Key achievements in Uganda

- 2019: Uganda's new food safety capacity enables routine local food testing and analysis to begin.
- 2018: IAEA helps Uganda restart vital radiotherapy services for cancer patients.
- 2017: Uganda develops capacities to test and monitor for veterinary drug residue in animal feed and products.

Recent project successes

**Human health**

In January 2018, Uganda inaugurated a new radiotherapy machine to resume essential treatment services for cancer patients after the country’s only previous such equipment broke down in 2016. The IAEA provided technical and financial support for the re-establishment of radiotherapy services in Uganda. Responding to a Government request, the IAEA helped buy the new equipment on a cost-sharing basis with the Government and ensured its safe installation at the Uganda Cancer Institute. IAEA assistance also included the decommissioning of the old radiotherapy machine, advice on adapting the existing facility to accommodate the new machine, and training for medical staff.

**Food safety**

Through a series of food safety projects, the IAEA has supported Uganda in capacity building and in modernization of analytical instrumentation to analyse veterinary drug and pesticide residues, including a liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometer. As a result, Uganda is now able to conduct its own confirmatory analyses without the need to outsource. The Uganda National Bureau of Standards now offers testing services to customers in the country at a subsidised rate, benefitting food processors, small manufacturing enterprises and academic researchers. The income generated by these services contributes to the long term sustainability and self-reliance of the facility.

**Livestock**

Through IAEA support, the Ugandan veterinary service established diagnostic capacity in seven provincial veterinary laboratories. With a constant power supply system based on battery storage and DC run equipment, continuous service can be provided. The preservation of reagents and samples is now assured. Training was conducted for staff from all these laboratories in basic bacteriology, serology and sampling procedures. This has enhanced the services they deliver to the farming community, allowing for rapid disease diagnosis at the provincial level and timely interventions as well as better reporting of disease events in the country.

Staff at participating institutions in Uganda are now using the skills and experience they acquired through the IAEA for the routine testing and monitoring of veterinary drug residues. (Photo: IAEA)
Active national projects

- Supporting Nuclear Power Infrastructure Development In Uganda (UGA2003)
- Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Food Contaminant Monitoring Programmes Through the Effective Use of Nuclear, Isotopic and Complementary Techniques (UGA5040)
- Developing Disease Resistant High Yielding Farmer-Preferred Cassava Varieties in Uganda Through Induced Mutation Breeding (UGA5041)
- Establishing Radiotherapy Services at the Cancer Institute (UGA6018)
- Strengthening Nuclear Medicine Services - Phase II (UGA6019)
- Strengthening Regulatory Capabilities for the Control of Radiation Sources and Public Exposure in Uganda (UGA9009)

Uganda also participates in 42 regional and 8 interregional projects.

Previous IAEA support to Uganda

Recent IAEA support was aligned with the priority sectors identified in the Country Programme Framework for 2014–2018, namely human health, food safety, livestock production, integrated soil fertility and water management for improved crop production, nuclear energy and the development of radiation protection infrastructure.

IAEA support to Uganda, 2009–2019

618 trained (including 171 women)
95 international experts provided
76 attended specialist meetings (including 23 women)

Priority areas of support

- Developing the food and agriculture sector
- Strengthening human health and nutrition
- Improving the water supply
- Developing energy resources
- Supporting national regulatory and radiation safety infrastructure

Uganda’s contribution to South-South and triangular cooperation, 2009–2019

52 expert and lecturer assignments provided by Uganda
315 training course participants
13 fellows or scientific visitors hosted

Based on data available as of April 2020

Cancer control imPACT Review conducted: August 2011

Strategic documents supported

- Country Programme Framework 2019–2023, signed in September 2019

The IAEA helped the Uganda government to buy new equipment, install it safely at the Uganda Cancer Institute and decommission the old machine, while also providing training for its specialist staff. (Photo: Uganda Cancer Institute)