Introduction:
Climate-change and urbanization are identified as major challenges with increasing significant impact on the wellbeing of children in coming decades, particularly on the most poor and vulnerable children in Africa (Africhild, 2016b). Uganda has one of the fastest growing urban population at a rate of 5.4 percent per annum (UBOS, 2017), yet it has one of the fastest changing climates with predicted temperature raises, increasing frequent droughts affecting the availability, quality and quantity of water,... the poor and most vulnerable children living in the heat of dilapidated urban centers face the severest of risk. Uganda’s children are not exception to such vulnerabilities. With the increasing street-child urban population, flooding, heat, pollution and unique child exploitations, developing countries and Uganda in particular, are becoming more deliberate about child sensitive policy prioritizing for its young majority. This poster gives a glimpse into the effects of climate-related shocks on the wellbeing of children, yet with critical insights into child-sensitive policy reflection from Uganda.

Uganda’s Child Policy Context
✓ In 1990, Uganda ratified the UN Convection on the Rights of the Child (UNRC)- its obligated to implement Children’s rights as communicated in the UNRC
✓ Article 7, 19, 23, 27, 28, 31 and 32 of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Children (UNCRC), the Uganda Children’s Act (Amendment) 2016 and Article 34 of the 1995 Uganda Constitution, all reaffirms the right of children to physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social well-being

Urban Child-Poverty
✓ With disproportionate child poverty spread across different regions, geographical locations and socio-economic status of families across Uganda, 50 percent of Uganda’s children below 5 years are living in poverty with one in five children living in extreme poverty.
✓ Uganda’s largest urban area, Kampala city, accommodates 14 per cent of urban poor children (Unicef, 2017b).
✓ IOM (2017)-most children living in slum communities live in single-rented roomed, many of which are also used for other activities such as; the selling of alcohol or drugs, or commercial sex work

Child-Sensitive Policy Reflections:
✓ Families with young children should be prioritized during food safety response interventions. Families with mother’s education levels lower than primary level should be prioritized at the level of intervention
✓ Greater and holistic investment in designing child-sensitive social protection programs that not only give a general outlook on child welfare but also cater for greater inequalities that exist within child demographics
✓ More attention should be paid to child-focused research methodologies which aim at putting the child at the center of the research processes
✓ Address discriminatory social norms and cultural values that force boys and girls to drop out of school

Climate-Related Hazards
✓ In the next 20 years, temperatures in Uganda are predicted to rise by 1.5°C and future projections by 2080 estimate temp - 4.3°C.
✓ Increase in childhood malnutrition, stunting due to droughts, and increase in precipitation presenting a risk of being wasted among children.
✓ Many rains facilitate breeding of mosquito vectors and consequently increase malaria occurrences
✓ Children born in poor households are not likely to attend school during high rainfall seasons as such households require more labor during such seasons

Urbanization and Child Vulnerability
✓ United Nations Urban Human Settlement Program- UN-Habitat, 2016-30 per cent of Ugandans will be dwelling in urban areas - 2030. The rate of urbanization is steadily growing at 5.2% percent per annum
✓ Children in urban areas are generally considered ‘better off’ than children in rural areas, with greater access to sanitation (13.2% of urban children vs. 2.4% of rural children), improved water sources (12.8% vs. 2.1%) and health care (17.3% vs. 3.4%) (UNICEF 2014a)
✓ 10,000 street children in Uganda, 16 children coming to Kampala daily, - latrines to household ratio 1:20- HIV infection rates 15-24 year old females 5.9% compared to their rural counterparts 4.6 % (Unicef. 2015).

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