

## The ActionAid Uganda Weekly 10th-16th Sept, 2018

Last week was largely black at ActionAid Uganda, we lost two icons of justice in the country; Stella Mukasa, a member of the AAU General Assembly and a strong feminist; Ass. Superintendent of Police Mohammed Kirumira who attacked Police's unlawful acts openly. Read about them and more in this edition

### A Candle Has Been Blown Out at Action Aid International Uganda!



**By**

**Flavia**

**Nalubega**

Ms. Stella Mukasa, a founder member of ActionAid International Uganda, and a permanent member of AAU's General Assembly, is no more after succumbing to a long illness in Virginia, USA.

At her death, Stella was the Regional Director for Africa at the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW). A human rights lawyer by training, a women rights activist

by nature, Stella sought to improve the human condition and focused her energies on eradicating the causes and devastating impacts of gender-based violence. She was a force to reckon in Uganda, Africa and internationally in as far as creating and enforcing gender-responsive laws and policies is concerned. She played a key role in drafting Uganda's Domestic Violence Act and in mobilizing support for gender-responsive constitutions in Uganda and in Rwanda. According to the Country Director Christine Aboke, AAU will specifically miss Stella for the key role she played as the AGM member in steering gender-responsive policies and decisions.

'She was a lawyer, a human rights and governance advocate and she espoused deep feminist principles. Death has robbed us of a great asset in her especially now that we advance the transformative feminist leadership agenda in our work. She will be greatly missed by us,' Christine wrote to her staff. Follow this [link](#) for the full Tribute.

## Former Buyende Police Boss Gunned, Another Life Lost Mysteriously!



Fallen Police Officer ASP Mohammed Kirumira

**By**

**Flavia**

**Nalubega**

The late Muhammad Kirumira, had a reputation for being a fearless crime fighter and an outspoken critic of the Police Force for which he worked. His confrontations with criminals

and his legal battles with the police gained Kirumira many admirers but they also made him many enemies. He was shot dead on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September at about 8:00pm as he approached his home in Bulenga, along with a female colleague. Follow the links below for more information.

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/video/3286562-4752730-brex7b/index.html>

[https://www.newvision.co.ug/new\\_vision/news/1485389/muhammad-kirumira-shot-bulenga](https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1485389/muhammad-kirumira-shot-bulenga)

## Nebbi LRP Launches Moot Courts in Communities!



A participant asks questions during a moot debate in Nebbi.

The ActionAid Nebbi LRP launched moot courts in the sub counties of Panyango and Nyaravur, packwach and Nebbi district on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August and 3<sup>rd</sup> September as an innovation to increase access to justice in the formal justice system for the indigenous. The moot courts are a dramatized session of what happens in court for sensitisation purposes for lay men. This year's moot courts were focused on customary land governance vis a vis women land rights, the nature of evidence to be produced in court, processes of court and what the

conducted by 2 judicial officers; Her Worship Achayo Rophine and His Worship Tibayeita Edgar who took time to explain to the communities in attendance the processes involved in achieving land justice. The participants were so engaged by the act of the plaintiff and defendant being interrogated by their advocates over the dramatized land dispute. In turn the ActionAid Nebbi Gender Based Violence shelter was able to register 10 land disputes which they have referred to the sub county structures for management. The District Woman Councillor Nyaravur Sub county, Hon. Molly Giramia appealed to AAU to scale up the activity because even the elite in the communities had no idea court was as accessible and reliable as portrayed in the moot.

## Inaugural National Convention Brings Together artisanal miners!



**By Gladys Mwanuzi**

Artisanal and small-scale miners (ASMs) under their national assembly, held a national convention at Hotel Africana, Kampala to discuss matters affecting them. Key among the issues included – the prohibitive licensing system for ASMs in Uganda, the unfriendly legal

thus noted there is strong need to have a common voice and identify entry points to influence governance and management of the mining sub-sector.

Miners from Busia, Namayingo, Mubende, Bugiri, Bushenyi, Ntungamo and Karamoja region, through their Chairperson Mr. Bosco Bukyanagandi, shared that with the current developments in the mining sub-sector, they need to come together and speak on one front with a common and strong voice on issues that concern them. "This will give us a firm position to negotiate with stakeholders on decisions taken about issues that affect us and also have input on what goes on in the sub-sector."

Commending the miners for this bold step, Mr. Didas Muhumuza, the Extractives Governance Coordinator of AAU, said, "This serves as a platform for information sharing and dissemination and also for government to take you seriously. Other than fighting developments in the sub-sector, you should be mobilizing and organizing to negotiate and cooperate with government to grow this sub-sector. There is great potential for economic transformation with more trickle down effect to the population if the sub-sector is well managed and governed".

## A Gender Just Society Begins with Self!



Young People after the Feminist Leadership Training in Seeta, Mukono.

### **By Chipo Bangira**

Last week Global Platform Uganda (GPUG) conducted a five-day training on Young Feminist Leadership, which challenged young people to position themselves and lead processes that challenge and confront oppressive power dynamics in their communities. The Seeta based training was undertaken by the GPUG trainers Grace Ruvimbo Chirenje and Chipo Bangira who unpacked feminism, transformative leadership, feminist knowledge management and feminist movement building in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Throughout the training, participants were challenged to reflect, unlearn and learn new ways of thinking that connected the self to the collective political vision of a gender just society. Young men who participated at the training noted that the training had helped them address the fears;

“I used to think that feminism is all about women, but this training has demystified the notions around feminism. Through the different exercises that we had in this training, I was challenged to question my leadership style and be mindful of the power and privilege that I have and how it contributes to gender inequality at home and in my community. As I go back to Nebbi, I am now a fearless defender of gender equality,” said Agasum Adebangun an Activista from Nebbi. The training sought to build a critical mass of young people who are capable and committed to feminist values and principles.

**Youth in Northern and Eastern Uganda thriving in Agriculture, thanks  
to YESSSEN Project!**





**By**

**Flavia**

**Nalubega**

In five districts of Uganda-Lira, Amuru, Nwoya, Pader and Kotido, young people have embraced agriculture which they are carrying out using the CRSA model- Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture model.

Many have taken on piggery, horticulture, growing food crops and growing seedlings for perennial crops as well as fish farming. This is something they are carrying out for self-sustenance as they are involved in farming for both food and sale. Sekamuk Santo of Pakuma subcounty , Amuru district says that he started onion growing in his back yard with Shs50,000. Today, he earns Shs2.5m per harvest. AAU and European Union are behind this success. They are undertaking a four year project dubbed Youth Empowerment for Sustainable and Self Employment for National Development (YESSEN) to empower youth to take an active role in ending poverty through taking on sustainable economic activities that ensure job creation and respond to community needs.

**Did You Know??**

Did you know that Uganda is the 3rd World's Poorest Country, according to the most recent survey of 2018? Check [Here](#) for more details.

*Copyright © \*2018\* \*ActionAid Uganda\*, All rights reserved.*

---