

Stakeholders in Kumi agree to improve Quality of Education!



True Africanism: The children of Kumi used music and drama to demand for quality education as they

It was all about performance arts, show casing reading, writing, and poetry recitals and dancing in Kumi district. The children expressed their meaning of a child friendly free and compulsory quality education: this year's theme of the day of the African child. Child after child and performance after performance implored parents, Government and other stakeholders to ensure quality education for the children of Kumi.

The drama caused the stakeholders to think hard as the children highlighted the back seat that the girl child and children with disabilities are given while the boys are a priority in terms of education in both homes and schools.

The secondary schools took on a heated debate! "Is it possible to have a free, child friendly quality and compulsory education in the current climate marred by corruption, limited funding and lacklustre support from the parents?"

At the end of the deliberations, the stakeholders made commitments to the African children in Kumi. They all agreed with the children that while the enrolment was high, issues that contribute to quality, like teachers commitment, parents support. Learning materials are lacking and will be addressed!

Nebbi and Zombo districts discuss women land rights issues



Inclusive participation: A Muslim leader in Nebbi makes a point during the deliberations.

On Wednesday last week, Nebbi LRP held a district dialogue meeting on Land conflict in the Zombo and Nebbi districts. The meeting attracted political and technical leadership from the two districts.

Key issues deliberated included the progress and strategies in the popularization of the enacted bylaws aimed at protection of women rights in the Alur Kingdom. ActionAid supported the Alur Kingdom to enact bylaws, which were launched by his highness, the King of the Alur Kingdom last year.

The Land conflict in Nwoya district between the Alur and the Acholi, which has claimed many lives, put up a heated

debate. The RDC gave a commitment and a timeline to resolving the matter. A resolution was reached to have a joint delegation from both parties conduct a joint dialogue meeting to calm the community in the meantime and expedite the process of whatever decisions would be arrived at to avoid more loss of property and lives. The district leadership expressed gratitude to ActionAid for providing such a forum to discuss such pertinent issues and pledged to continue working with us. Great partnership building by Nebbi LRP!

Amudat joined celebrations of day of the African Child



For the very first time in History, Amudat District joined the rest of the continent to commemorate the day of the African Child. This was made possible by advocacy of ActionAid and funding from the European commission, under the EC-VAC project. In a statement by the child guest of honor, Amina Nambuya, it was emphasized that the surgeons had changed strategy.

"I would like to inform you all that while you patrol the swamps and flat lands where the cultural ceremony takes place, this is no longer the case. We are cut from our parent's houses, and kept there in excruciating pain. We girls of Amudat are tired of being cut. Stop the politics, come, and rescue us", read part of the statement.

Several cases of abuse of children's rights have continued to haunt the district, including forced marriages, defilement, and FGM.

Rebecca Kukundakwe, the ActionAid Coordinator of the EC-VAC project in her address assured the district of ActionAid's commitment, with support from the European Union to ensure quality education for all.

ActionAid and the media visited Kalasi Girls School. What stands out about the school is that three quarters of the pupils there are girls who have run away from FGM and forced marriages. The Headmaster of the school reported that on average, the school receives about three girls on a daily basis.



District leadership and ActionAid demand for the stopping of FGM in Amudat last week

"And it will get worse in the next three months as this is the season for FGM. Those who are not lucky enough to survive FGM then look for an escape route to survive marriage, since FGM is a sign of maturity and the next step is marriage" he explained.

Look out for more stories about Amudat and ActionAid's interventions on our website.

Oil in Uganda launches translated versions in Alur, Acoli and Lunyoro



The Banyoro, after the launch of the Lunyoro version of Oil in Uganda. This is hoped to increase the debate, interest and participation in oil issues.

Oil in Uganda has successfully launched its long awaited popular versions in Alur, Acoli and Lunyoro in the districts of Nebbi, Amuru and Buliisa.

Last week, Land and Oil project staff together with LRPs and their partners started the launch in Buliisa before proceeding to Nebbi and Purong.

The launch of the translated versions in the three districts were all graced by top district officials who commended Oil in Uganda and Action Aid at large for always trying to ensure that the local communities are empowered as far as knowing their rights are concerned.

Despite the fact that it was total excitement as the local communities embraced the publications in their local languages, the District officials tasked Oil in Uganda team to commit to providing information regarding the discovered resource on top of empowering the local communities to hold their leaders accountable and to ensure that all the citizens benefit from the resource.

The translated versions and other IEC materials were disseminated to ensure that the local communities in these areas are empowered and equipped with free, prior and informed consent on issues regarding the natural resource.

Minister Kibule Mukasa Makes good his promise to GBV survivor, Zainab Mbabazi



Zainab Mbabazi smiles after receiving her sewing

Last week, Hon Minister of the Youth and Children, Kibuule Mukasa made good his promise to GBV survivor, Zainab Mbabazi.

Last year, when the plight of Zainab Mbabazi came to the media and public, Kibuule was one of the very first people who visited her at the GBV shelter in Bwaise.

While visiting her, he pledged to donate a sewing machine to improve on her economic stand and living conditions, so that she does fall prey to similar situations as she continues to find means of survival.

Hon Kibuule thanked ActionAid for ensuring the full recovery of Mbabazi, despite the very difficult circumstances. He then handed over the brand new sewing machine and also facilitated its transportation to

Sheema, Mbabazi's new home. The minister also pledged to pay for a tailoring course to enable Mbabazi utilize her new sewing machine.

Youth generate programming content at the concluded camp



Youths with their photographic illustrations of the direction that they want the programming around them to take.

ActionAid conducted a Youth Camp in Pakuba Safari Lodge from 13-15th June 2014 involving over 60 youths from across Uganda. The meeting was aimed at generating content for Youth Programming in AAU and contribution to the International Youth Meeting in Amsterdam involving CDs across the AAI federation. For this meeting, youth evaluated the processes, impact and outcomes of AAU youth programming in the context of developing a powerful youth agenda for Uganda as we build a citizenry capable of participating, influencing and implementing national development agenda.

The resultant information produced shall contribute to youth programming and avenues of participation in the general poverty alleviation efforts of AAU.