Who we are!

ActionAid Uganda (AAU) is a Ugandan national development organization, affiliated to ActionAid International and has worked in Uganda since 1982 and currently working in 36 districts with offices and staff in 15 districts.

Map of Uganda where AA Uganda is present

Our Values

**Mutual Respect** - requiring us to recognize the innate worth of all people and the value of diversity

**Equity and Justice** - requiring us to work to ensure equal opportunity to everyone, irrespective of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, HIV status, colour, class, ethnicity, disability, location and religion.

**Integrity** - being accountable at all levels for the effectiveness of our actions and open in our judgments and communications with others

**Solidarity** with people living in poverty and exclusion will be the only bias in our commitment to the fight against poverty.

**Independence** from any religious or political party affiliation

**Courage of Conviction** - requiring us to be creative and radical, bold and innovative - without fear of failure in pursuit of making the greatest possible impact on the causes of poverty.

**Humility** - in our presentation and behavior, recognizing that we are part of a wider alliance against poverty.

Using a Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) that entails interventions to transform the condition and position of people living in poverty, AA Uganda’s current Country Strategy Paper Five (CSP V) has four Mission Priorities (Program Areas): a) Women’s access to social justice; b) Community resilience to climate change; c) People’s action for democratic governance; and d) Harnessing leadership and economic opportunities for young people.

Women’s Access to Social Justice

Women’s rights have remained an important indicator for understanding and measuring well-being and progress. Despite significant
gains, however, patriarchy, religious and other fundamentalisms, sexism, unequal power relations, negative norms and traditional beliefs, all continue to foster inequality and vulnerability and to undermine the realization of women’s rights. We understand that the struggle for women’s rights is both personal and political and that we cannot fight for human rights without fighting for women’s rights. Under this Mission Priority whose overarching objective is: “To advance girls’ and women’s realization of social and economic justice by 2022” we currently run the projects/programmes focusing on following:

- The Women Protection Centres (WPCs) in 10 Districts of Uganda. The WPCs are Gender Based Violence Centres providing holistic support to women that are victims of Domestic Violence.
- Women Land Rights that is supporting women claim and defend their rights to access, own and utilize land.
- Gender responsive policy engagement, advocacy and campaigning across the country to ensure equitable development.

**Community resilience to climate Change**

The loss of rights to natural resources use has created misery that is being compounded by climate change. This has especially affected women who form the bulk of the population employed in agriculture and is exacerbated by dependence on rain-fed agriculture, making rural livelihoods and food security highly vulnerable to weather extremes. Climate change has also led to increasing migrations and to growing conflicts as pastoral communities for instance trespass from one place to another in search of pasture. To reduce adverse effects on agriculture and on people living in poverty, fostering adaptation to climate change is central to AAU’s response.

Under this Mission Priority whose overarching objective is: "To enhance livelihoods and the resilience of people living in extreme poverty to climate change by 2022" we currently run the projects/programmes focusing on following:

- Public Education on the Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Campaign as part of a wider effort to protect the interests and livelihoods of small-holder farmers.
- Collective marketing and seed banking as part of a contribution to the enduring work of cooperatives, solidarity action and regeneration amongst small-holder farmers.
- Climate change focusing on climate change resilience and adaptation; early warning systems and sustainable agricultural practices.
- The YESSEN (Youth empowerment for Sustainable Self Employment and National Development) project that aims at empowering youth with agricultural and entrepreneurial skills to be able to attain knowledge that enables them to be self-sustaining amidst climate change challenges.

**People’s action for democratic governance**

As we witness growing impunity and a roll-back of previous gains recorded in the country’s governance (including decentralization, constitutionalism, the rule of law and institution building), citizen action to push back democratic
rehearsals and to ensure state and corporate accountability, especially to those living in extreme poverty is crucial. Under this priority area, our objective is “To strengthen citizen actions to deepen democracy and hold the state corporations and political leaders accountable for social justice by 2022.”

We currently run the projects/programmes focusing on following:

- The Extractives Governance Project that looks at awakening the power in people to demand for and hold the sector leaders accountable so that communities benefit from the existing natural resources.
- The Citizens actions for greater accountability and improved public service delivery project that aims at ensuring that there is improved quality of public service delivery and enjoyment of human rights.
- We run an online platform for reporting corruption. This is achieved through encouraging members of the public to report corruption cases on the website, through the mobile application and on social media networks of Ipaidabribe Uganda @www.ipaidabribe.or.ug.
- In recognition of the demographic reality in Uganda, we work with youth through our Activista Programme to mobilize and harness the contribution of youth to development and governance.
- Working with many other civil society organizations to advocate for Quality public education in Uganda by advocating and contributing to re-dressing the systemic challenges affecting the education sector.
- Tax Justice and Public Education and Action around Resource Generation, Allocation and Utilization so that value for money is attained in terms of quality public services for all.
- Gender Social Accountability Project where women from across Uganda are involved, amongst others, in monitoring the quality of service delivery using mobile phones.

Leadership and economic opportunities for young people

AAU Believed that if properly harnessed, young people could spur development and guarantee peace and stability in the country because of their numerical strength and enterprise. Many however suffer from fragile livelihoods, are unemployed or underemployed in a large and poorly regulated informal sector.

Those in formal employment, especially young women, suffer labour rights violations and other forms of exploitation. Young people then fall prey to political manipulation and are delivered from sustained actions that can deliver long-term benefits. Under this strategic area, our mission is “To expand opportunities for young people to realize their leadership and right to better livelihood by 2022”
We are currently running projects/programmes focusing on following:

- **Global Platform Uganda** that trains, empowers, and provides space for young people to engage and grow in governance to use their learnings to demand for better management of the country and its resources, and as well to take up leadership positions.

- **Activista Programme** helps to mobilize and harness the contribution of youth to development and governance.

- **The YESSEN (Youth empowerment for Sustainable Self Employment and National Development)** project that aims at empowering youth with agricultural and entrepreneurial skills to be able to attain knowledge that enables them to be self-sustaining.

**Contact us**

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**ActionAid Uganda Management and Governance**

The Management of AA Uganda comprises 6 Senior Leadership Team Members headed by a Country Director. Other members include: the Head of Finance, the Programs Director, Human Resource and Organizational Effectiveness Director, the Business Development Director, the Audit Manager. In terms of Governance, AA Uganda comprises an 11-Person National Governing Board whose members are drawn from a General Assembly. One member on the Board represents AA International. The National Governing Board reports to the General Assembly.