In October 2018, a Dialogue on private sector engagement in climate action brought together government, private sector and civil society to identify key challenges and opportunities. In April 2019, Ugandan companies participated in an online consultation where they shared insight into their interest in Uganda’s NDC and SDGs, current initiatives and remaining challenges. In June 2019, over 90 participants joined a workshop to build the business case for climate and SDG action in Uganda.

This Policy Brief outlines the key findings and recommended next steps to continue support of Ugandan companies.
Activities and Tools

Through the online consultations, Ugandan companies expressed strong interest in contributing to the country’s NDC priorities and SDGs, especially in the energy, water, health and agricultural sectors. Many companies are committed to contribute to SDG 1 on Poverty, by supporting national efforts to extend infrastructure, energy, water and other services to underserved communities across Uganda.

However, companies called for more information and effective tools to help them build the business case to take action. This means building a better understanding in Uganda on:

- What are the business costs of climate inaction?
- What are the business benefits of climate action?
- What climate and SDG financing opportunities exist?
- What projects & partnerships can be built for greater impact?

At the June 2019 workshop, discussion focused on these business case elements with participants working together to crowdsourcing the current state of knowledge, as well as identify information gaps.

New tools were introduced and piloted by workshop participants:

- **NDC-SDGs Business Opportunities Framework**: This framework helps companies identify business opportunities to contribute to Uganda’s NDC, organized by the eight “NDC Sectors”. It highlights how businesses taking action towards Uganda’s NDC can also contribute to one or several SDGs.

- **Impacti© Digital Platform**: This digital platform offers tools designed for companies, especially SMEs, to discover opportunities to take action and collaborate towards the SDGs. Using Impacti© EXPLORE, companies take a simple step-by-step assessment to identify the SDGs and NDCs where they can make the most impact. Impacti© CONNECT hosts an online business network where companies can keep up-to-date on the latest news and opportunities, connect with partners and showcase their impact through their business’ SDG profile. The Impacti© Platform was customized to highlight linkages to Uganda’s NDC.

Key Findings and Next Steps

- **Awareness of climate risks is rising across the Ugandan private sector**. Extreme weather and floods have reduced crop yields, disrupted transport and blocked access to business areas. Costs of doing business, transport and insurance are rising. Quality of life and human lives are being lost. Changing market, investor and policy demands will further impact business.

- **Uganda companies are already making significant contributions to Uganda’s NDC goals and SDGs**. From eco-friendly production, improved energy efficiency, solar energy, clean cookstoves, waste to energy and climate-smart agriculture, new sustainable ways of business are being adopted by businesses across the country.

- **Climate financing opportunities are expanding in Uganda, but companies still face challenges in accessing financing**. New innovative financing options are also being considered, (e.g. green bonds, Green Investment Fund). Access to this financing will require companies to consistently monitor and report their impact on NDC priorities and the SDGs.

- **Industry and multi-stakeholder collaborations can help most Ugandan companies make their climate actions more effective and high impact**. A proposed NDC Private Sector Investment Committee, PFUS and existing business associations can lead efforts to share information, build capacity, advance R&D and policy advocacy.

Training and further support of SDG business leaders across Uganda is planned on the use the Impacti© Digital Platform. The next phase will explore the usefulness of the Platform to:

- Support Ugandan companies better assess and communicate their NDC-SDG impact to customers, investors and partners;
- Enable PFUS and other business associations track collective impact and drive climate action across their memberships;
- Improve national reporting on the NDCs and SDGs through recognition of private sector contributions.