations
- LAM parliamentary group, Members of parliament
- Religious institutions and their leaders
- Media houses (Radio, TV and print media)