

Weekly

August 24—30



Rose Nyangoma of Lira had her land grabbed by her stepson after the passing on of her husband. With support from the Berkley Women Land Rights Project, she got back her land and is using it productively to produce food, selling off the surplus to send her children to school.

ActionAid attains A+ grade for PPA report



At the recently concluded Annual PPA workshop, participants celebrated the A+ award for the 2014 reporting but also left no stone unturned to ensure that the grade is maintained.

ActionAid Uganda hosted the international Private Partnership Agreement (PPA) workshop at Royal suits in Bugolobi. The workshop was graced by participants from DRC, The Gambia, Malawi, Afghanistan, United Kingdom, Burundi and the ActionAid International secretariat. ActionAid Uganda has been implementing the PPA grant together with 5 countries in the federation (United Kingdom, Nigeria, Pakistani, Afghanistan and Ethiopia). The grant that is majorly tuned to improving Organizational effectiveness has among others facilitated the development and operationalization of the AAU Management Information System (MIS), the data storage and analysis platform.

At this year's workshop, Joana Knight, the PPA Program Manager at ActionAid UK reported that DFID, the funding partner for this program had awarded an A+ grade to the 2014 annual report. She thanked all countries for the grade work towards attaining this boom.

The workshop also discussed ways of improving the quality of data collected for program learning and reporting.

Stanley Wobusobozi, the Impact Assessment and Shared learning manager, while speaking to the Weekly stated that there was an in-depth discussion and learning around improving data collection, analysis, reporting and linkages around M&E indicators.

"Our focus included data alignment, data collection process and methods, ensuring rigor in evidence collection among others"

Just to get a feel of how impact full this workshop was, please read Carol Abilata's blog on the same. [here](#)

AAU Officiates partnership with MIFUMI



The DFID Uganda head of office interacts with one of the GBV survivor, Asia during a recent visit to Bwaise Women Protection Center.

Following the signing off of a grant agreement with DFID for the bridging phase of the the Women Protection center project, ActionAid held a meeting with its new partner MIFUMI.

While ActionAid will be running the ten GBV shelters of Nebbi, Lira, Gulu, Amuru, Mubende, Pallisa, Kumi, Katakwi, Kween and Bwaise with funds from DFID directly, MIFUMI on the other hand will run the shelters of Moroto, Mbarara and Masaka with funding from DFID through ActionAid.

During the meeting, ActionAid and MIFUMI shared project expectations, deliverables and critical accounting requirements. The two organizations also discussed the various issues that arose from the partnership assessment conducted by ActionAid and developed action plans to ensure a successful implementation of the project.

Its important to note that ActionAid won the bridging grant after it turned out that the shelter(Women Protection Centre) component emerged as the best performing component under the UN joint Program on Gender equality. All evaluations awarded the program an A+ grade.

We look forward to more As from MIFUMI and the Women Rights team at ActionAid.

M&E Boost for Nebbi partners

In line with its drive to deepen result based reporting, ActionAid Impact assessment and shared learning team was in Nebbi last week to support staff from partner organizations and cultural institutions to develop Organizational M&E frameworks. This capacity building initiative comes at a time when AAU is working towards having partner organizations report on outcome and impact.

"But more importantly, we want the partner Organizations to become independent, so that with or without ActionAid, they can operate efficiently and effectively," stated John Marondo, the M&E Advisor at AAU.

Specifically, Nebbi NGO Forum, that reported to have been struggling to come up with an Organizational M&E framework aligned to their strategic plan closed the week with this framework in place.

The representative from Alur Kingdom was also excited about the capacity enhancement by ActionAid.

"Together with the chiefs, we spearheaded a Women Land Rights Project in the Kingdom. The capacity building I have attained in M&E will be vital in enabling us identify the gaps, improve documentation and share the impact of our work in a better way," he said.

The participants also agreed to continuously support each other. They are going to set up a google group to take this learning forward and in practice.

ActionAid moves to counter shrinking political space!



Fred (Right) joins the rest of the team in a focus group discussion last week in Arusha that saw the development of a shrinking political space curriculum.

Last week, ActionAid Uganda played a leadership role in the development of a training course to address the shrinking political space in relation to advocacy work and civic Education. Fredrick Kawooya, the Policy and Campaigns Director represented AAU in the week-long event in Arusha.

According to Fred, the course aims at building Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) capacities to address the growing global phenomenon of shrinking political space.

"State agencies are increasingly becoming intolerant of civil engagement, citizens expressions, advocacy and campaigns towards effecting social change. This intolerance is mostly demonstrated through Government's interference through introduction of new registration regulations and legislations that limit NGO and CSO operations"

Fred also told the Weekly that the safety and security of CSO workers, Human and social rights defenders is in balance, citing the several robberies of CSO offices over the last three years.

Arthur Larok added that in responding to the above scenarios, ActionAid international is exploring a training approach that will empower civil society organizations.

"We aim to enhance their capabilities to proactively and creatively engage in advocacy in a politically risk prone environment"

The curriculum is set to empower staff and partners to continue expanding, demanding and creating alternative spaces for engagement. Well-done team and we look forward to the roll out.

ActionAid in the News

- In the news last week, as the debate over the creation of new districts continues, the Observer reported that Government is moving towards borrowing to finance the new districts, citing an ActionAid study [Here](#)

- The Observer also wrote about the Perils of a child couple. ActionAid with funding from the European Union is working in the Sebei region to ensure that child Rights abuses, such as [these](#) are eliminated from the community.

- The campaign to pass the amended childrens act to protect children from abuse continues. Capture the debate on KFM [morning show](#) and the [Hot seat](#) courtesy of ActionAid and European commission.

- Land grabs remain a big problem to the livelihoods of this country. ActionAid featured in the news on the same [Here](#)

WEEK AHEAD:

- ActionAid will be in parliament tomorrow to witness the reading of the NGO Bill on the floor of Parliament. Please join us to make a statement.
- Pallisa and Busiki LRPs will this week hold the Regional Children's Forum. Keep reading the Weekly for updates on this.
- Arthur Larok will take part in the NGO leaders meeting this week in Naguru.