



**Population
Scientists'
Association**
Service for quality population

Why the Population Scientists' Association Was Established

Uganda's development trajectory is closely linked to its population dynamics. Rapid population growth, a youthful age structure, urbanization, migration, health transitions, and changing household structures continue to shape the country's social and economic future. Addressing these complex issues requires strong scientific evidence, sustained dialogue, and collaboration across sectors.

The Population Scientists' Association (PSA) was established in 2023 to respond to this need. It was created as a non-profit, professional scientific body to bring together demographers, population scientists, development practitioners, policymakers, academic institutions, and development partners working on Uganda's population agenda.

Bridging Research, Policy, and Practice

One of the key reasons for establishing PSA was to close the gap between research findings and policy implementation. While Uganda has a growing body of demographic research, much of it remains underutilized in planning and programming. PSA was formed to ensure that high-quality, policy-relevant research informs national strategies, sectoral policies, and development interventions.

By serving as a national platform for intellectual exchange, PSA promotes dialogue between researchers who generate evidence and policymakers who apply it. This bridge strengthens evidence-based decision-making across areas such as health, education, employment, gender equality, urban development, and social protection.

Creating a Professional Network

Before the formation of PSA, there was limited structured space for population scientists in Uganda to network, collaborate, and share knowledge. PSA was created to foster professional connections among individuals and institutions engaged in demographic and population studies.

Through conferences, seminars, workshops, publications, and online engagement, the Association provides opportunities for:

- Sharing research findings
- Mentoring early-career professionals and students
- Strengthening research capacity
- Building partnerships at national and international levels

Strengthening Scientific Capacity

Another driving factor behind the establishment of PSA was the need to develop and sustain scientific capacity in population research. The Association supports training initiatives, research collaborations, and knowledge dissemination to ensure that Uganda continues to produce skilled demographers and population experts.

By investing in capacity building, PSA contributes to the long-term sustainability of evidence generation and analysis in the country.

Promoting National and International Engagement

PSA also seeks to elevate Uganda's demographic discourse within regional and global conversations. By connecting local researchers with international scientific bodies and development partners, the Association promotes collaboration, visibility, and shared learning.

A Commitment to Evidence-Based Development

Ultimately, the Population Scientists' Association was created to ensure that Uganda's development policies and programs are grounded in credible, timely, and relevant demographic evidence. It exists to champion the scientific study of population issues and to position population science as a critical driver of sustainable development.

Through research, networking, advocacy, and knowledge sharing, PSA continues to work toward its vision of becoming the leading national platform for population science excellence in Uganda.