

The ActionAid Uganda Weekly 5th - 11th Nov, 2018

In Today's edition,

We bring you news of the return of the Fundraising Director, find out from where! Also find out the CD's special interest in ending GBV- he puts across a strong mechanism he plans to use to end the vice. We also bring you updates from the Extractives caravan, the International Rural Women Day Celebrations and what AAU's intervention in uprooting corruption from Nebbi!

Enjoy.

Fundraising Director Returns!

Applauds Richard Olong for Filling the Gap so Well During his Ag. Tenure



By Betty Namatovu

After seven months of successfully acting in the capacity of the Director – Fundraising, Richard Olong (Manager Partnership & Capacity Building) handed back the Fundraising Directorate to Nickson Ogwal on 1st November, 2018. Nickson was on secondment to the GS as the Head of Programme Quality and Learning.

In his remarks, Richard thanked Nickson for representing Uganda very well and welcomed him back to his role. He commended the fundraising team for their cooperation and hard work. He said that the team had achieved so much and now was the time to build on those and achieve even more. He noted that there was need for both the Fundraising and Programme directorates to have a candid conversation on the latter's role and responsibility in fundraising.

During Richard's acting stint, the fundraising team successfully launched the solidarity fundraising initiative. Richard noted that post launch, the team under Nickson now needs to roll out the initiative beyond staff, work out a reporting mechanism, design a mechanism for following up with supporters who have chosen to pay cash and, cause a meeting with the Programme directorate to agree on what to prioritise with the monies that are coming in.

Nickson commended Richard for the leadership he provided to the team during the seven months and thanked the team for supporting Richard in his role. He thanked AAU management for allowing his secondment and the Programme and Global Engagement (PAGE) directorate at the Global Secretariat for the opportunity which built further his knowledge of programme quality. Nickson recommitted his availability to share what he learnt during the Secondment with the different teams with the purpose of improving on the way we do things.

Welcome back Nickson and, thank you Richard!!

**AAU CD Applauds Male Change Agents; Pledges to Work with them in
Realising Women's Access to Social Justice!**



By Nivatiti Nandujja

AAU joined the Women of Uganda in a series of conversations during the 4th National Women's Week 2018 last week organised under the theme: Crossing Barriers, Building Bridges: Unleashing collective power, Women Can. It provided space for reflection and revival of the women's movements in Uganda

AAU participated in a series of activities, among them AAU's Country Director Xavier Ejoyi during the men's conversation on how they can work with women to end gender based violence within the private and public spheres, he challenged men to reflect on how often they disproportionately allocate land in their wills and that means to nurturing powerful relations. "I applaud men that are committed to change the lives of women and girls at different levels and I call upon all men at different levels to continue with the conversation within the different spaces." Xavier said.

During the conversation the male change agents from Nebbi, Kween, Pallisa, Lira, Omoro districts also shared their experiences on how they have mediated over cases within their communities, while in Northern Uganda the male change agents have established village support structures to prevent gender based violence where mediations are handled at village level before it escalates through community dialogue and mediation over land disputes.

#EXTRACTIVESCARAVAN: Digital Patrons to Champion Extractives Conversations in Tertiary Institutions



By Robert Mwesigye & Philip Kabuye

The ongoing social media extractives caravan in the Albertine districts has birthed digital patrons in different tertiary institutions that will champion the conversation in the sector among their peers. These champions are in Paidha PTC, St Timothy technical & nursery teacher's training College, St Comboni technical school, UCC Pakwach and Nwoya Girls Academy .

These champions are times as the oil and gas sub sector gets into the production phase thus calls for need of the youth to position themselves for underlying opportunities. Already several developments are happening in the sector as government and oil investors negotiate on various projects as well as crucial infrastructure taking shape. More than 8,000 jobs, besides value chain opportunities will be created. The time is now for youth to appreciate these developments and strategize how to benefit.

ActionAid has set out to empower youth, targeting those in tertiary institutions, to build their capacity to advocate for responsible resource management, governance and accountability through social movements using the digital space. The power of social media to mobilize fellow youth for common interests cannot be underestimated. Donald Chidoori, a facilitator, says the digital patrons to champion this noble cause will undergo further training in responsible information use and management on different social media platforms as a sustainability strategy. "This will lead to creation of digital clubs the institutions with patrons to keep the struggle alive, " he said.

The caravan has thus far traversed the west Nile region covering Nebbi and Pakwach and Nwoya districts. This week it heads to Masindi and Hoima.

Follow the discussion on twitter and facebook [#ExtractivesGovernance](#)[#OurOilOurFuture](#)

Corruption Still Deep Rooted in Nebbi, Pakwach and Zombi; CSOs Confirm!



By Okwonga Moses

AAU Nebbi organized a meeting with CSOs accountability working group of Nebbi, Zombo and district to initiate a functional CSO social-accountability accountability group, generate & document evidence on sub county and district service delivery gaps for effective advocacy with duty bearers and draw a joint action plan for engagement with the duty bearers.

The meeting was premise on the shrinking space for Civil Society Organization and other individual accountability and anti-corruption activists to freely and effectively advance existing governance challenges. Some of the service delivery gaps highlighted include monetization of health services, supply of fake agricultural inputs by operation wealth creation, consistent stock out of essential drugs in health facilities, corruption scandals in NUSAFIII project for instance, the fish cage supplied to groups in Pakwach were all below standards which gravely affected the growth of the fish.

The CSOs accountability working group has embarked on investigation and profiling of service delivery gaps for engagement with duty bearers purpose to improve service delivery in Nebbi, Zombo and Pakwach district.

Rural Women Demand for Start-Up Capital for Economic Empowerment!

By Benjamin Tukei

Uganda commemorated the International Rural Women's Day (IRWD) under the theme; **"Sustainable infrastructure, services and, social protection for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls"** in Nadunget

subcounty in Moroto district. Women showcased the different empowerment models supported by different organizations.

ActionAid Uganda was represented by rural women from Katakwi who shared their testimonies of how they have been empowered to start up small scale businesses as a way of protecting themselves from economic enslavement that often results into GBV.

The rural women demanded MGLSD to prioritise giving rural women grants other than loans to empower them economically and to strengthen and toughen the fight against gender based violence which has affected most of the women. The IRWD was established by the UN General Assembly on 18th December 2007, and is observed around the world on 15th October of every year i.e on the eve of World Food Day.

Rural women's constitute about quarter of the global population while 43% contribute global agricultural labour force and estimated 76% of the extreme poor who live in rural areas with limited or no access to better infrastructure, social protection are women. The IRWD is held to remind State and non-State actors and other stakeholders to develop programmes that enhance women's ability to increase production, access services and social protection, be economically empowered and increase their participation in development programmes.

“Well Done Ug. Team” Fair Green and Global Roving Advisor Applauds!



By J. Achaloi & B. Namirembe

From 29th October to 2nd November, the FGG Roving advisor for Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe Precious Nkandu was in Uganda to carry out a partner assessment in line with lobbying and advocacy skills so as to plan and strategize for actions including trainings and exchange visits to be held in 2019.

During her visit, she had a meeting with the implementing partners in the central and the Northern region. Participants were

from Legal Aid Service Providers Network, Uganda Land Alliance, SEATINI, Human Rights Network Uganda, Uganda Consortium for Corporate Accountability, Action Alliance, Tok power, media, as well as community representatives from Kaweeri in Mubende and Apaa in Amuru among other partners.

Participants highlighted the main challenges to enhancing corporate accountability in Uganda as government connivance with multinational corporations to grab land, regressive tax policies and shrinking civic space among others. Participants also appreciated the support that Action Aid Uganda has given them in terms of financial support, capacity building and providing a platform for them to air out their concerns and engage with duty bearers.

The roving advisor plans to conduct three trainings in 2019 with the aim of building the lobbying and advocacy skills of the partners. She thanked the FGG team in Uganda for the work well done.

Nebbi, Pakwach and Zombo Leadership to Prioritize Quality Education!

By Moses Okwonga

ActionAid Nebbi LRP conducted one day engagement meeting with district education actors among others with an aim of influencing outcome priorities on quality education in the districts of Nebbi, Zombo, Pakwach and Nebbi Municipal. The leadership including CAO Nebbi and the Chairperson LCV of Nebbi and Zombo appreciated AAU for their efforts in the fight against social injustices, gender equality, poverty among the poor and promotion of quality education.

Key issues that were raised are; limited infrastructure like classrooms, desk, poor funding to education sector, lack of transport for routine monitoring and inspection of schools, high dropout rate especially in rural schools due to teenage pregnancies, limited number of teachers, lack of parental support to children's education, lack of local laws/ordinances on education.

As a way forward, the stakeholders constituted a working committee to consolidate all the issue raised within 4 days for presentation to the respective local government for consideration in government plans and budget in the next financial year.

Week Ahead

1. We are starting the review process of the AAU Communication Strategy 2013 today afternoon at Fairway Hotel. It shall be spearheaded by Charles Mwanguhya, a member of the AAU Board of Directors.
2. The Extractives Sector social media caravan shall be in Western Uganda this week, in the districts of Hoima, Buliisa and Masindi.
3. The Country Director is still in Arusha TCDC for SPA-CD's meeting and training until 11th Nov, 2018
4. The Program Director is out of office until 9th Nov 2018 attending to a number of important meetings.

In The News

[Why Social Movements will Involve Citizens in Oil and Gas Matters](#)

