

Youth Parliaments: unemployment is due to nepotism



Without fear: Youth representatives decries unemployment and other service delivery issues.

On the spot in the youth parliaments conducted in Katakwi last week, youths decried unemployment due to nepotism, discrimination and sexual exploitation, bribery in the district level recruitment process into the police and military forces; It was a common feeling that politicians use the youth as a stepping stone to attain political mileage and once they are in the political offices, the youth become a forgotten story.

They further asserted that their voices are not recognised by the government and that they are allotted a very small youth vote at every level and do not benefit from government development programmes such as NAADS, CDD, NUSAF and youth loan. To back up their argument the youth cited examples like an alleged youth group led by a 59 year old man. They vehemently refuted the assertion by the youth councillor that youths benefit from government programmes and asserted that perhaps the youth councillor awarded those programmes to his wife and relatives.

The youth parliaments were attended by duty bearers like the DPC,RDC,DISO, politicians and a wide range of technical staff. The platform created a platform for youth to engage and come up with the youth agenda at district level to inform the upcoming district Baraza. The activity was funded by DGF and attracted over 700 youths.

MIS training softens the reporting system



Cross section of staff pay maximum attention at the training in Masindi.

Very practical and useful is how one participant, Fredrick Wandrera, described the recently concluded MIS training in Masindi. The training to all staff is being rolled out by the Impact Assessment and shared learning unit. Last week, all up country staffs were trained from Masindi and Kumi. All staff will after the training be expected to do quick analysis and generate reports and make evidence-based programming.

However, the greatest worry, as indicated by another participant is that the system draws much emphasis on numbers (quantitative data). Members need to appreciate the interpretation section of the report (Qualitative) if the system is to provide accurate and reliable reporting. This week, Kampala staffs are being trained at LandMark Hotel in Muyenga. We can only look forward to the practicability and softened reporting!

CD'S Award winners receive their presents

Last Friday, the C.D Award winners received their presents. The occasion was witnessed by a cross section of Kampala staff, and our own communications camera. The winners of the quarter were Richard Olong, the Program Development manager for successfully facilitating the signing g of MOUs with all partner organisations and disbursement of quarter one funding. The Bwaise WPC team was also recognised for their patience and professionalism while dealing with the GBV survivor, Zainab Mbabazi.

Other winners included Harriet Robbina Gimbo, for successfully overseeing the handover of the GBV survivor to her family, Finance team for enabling an audit process that gave the organisation a clean audit. The LRP winners came from Kumi and Kapchorwa. Miriam Cherukut, the Kumi LRP coordinator was awarded together with Bishal Rana Magar, the Kapchorwa inspirator for successfully conducting the recently concluded youth camp.

The Finance team shared their cake with the Kampala staff while the Bwaise team will cut their cake in due course. The country Director took time off to congratulate the winners and encouraged staff to nominate colleagues who think outside the box, as we continue to embrace rights and improve lives.

Congratulations to the winners...

Oil in Uganda staff shines at Uganda National Journalism Awards



Beatrice Ongode of Oil In Uganda poses with journalism scholars (L to R) Dr.Monica Chibita, Justice Irene Mulyagonja and Dr.George Lugalambi (the chief judge).

Last week, the African centre for Media Excellence held an inaugural Uganda National Journalism Award at Golf Course Hotel in Kampala in a bid to recognise

ze and promote excellence in reporting and to inspire quality journalism in Uganda.

Oil in Uganda staff writer Beatrice Ongode emerged runner -up in the extractives reporting category with her environmental piece "To bury or not to"

220 entries from more than 190 print, broadcasting and online journalists were submitted for the competition. Dr George Lugalambi, chair of the panel of judges that assessed the entries, said they were notable for their general good quality. He added that they showed a trend toward more analytical journalism in Uganda.

Read the article at: <http://www.oilinuganda.org/features/environment/oil-waste-to-bury-or-not-to-bury.html>

Cong's to our own. You made us proud, but there is still space at the top.