

# Vulnerability and access to education in Uganda

Christian Kakuba  
Makerere University  
PhD Student -CEPED /PARIS  
DESCARTES

Education -critical for development of humanity

- ▣ Demographers -fertility /mortality /migration
- ▣ Sociologists/anthropologists - engine of norms
- ▣ Economists- Human capital & Labor productivity

Policy makers / researchers met at Jomtien in 1990

- ▣ Came up the EFA Agenda
- ▣ Preamble to EFA founding document
- ▣ In the spirit of the UDHR of 1948
- ▣ “education is a fundamental right for all people, women and men, of all ages, throughout our world”
- ▣ Access to Education is thus a right

- ▣ Ugandan OVC Policy defines vulnerability as:-
- ▣ “A state of being or likely to be in a risky situation, where a person is likely to suffer significant physical, emotional or mental harm that may result in their human rights not being fulfilled.”
- ▣ It follows that lack/ denial of the right to education is a form of vulnerability

- ▣ Choice of variables based on forms of vulnerability thus :-

- ▣ Uganda

The orphans and orphaned households, children affected by HIV/Aids or other diseases, in the hard to reach areas.

- ▣ Tanzania

Working children and children heading households

- ▣ Rwanda

Children in foster care , from very poor households

- ▣ Zambia

Children in female headed households and those who do not go to school

## Methodology

- ▣ Demographic and Health Survey Data for 2006.
- ▣ Population aged 6 to 24 in the Households
- ▣ Data on current education status (D.V)
- ▣ Household /individual /community characteristics
- ▣ Forms of vulnerability or marginalization
- ▣ Direct or indirect

## Individual Child/Youth Characteristics

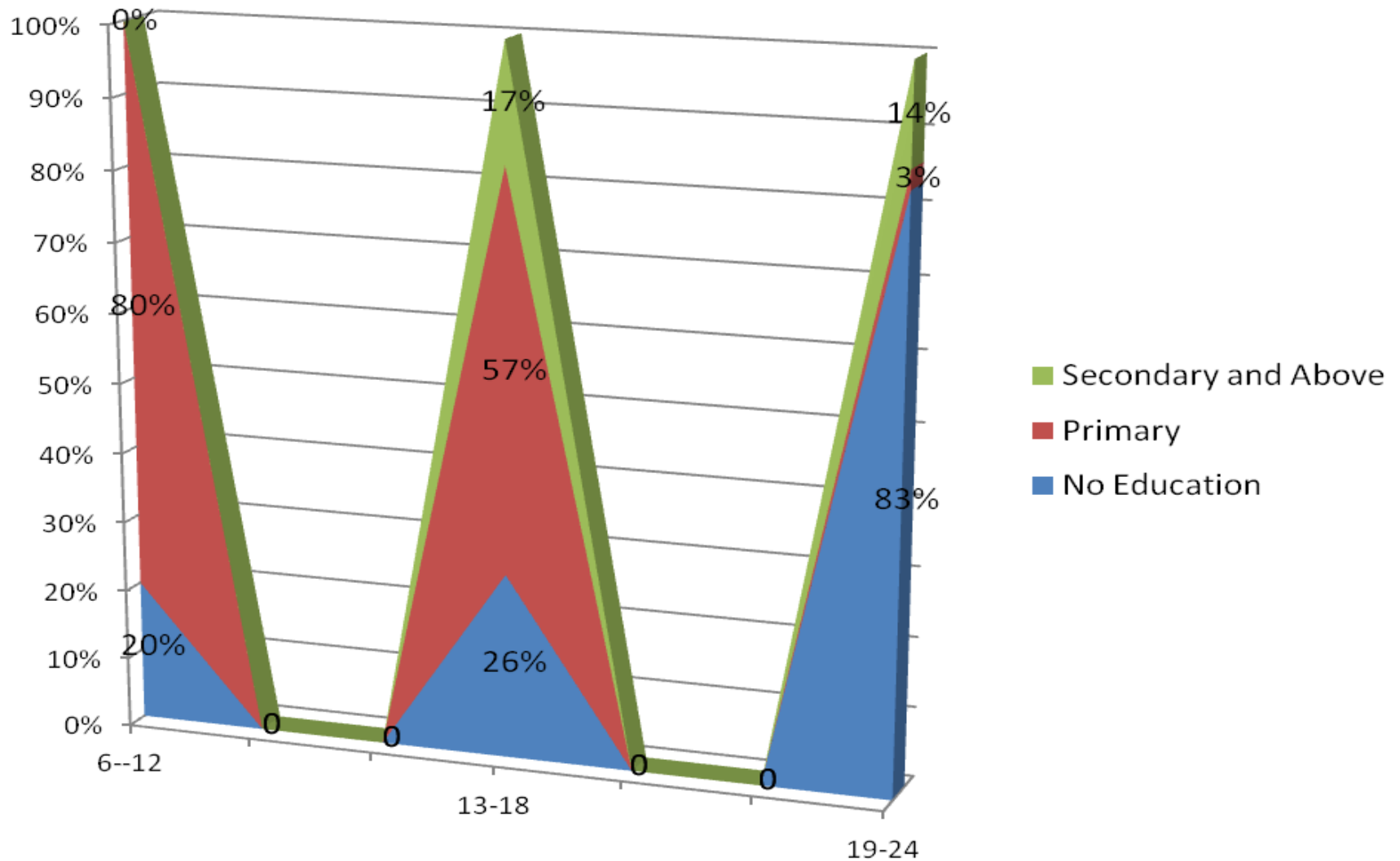
- ▣ Sex
- ▣ Relationship to head
- ▣ Vulnerability status defined as living with a parent/adult that was ill for more than 3 months or died within 12 months prior to the survey.
- ▣ Age that was also introduced in the model as a control variable

## Household/parental/Location Characteristics

- Place of residence
- Region
- Household Wealth Status
- Sex of the household head
- Age of the household head
- Survival status of parents captured as; Both Parents alive father alive and mother alive
- Household Size
- Household Population under 5 years

- ▣ Enrolment and access to secondary education
- ▣ Ugandan system is a 7-6-3
- ▣ Official ages are 6-12, 13-18, 19-24
- ▣ logistic regression model
- ▣ odds of not/never enrolled in school for 6-24
- ▣ child aged 13-24 years is enrolled/ ever enrolled in secondary

## □ Current school attendance status







- ▣ Results (Wealth Status)
- ▣ Wealth explains access and progression
- ▣ Urban and Rural(OR Rich =6)
- ▣ Direct costs
- ▣ Lack of basic scholastics and uniforms, feeding
- ▣ Opportunity cost –child labor (UNHS, Report)
- ▣ At Sec level- fees , accommodation, others
- ▣ Secondary 58% private vs 30% Govt
- ▣ Primary 72% Govt vs 23 private (Abstract,09)
- ▣ Question quality of education
- ▣ Completion tagged to wealth –shift to private

## Region of Residence

- ▣ Region explains access and progression
- ▣ Urban-north less likely to enroll at secondary
- ▣ Rural north less likely to be enrolled
- ▣ Central region is more advantaged
- ▣ Supply –schools ,teachers , supervision
- ▣ Demand-poverty in the rural north

## Relationship to head

- ▣ Access and progression in urban & rural
- ▣ Other members less likely to enroll
- ▣ Equally less likely to be in secondary
- ▣ Child labor in households
- ▣ Child fostering whose effects are unclear
- ▣  in household size =  in sec enrollment

- ▣ Population < 5 & Female headship
- ▣ Access and progression
- ▣ Generally  Popn < 5  Secondary enrollment
- ▣ Child labor due to much demands in hh
- ▣ Reduced income
- ▣ Poverty- fertility nexus
- ▣ Children under women heads were enrolled
- ▣ Budget management , care , love to children

## Generally

- ▣ Orphanhood status-kinship ties
- ▣ Sex- Closing the gender gap in schooling
- ▣ Vulnerability status
- ▣ Age of head

## Conclusions

- ▣ More vulnerable children were :-
- ▣ From poorer households ,
- ▣ Northern Uganda ,
- ▣ In other households (foster care / child labor)
- ▣ In households with many under-fives
- ▣ Female headed children were less vulnerable
- ▣ Orphanhood was not a factor
- ▣ Kinship ties , role of NGOs in the area.

## Recommendations

- ▣ Target the very poor to provide scholastics
- ▣ Improve feeding programs for those in school
- ▣ Sensitize communities on their stakes in education
- ▣ Make education compulsory to combat child labor
- ▣ Sustain the efforts in girl child education
- ▣ Affirmative action for Northern Uganda
- ▣ Improve contraception to curb high fertility

Thank You  
for  
Your  
Attention