



Chris Musiime, the Managing Editor of Oil in Uganda and Betty Namatovu, the Sponsorship Officer Congratulate each other upon the successful completion of the HRBA Course in Arusha last week!

## Grasping HRBA In One Week!

Last week, ActionAid sponsored 14 of its staff to attend the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) course at MS TCDC in Arusha. The course orientated new staff into the ActionAid way of work and programming that puts Human Rights at the forefront of all interventions. Participants were taken through the fundamental features of HRBA, analysis of issues and powers that affect the communities, ActionAid values, the theory of change and the construction of M&E frameworks. As many participants remarked, the training came in handy. According to Kevin Aciro, Pader LRP Coordinator, the training was an icing on the cake for her recently concluded induction. "Am ready for the work ahead of me," she exclaimed.



The triumphant students of HRBA showing off their certificates upon completion of the course.

Mwami Eric, the course instructor was also very impressed by his learners:

"This has been a learning process for me as well. I should credit your Human Resource unit for bringing you all on board. I believe AAU has the best brains in the land. Let us put in practice this training," he said during the closing remarks.

A way from the classes, the team enjoyed the beautiful environment in Arusha. The sites of the white tailed monkeys, the beautiful stream that flows in the institution, the flowers that make life so beautiful, and the lovely and friendly Tanzanian people all made the one week historical in the lives of the participants.

## Hon Lukia Nakadama commends ActionAid-Pallisa



Hon Lukia Nakadama speaks passionately about the work of ActionAid countrywide while visiting Pallisa WPC

Last Week, as Pallisa district held its belated Independence Day celebrations, the District Leadership spoke passionately about ActionAid's strides in the district, especially in curbing gender based violence (GBV). To further demonstrate their appreciation, the leadership invited the chief guest, Hon. Isanga Lukia Nakadama, the Minister of State for Gender and Cultural Affairs to visit the Pallisa Women Protection Centre and see the transformation that ActionAid causes in the lives of ordinary Ugandans.

While at the center, Hon Lukia could not hold back her gratitude for ActionAid's work!

This is really amazing. In the last few weeks, I have been to Gulu and Lira launching GBV Shelters run by ActionAid. I am humbled that they did not only concentrate in Northern Uganda. Thank you ActionAid for the great work," she said.

The Minister added that she was glad that it was the district administration that recognized the role of ActionAid as it will be easier for the district to sustain the project, having realized its impact.

The Minister further interacted with some GBV survivors, she found at the center. These told the tale of total transformation in their lives, that was partly facilitated by ActionAid.

## ActionAid donates legal handbooks



Job Bua the project officer hands over the books to the Community

After stakeholders raised the challenge of inadequate knowledge on the relevant laws in land justice administration, ActionAid responded to this need by donating 15 legal books to be used in six sub counties. ActionAid has made the move to strengthen the capacity of the Government structures at the community level. This will equip them with tools and knowledge of the relevant laws to enable them handle cases related to women land rights violations and conclude them effectively.

While receiving the books, the chairperson of Nyambyeso sub county thanked AAU for its support. He reckoned that while it was the role of the Government to equip them with such tools, ActionAid's compliment came in handy.

"We shall read, and with the knowledge, we shall be able to follow the right procedure while handling women land rights violations in the community," he promised.

## ActionAid revives sports in Sabin Region

This month, the European Union funded Violence against Children project supported an inter district Schools Netball and Football competition. Under the theme; "I learn better when I play, give me chance," the District Education Offices of Bukwo, Kween, Kapchorwa, and Amudat supported primary school children to put up a spirited fight for the trophy.



The Kween Girls Netball team won the Girls trophy and took home a complete set of a netball kit.

While speaking at the closing ceremony, Syson Meya, the Task Manager for the VAC Project at the EU stressed the need for deeper programming for out of school children, especially those living with disabilities. She also commended ActionAid for the participatory approach that involves all stakeholders especially the Local Governments.

Mr Bulalu Stephene, the Senior Education Officer of Kapchorwa thanked ActionAid for reviving sports in the districts. On behalf of the local Governments, he pledged to revive the sports movement in the region.



Kapchorwa district were the football giants and they too took home a beautiful football kit (uniform and balls).

Kween district won the Netball competitions and took home a set of sports uniform from ActionAid, while Kapchorwa district took the Football trophy alongside a football uniform set. All participating schools will each receive a football and netball set of uniforms to revamp sports in the district.

## Kalangala Actors resolve to stand in solidarity



Last Week, Kalangala Local Rights Program conducted a Reflection Action Training. The five days training enabled over 60 participants from partner organizations and community intermediaries to contextualize issues that are affecting their communities. The training also inspired them to work together to create solutions and alternatives as they speak for their rights.

Reflect Circles have in the past been effective in fronting community concerns as it creates solidarity and a platform for pursuit of community development and concerns to be heard by concerned stakeholders. By the end of the training, the members rolled out the reflection action training in their respective areas and establish networks with other existing reflect groups.

## No politician will exploit our vote; Katakwi Activists



When ActionAid Katakwi organized youth parliaments last week, over 1000 youth both in and out of school were brought together. The large numbers the young blood caused some political and technical staff to pass by and see what was happening!

The youth clearly stated that there was deliberate denial of information by government officers on the implementation of youth related projects hence affecting their participation, poor educational system, the Karamoja-Teso border land conflict that continues to deny the youth their ancestral productive asset were some of the most pressing issues affecting them.

These issues were taken on by the local radio stations that have amplified the voice of the youth in demanding for an explanation to these issues from the power holders. And since 2016 is just a year away, the youths resolved not to entertain any politician who will want to simply exploit their votes. The stage has been set. Go Activists!

## AAU hosts session on women and poverty

AAU hosted a parallel session on women and poverty with the theme: Recognition, Reduction, Redistribution of unpaid care work, a considerable strategy to addressing alarming poverty rates among women in Uganda. The panelists included: Hon. Justice Batema; a resident Judge and male champion, Mr. Gideon Badagawa; executive Director Private sector Foundation Uganda, Dr. Thelma Awori, Institute of social transformation, and Mrs. Joyce Lakevice chairperson Uganda women entrepreneurs association. The session was moderated by Charles Mwanguhya, a member of AAU General Assembly.



The key messages from the pannelist included the need to re-fame the naming of unpaid care work to reflect the economic value it would carry if it was paid. Justice Batema presented a calculation of how much his wife would have earned if he paid her for the work she does: in the last 3 years she would be earning 6.9million per month and when he was promoted, her salary would also appreciate, and now she would be earning 10million per month.

Dr. Thelma speaking on behalf of 'active citizens organizations' and not just CSOS, was disappointed that in 2014, this issue of unpaid care work is still not recognised. She said the since the 1960's international community economists have remained slow and adamant to respond. She decried the fact that this country has good policies in place which are still not implemented, what we need is political will to put in place infrastructure that benefits women through public service delivery.

Speakers also challenges women to take action by first of all recognising that this work is for women alone and work towards redistribution it to the family members, com unit and the state. It was agreed that it takes a lot of courage for a woman to say no to oppressive norms and practices and it is time for action to challenge these. The executive director private sector foundation Uganda said that the sector recognises the heavy burden women bear in child care, as a result efforts are in place to pilot a programme called 'Early Steps' which calls for bussines investment in promoting early childhood development. The AAU Country Director is thus invited to a tend the first Uganda National bussines leaders forum on early childhood investment due on Wednesday 29th October 2014 to discuss why early childhood development is critical for Ugandas' business and the economy.