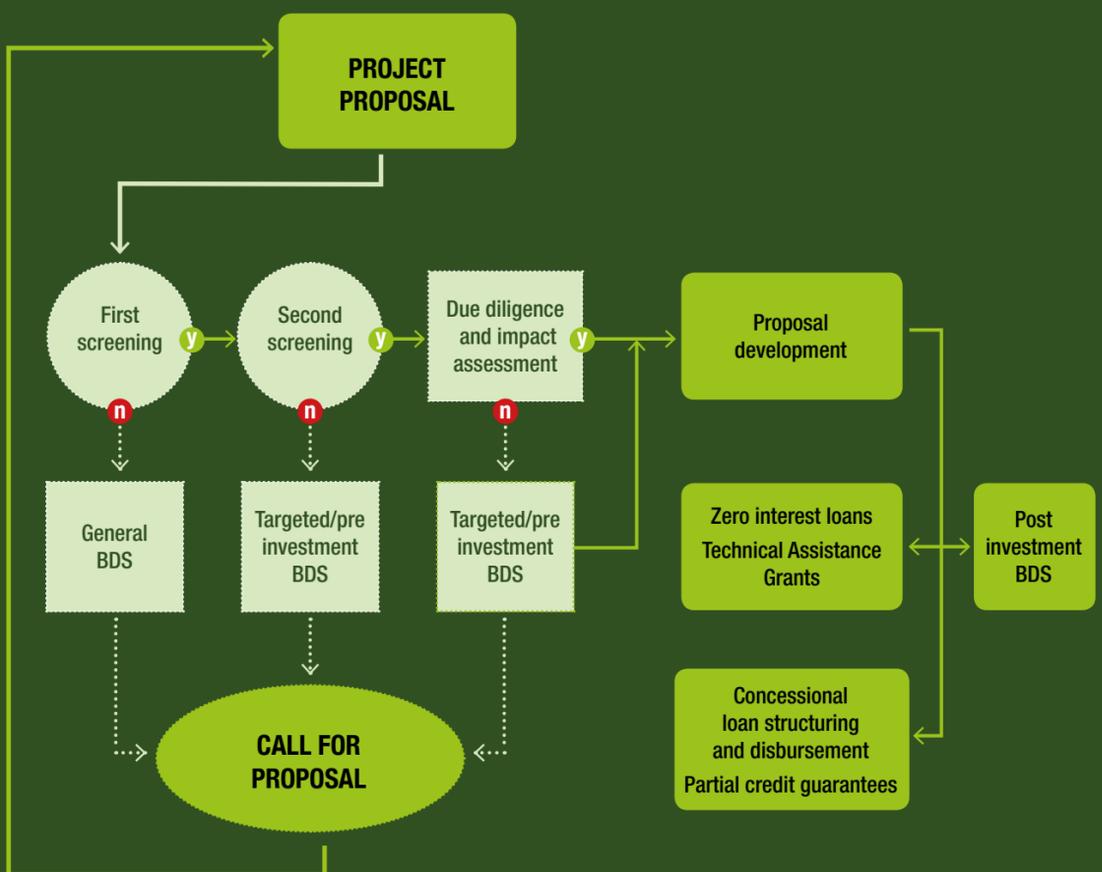# About STArt
SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURAL REVITALIZATION AND TRANSFORMATION

The Support to Agricultural Revitalization & Transformation (START) Facility is a blended finance facility providing a customized mix of business development services, project development and finance, structuring services, and financial products in the form of concessional and zero interest loans, technical assistance grants and partial credit guarantees.

The START Facility is implemented by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in partnership with Private Sector Foundation Uganda and Uganda Development Bank Ltd. The START Facility is designed to support the implementation of the food security and nutrition component of the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU) programme by improving access to finance for Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) engaged in agricultural value addition in Northern Uganda.

HOW START FACILITY WORKS

PROJECT PROPOSAL

First screening — y — Second screening — y — Due diligence and impact assessment — y — Proposal development

First screening — n — General BDS

Second screening — n — Targeted/pre investment BDS

Due diligence and impact assessment — n — Targeted/pre investment BDS

Zero interest loans
Technical Assistance Grants

Post investment BDS

Concessional loan structuring and disbursement
Partial credit guarantees

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

PROGRESS TO DATE

ISSUED TWO CALLS FOR PROPOSALS MAY 2018 AND JULY 2019

1st Call for Proposal

- **342** proposals
- **49** longlisted
- **17** shortlisted
- **6** pipeline projects
- **293** rejected

2nd Call for Proposal

- **143** proposals
- **24** repeat applications
- **100** longlisted
- **75** shortlisted
- **43** rejected
- **26** pipeline projects

Due diligence **visits to 92 SMEs**
General business development **support to over 100 SMEs**
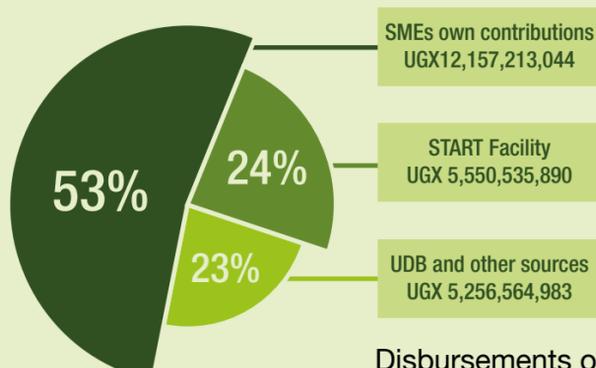Pre-investment business development **support to 61 SMEs including 4 cooperatives**

♀ **28%**   **62%** ♂

| 37 women trained | 93 men trained |

130 participants trained in financial literacy

17 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO UGANDA DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR FINANCING

53%
24% — START Facility UGX 5,550,535,890
23% — UDB and other sources UGX 5,256,564,983
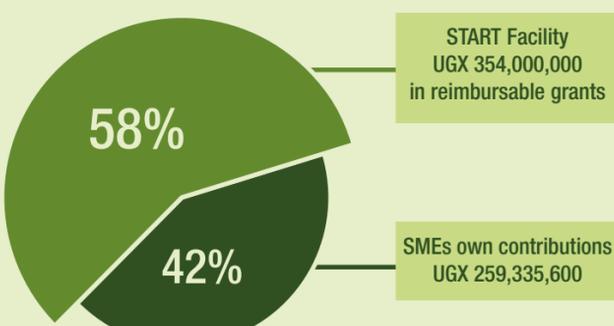SMEs own contributions UGX 12,157,213,044

TOTAL PROJECT SIZE:
UGX 22,964,323,917

OVER 500 JOBS created, providing market for over **75,000 FARMERS**

Disbursements of UGX 834,057,420 to 3 SMEs.
Post investment BDS to 2 SMEs to automate their financial management systems

IN MAY 2020, LAUNCHED THE SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY FUND (SBRF) IN RESPONSE TO THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON SMES.

58% — START Facility UGX 354,000,000 in reimbursable grants
42% — SMEs own contributions UGX 259,335,600

55 APPLICATIONS
17 shortlisted
9 pipelines

TOTAL PROJECT REQUIREMENT
UGX 613,335,600

START — SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURAL REVITALIZATION AND TRANSFORMATION   EUROPEAN UNION   PSFU — PRIVATE SECTOR FOUNDATION UGANDA — Business growth is our business   UDB — Inspiring Development   UNCDF — Unlocking Public and Private Finance for the Poor

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