

Infrastructure Transparency Index (ITI) in Uganda

Results

3rd December 2021



Outline



- Objectives
- Methodology
- Limitations
- National ITI Score
- PDEs ITI Score /Ranking
- Projects score/Ranking
- Conclusions
- Recommendations

Why the ITI?

Infrastructure funding currently comprises about 32.8% of the Government's total annual expenditure (UIA), while Procurement at 55% of the national budget (WB).

An infrastructure deficit of about US\$1.4 billion a year.

Loses nearly US\$300 million per a year is lost in inefficient infrastructure spending, underpricing, and project variations (WB)

With Right conditions: infrastructure development can promote growth and equity and reduce poverty. (**World Bank 2018 Report**)

Informed citizens and responsive public institutions help drive reforms that reduce mismanagement, poor infrastructure and inefficiency.

Objective of the ITI

- Assess the state of infrastructure transparency and the capacity to improve transparency
- Track and encourage progress and facilitate peer learning and promoting accountability.
- Raise awareness of transparency at the national or local levels building on existing data standards such as the CoST IDS and the OC4IDS.

Methodology

Preparation

Evaluation

Processing

Reporting

1. Selection of the evaluation team
2. Evaluation materials (Letters to entities)
3. PE sample
4. Projects sample
5. Training of the evaluators
6. Engagements with entities
7. Data collection
8. Reporting
9. Presentation of findings
10. Follow up

Dimensions

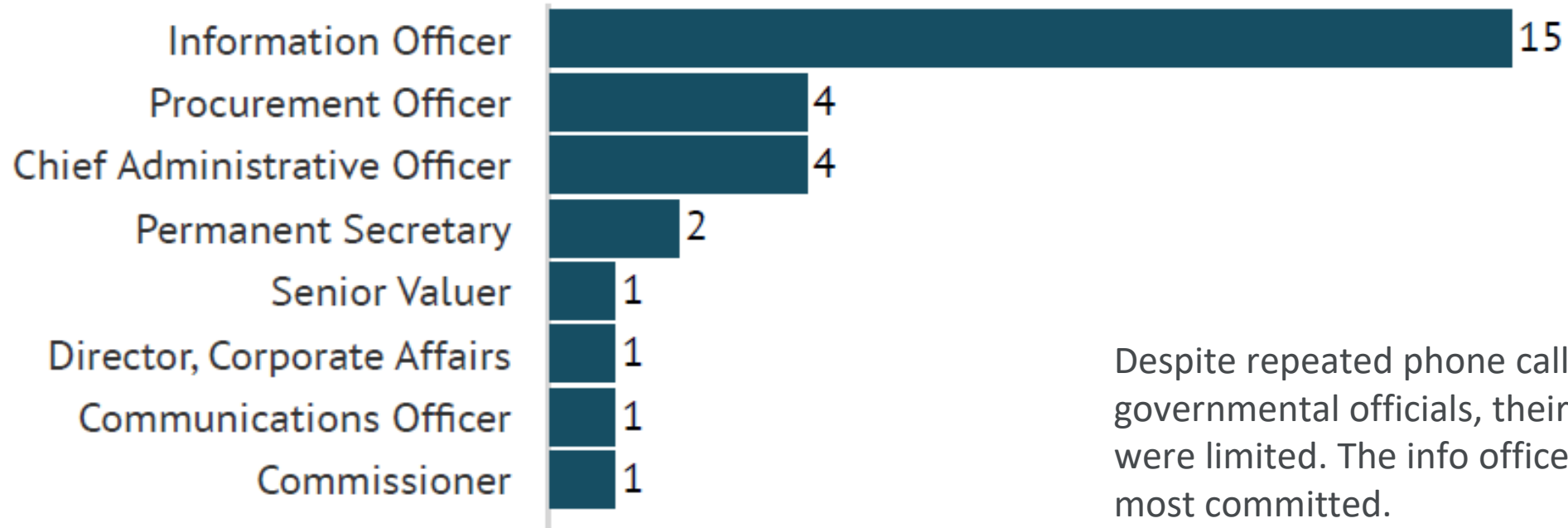
Enabling
environment

Capacities and
processes

Citizen
participation

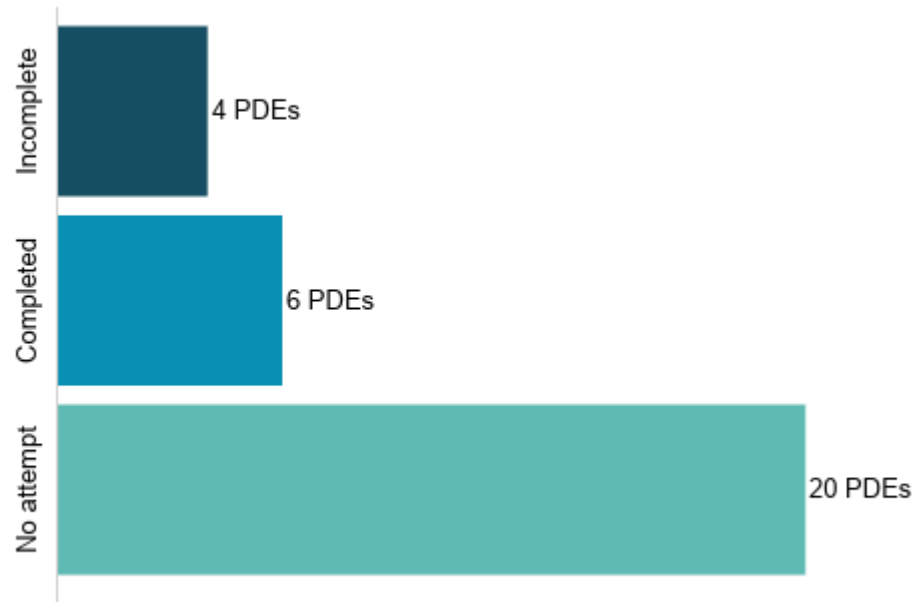
Information
disclosure

Officials engaged



Despite repeated phone calls and emails to governmental officials, their responses were limited. The info offices were the most committed.

Entities response to the self assessment



Only one out of every five procuring entities that were contacted completed the survey. The overwhelming majority (20) did not undertake the survey, with only four entities completing it.

Limitations

**COVID-19 pandemic
Lockdown set in at
commissioning of the
index**



**Low disclosure on the recognized
information platforms
GPP and Entity website**



**Data complexities
Unmined,
incomplete,
uncategorized**



Low response rate

THE INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSPARENCY INDEX IN UGANDA

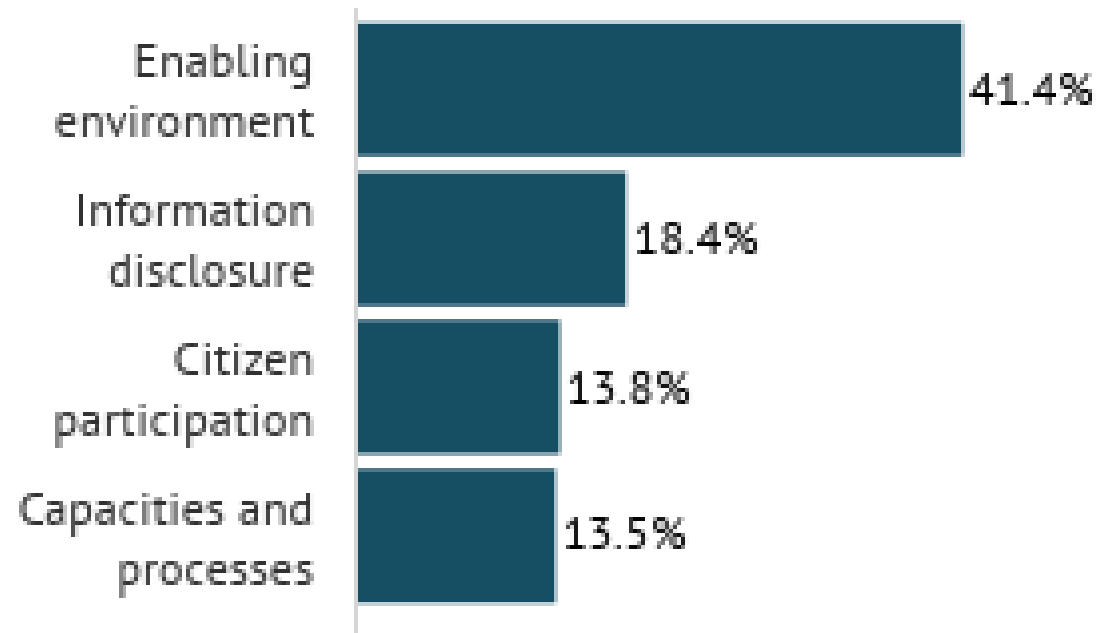
Improving systems, processes
and capacities for delivering
infrastructure projects



□ Results



National ITI score



20.8 %

Overall National Score

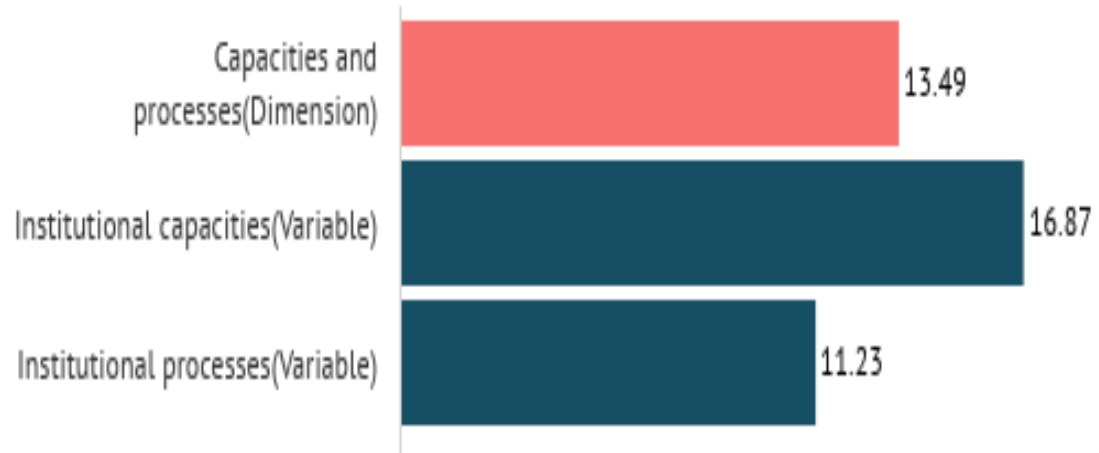
National Score for Enabling Environment



Enabling environment for transparency stands at 41%.

The country has a weak coverage on transparency in the public infrastructure sector at 32%.

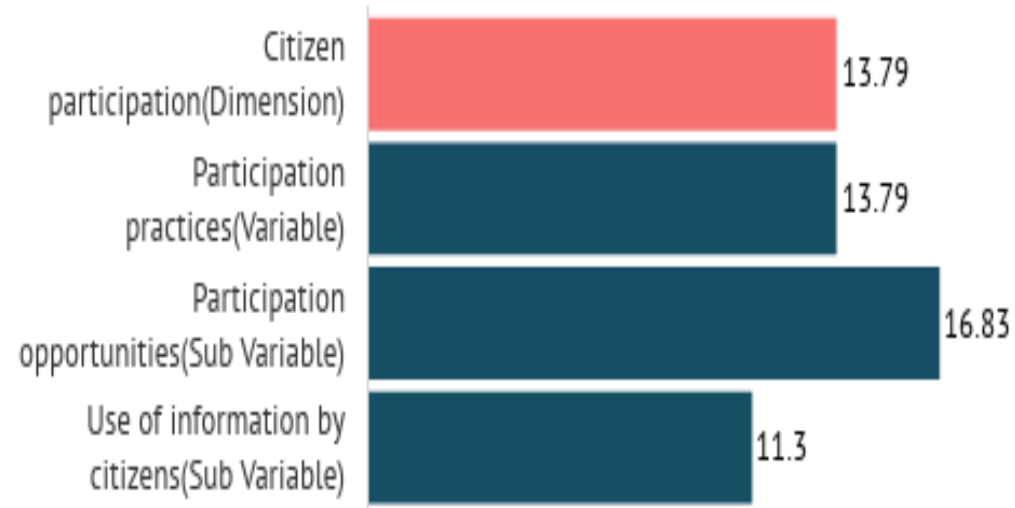
National score for capacities and processes



Capacities and processes for delivering infrastructure projects are weak at 13.49%.

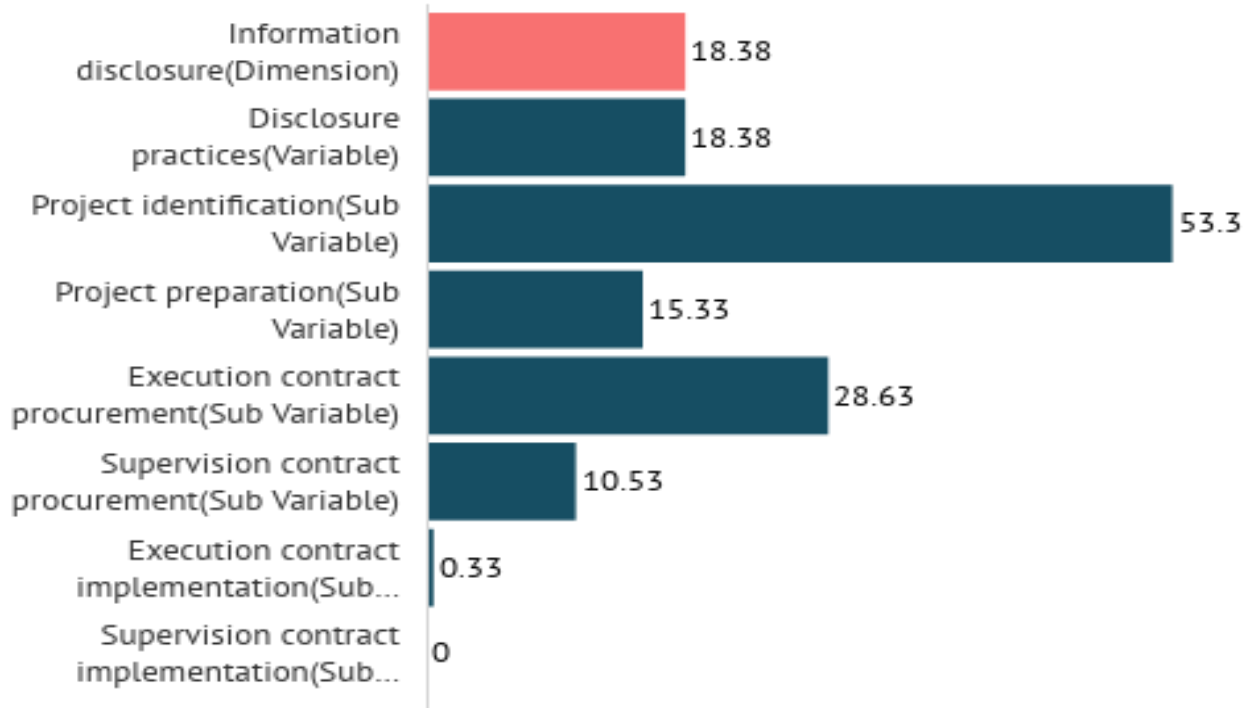
There are weak institutional capacities at 16.87% and weaker institutional processes at 11.23%.

National score for citizen participation



Citizen participation is low at 13.79%. Citizen participation opportunities stand at 16.3% and citizens use information up to 11.3%.

National score for information disclosure



Information disclosure is generally low as revealed in this index at 18.4%.

Entities do not disclose information related to supervision and implementation of contracts.

Best three entities in the first ITI



Lowest Procuring Entities ranked by ITI Score

No	PE Name	PE ITI Score	Capacities and Processes	Citizen Participation	Information Disclosure
27	Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development	4.84	0	0	12.1
28	Makerere University	4.08	0	0	10.2
29	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development	1.24	0	0	3.1
30	Bukedea District Local Government	0.8	0	0	2

Best performing entities in the dimensions

Best entity in Citizen participation



Kampala Capital City Authority 100%

Best entity in Capacities and processes



Kampala Capital City Authority 85.5%

Best entity in information disclosure



National Social Security Fund 29.65%

Lowest performing entities in the dimensions

Lowest entity in
Citizen participation



**Kayunga District
Local Government
0%**

Lowest entity in
Capacities and processes



**Nebbi District Local
Government
0%**

Lowest entity in
information disclosure



**Bukedea District
Local Government
2%**

Best performing entities per sector

Central Government



**Office of the
Prime Minister**
48.11%

Agencies



**Uganda National
Roads Authority**
58.13%

Companies/Corporations



**National Water
and Sewerage
Corporation**
20.38%

Local Government



**Kampala Capital
City Authority**
62.73

Lowest performing entities per sector

Central Government



Ministry of Gender,
Labour and Social
Development

1.24%

Agencies



Uganda
Communications
Commission

6.96%

Companies/Corporations



Uganda Property
Holdings

11.36%

Local Government



Bukedea District
Local Government

0.8%

Conclusions from the scoring

1. The Uganda national ITI score in the year 2021 stands at 20.8%.
2. Uganda's performance in the enabling environment dimension is at 41.4%, information disclosure at 18.4%, citizen participation at 13.8% and capacities and processes at 13.5%.
3. National score for information disclosure is generally low at 18.4%. Local governments scored least.
4. Best performers include Kampala Capital City Authority at 62%, Uganda National Roads Authority at 58%, Office of the Prime Minister at 48%.

Conclusions on the level of transparency

1. Most transparent projects were from NSSF at 40.3%, URA at 37.3% and MoFPED at 33.5%. The least transparent projects were from the Ministry of Gender at 3.1%, and Bukedea district at 2%.
2. Official data platforms had limited information for the period 2017 – 2021. Data was insufficient, unclassified, and unmined.
3. Low levels of responsiveness. Only one in every five entities who received the self assessment survey completed it; the vast majority (20) did not attempt the survey, while four entities did not complete it.
4. There is a large discrepancy in the level of participation of entities all through the Index. Transparency is not yet a culture across the entities.

Conclusions on access to information

1. Parastatals disclose more at 15.8%, followed by CGs at 15.2%, agencies at 14% and LGs at 12%.
2. The access to information law is still loosely known and implemented by public officials at 20%.
3. Disclosure is not yet the norm and culture across entities. Only 5% of the entities have records on requests for information, and 8% record complaints.
4. GPP discloses tendering data but lacks project data. Only one out of five entities proactively discloses infrastructure data.
5. 18.4% of the public accesses information upon request and 11.3% use disclosed information. Only 5% of the entities have records on requests for information, and 8% record complaints.
6. Project and contract variation details are not disclosed.

Conclusions on the enabling environment

1. Despite the enabling environment for delivering infrastructure projects at 41.2%, its implementation in the infrastructure sector is not visible.
2. Public officials capacity to implement transparency standards and initiatives enshrined in the law is weak.
3. There are weak capacities and processes for delivering infrastructure projects at 11.23%.

Conclusions on citizen participation

1. Citizen participation in infrastructure projects delivery processes is low and requires strengthening.
2. Although data is disclosed, only a fraction of citizens use it to influence. Most data is complex for the local person to comprehend.
3. Opportunities for citizen participation are deficient at 16.8%.
4. Citizen participation is yet to be institutionalized across entities, stands at 16.6%
5. Permanent and inclusive citizen participation require strengthening at 14.67%.

Recommendations

1. Through the OPM, the government should demonstrate a stronger commitment and actions to enhance infrastructure transparency.
2. OPM should consider making the Baraza approach mandatory across all infrastructure projects to enhance citizens' scrutiny and accountability.
3. The Ministry of Finance and PPDA should strengthen disclosure by issuing a standard disclosure framework/template and training officials on how to publish data. Disclosed data should be analysed, monitored and feedback provided to entities.

Recommendations

1. The Ministry of ICT should strengthen entities' capacity in the implementation of the Access to Information Law, and enforce mechanisms for institutionalising access to information. The Ministry should monitor performance of entities in this regard and provide status reports for improvement.
2. NITA-U should ensure all entity websites are functional and well maintained.
3. Ministry of Local Government should strengthen monitoring of local governments to ensure compliance with the legal framework and systems in the sector. Local governments should enhance their levels of transparency.

Recommendations

1. MoWT should strengthen its oversight role as the lead sector entity in monitoring performance of projects and providing status reports on the infrastructure sector.
2. PDEs should strengthen their internal data management and archiving systems to ease retrieval and sharing. Information on engagements with citizens should be well documented.
3. Government through MoFPED, MoWT and OPM should support CoST to deliver an annual ITI and;
4. Adopt the Index as an annual national performance indicator in the sector in addressing corruption.

Thank you for listening

“There can be no faith in Government if our highest offices are excused from scrutiny – they should be setting the example of Transparency” Edward Snowden

Infrastructure Transparency Index 2021