

Every child deserves a professionally trained, well-supported and motivated teacher to ensure global education targets are met.

#KeepYourPromises  
#FundTheFuture  
April 16-22



Dear Reader, It's the Global education Week! Several pledges have been made by our government including promising school girls free sanitary towels. This is far from being realised. During this week, make your voice heard on social media by demanding that government honours its promises to ensure that the next generation of Ugandans accesses not just free but quality public education. #keepyourpromises!

## Staff Trained in working with Social Movements



ActionAid staff in a role play of a non violent act at the social movements training last week in Lira.

ActionAid Uganda's 5<sup>th</sup> Strategy; Strengthening Struggles for social justice outlines an intent to broaden organizational partnerships. It also states that the organisation will work with community groups, social movements, coalitions, networks of civil society organisations, cultural and religious institutions plus political parties to strengthen their capacity and the active agency of people living in poverty to claim and defend their rights. To achieve this, ActionAid is working to deepen staff understanding of social movements

It is against this background that the Governance and Capacity Building units of ActionAid organised a five day training on social movements and creative activism in Lira last week. The training which was facilitated by AAU's Social Movements Inspirator, Ger Odock together with a facilitator from TOK POWER, a local CSO in Lira was attended by ActionAid cluster Coordinators, Program Officers and Inspirators.

The training focused on building participants understanding of power in Uganda's context, community organization approaches to social change, strategic non-violent tactics among others.

Participants learnt that nonviolent action involves not only an intellectual understanding of the subject with facts, but also physical participation.

Inevitably, each person who takes part becomes emotionally engaged. Therefore, the training entailed methods of both cognitive learning (such as lectures, talks and books) and experiential learning (such as role-plays, discussions, videos, exercises and games) and provided an opportunity to participants to identify fears and other strong feelings that they may have about working with social movements and engaging in nonviolent action.

The Trainers supported the participants to build a sense of community and mutual support thus providing opportunities for them to express feelings and develop ways to manage them in the midst of confusion and potential violence in working with social movements.

We look forward to the implementation of the acquired skills and knowledge.

## Subeda Wins in case rated David Vs Goliath!



Subeda recalls the abuse she went through at the hands of her perpetrators

Yapkwobei Subeda a widow and mother of five can finally afford a smile after ActionAid Kween GBV shelter worked to restore her dignity and livelihood. When she reported at the shelter, her piece of land, which she cultivates to get food for her children was on the verge of being grabbed by a one Kiwanuka who alleged that the land belonged to his late father.

Subeda was even assaulted by the municipal engineer and her house was set on fire by unknown assailants who had locked her exit doors from outside with hope that she would die in the fire. These acts of terror perpetuated upon Subeda and the occasioned psychological violence to her and her family members further spread a wave of fear among her neighbours who were afraid that they would also lose their land in a similar manner.

Many were also afraid of siding with her because the perpetrators were power holders. The locals add that this case could only be equated to a David(Subeda) VS Goliath Battle. Many of them discouraged Subeda from proceeding with the case as it already seemed like a lost battle. Subeda almost listened to her village mates. Besides, she did not have the finances to oil the corrupt rout to justice yet the perpetrator had all the money he needed for the same.

Its at this point that Subeda was referred to the Kween GBV shelter for support. The shelter intervened at the nick of time and raised the matter with the office of Resident District Commissioner of Kapchorwa who invited the parties for mediation.

Marie Deborah Lwanga, the shelter Program officer told the weekly that apart from the psychosocial support, the shelter supported Subeda to organise documents that proved her legal land ownership. These included receipts for payment of ground rent from 1988 to January 2018 .

These documents were presented to the mediation committee which eventually found that the perpetrator was simply an imposter who was using his masculine power to abuse Subeda's land rights. The committee made a ruling that the Subeda was the rightful owner of the land.

The ruling prompted Subeda's sons to mobilise resources and have now built her a permanent



The house that her sons are constructing for her in her land



Her current house, which was donated by a good samaritan after her house was burned down

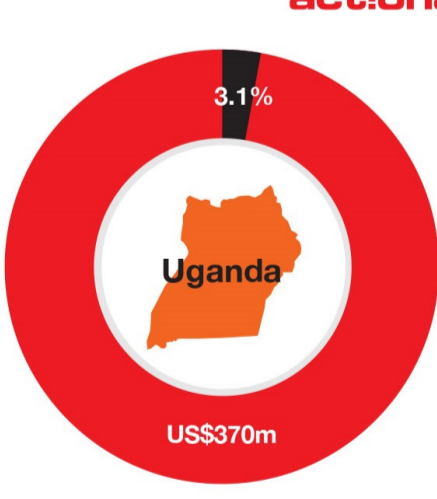
house.

"May God bless ActionAid, you have rescued me...May ActionAid live for long and have more donors", stated Subeda with tears of joy.

## Its the Global Education Week- #Keepyourpromises

Uganda loses an estimated **US\$370 million** each year to tax incentives. Just **3.1%** of this could educate all **298,634 girls** currently out of primary school.

#FundTheFuture



Did you know that this week is the Global Action Week For Education whose theme is keeping your promises and accountability to SDG4. ActionAid global secretariat and here in Uganda is basically following the pledges made during the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Financing replenishment Conference in February 2018 where developing countries pledged to increase the share of the education budget to ensure equitable, quality, inclusive education for all becomes a reality.

**We believe** that the Ugandan government must ensure that its tax systems are fairer, more progressive and better able to raise the funds needed to keep the pledges they have made at the GPE and to ensure that all children – especially girls – are able to fully enjoy their right to a good quality education

Please join the discussion by tweeting using the following hashtags; #FundEducation #KeepYourPromises #taxjustice #EducationNow #GAWE2018.

sample tweets you can post

- 263 million primary and secondary age children and youth out of school. Governments must #KeepYourPromises and increase education budget through #taxjustice
- Domestic financing is a long term sustainable way to raise more fund to fund free, quality, inclusive education for all. #KeepYourPromises #GAWE2018
- SDG 4 remains a dream unless our leaders increase domestic revenue to fund free education. #KeepYourPromises #GAWE2018
- An estimated 97% of domestic of funding to SDG4 must come from domestic tax revenue #FundEducation
- To get all children in school, government must increase their #education budgets – aid alone is not enough #KeepYourPromises #GAWE2018

Together, we can improve the quality of public education in Uganda and the world .

## Week Ahead

- ActionAid together with the Tax Justice Alliance will address the media today to speak about the proposed Tax Bills and their key recommendations in attaining a progressive Taxation system.
- The AG-Program Development Manager is in Nairobi for the Global Land Tool Network and UN Habitat partners meeting. ActionAid had one year partnership with GLTN between 2016 and 2017 where we Piloted the Youth and Land Responsiveness Criteria in Hoima, Masindi, Nwoya and Amuru. This is a follow up discussion to see how best we can scale up the work based on their new strategic plan 2018-2030.