

The ActionAid International Uganda Weekly
17th -23rd June, 2019

Dear Reader,

This week we bring you updates of how the AAIU Annual General Assembly, 2019 unfolded. Find out the interesting insights by the Board Chair and others. On a sad note, one of our board members who has served for close to eight years on the Programmes Committee Mr Deo Yiga is bowing out-read more about him here and his contribution to AAIU! This and more in this week's newsletter. Enjoy!

Annual General Meeting 2019
AAIU Making Great Strides-Board Chair!
Board Member Deo Yiga Bows out!





By Joyce Amuron

The ActionAid Int. Uganda Annual General Meeting was held on 15th June 2019 at Hotel Africana Kampala. The meeting was attended by the General Assembly members of AAIU including the chairperson Mr. Opio Nicholas.

Ms Eunice Musiime, the ED Akina Mama W'Afrika and the convener of the AGM opened the meeting and thanked AAIU for grooming leaders in Uganda and globally. She also added that AAIU is an organization that people want to learn from and partnering with in so many ways.

Mr. Opio Nicholas, the chairperson presented a report and he began by sending gratitude and prayers to the late Stella Mukasa and her family, a former Board Member who passed on in September 2018. He also informed members about the replacement of the departed member by Mrs. Beatrice Mukabi, a new board member who is very competent person who shall no doubt deliver beyond expectations.

He informed the G.A members about the new Country Director of AAIU Mr. Xavier Ejoyi who will lead the organization to its new heights. Xavier was recruited in September 2018. He also informed them about the departure of ActionAid's Secretary General Mr Adriano Campolina.

Mr. Opio also highlighted the move made by AAIU to streamline their relationship with donors, specifically the Democratic Governance Facility leadership. He emphasized that they have engaged with the DGF secretariat and embassies to ensure that AAIU clears its image and name and attains a cordial working relationship with the donor agency. This followed consistent media reports about the facility's allegations of corruption within the NGO sector.

Finances

The financial performance and the financial position of the organization was presented by Ms Jennifer Mugalu, the Treasurer on AAIU's Board. She said AAIU's total income receipts for the year 2018 was Ush.22.7 billion against a total expenditure of Ush.18.6 billion and this resulted in a period surplus of Ush. 2.46 billion. The strong oversight and guidance by the Governing Board ensured that the organization maintained financial discipline and health as represented in the detailed external audit report.

AAIU's total income in 2018 was Ush.22.69 billion compared to Ush.18.12 billion of 2017 registering an increase of 25% from the prior year income which was largely due to

Ush.4.8 billion growth in donor contract income of which Ush. 1.87 billion was from DFID under the SURGE project. The Child Sponsorship fund, which is mobilized by AAI funding affiliates, constituted 42% (Ush.9.5billion) of the total income for the year while donor contract income constituted 57% and other income at 1%

Other income amounting to Ush. 39 million represents income generated from disposal of assets and inventory items, as well as payments towards private use of organizational vehicles by staff.

Programme

Mr Yiga Deo, the chair of the Program Committee on the Board presented the annual report . He highlighted great performance by the Programmes Directorate and emphasized the new four focus areas that AAIU is undertaking with the new 5th Country Strategy to tackle poverty and injustice in Uganda. Mr Yiga announced his resignation after eight years of service to AAIU.

'I'm grateful to work with an organization that tries its best to walk the talk. I will forever be proud of associating with AAIU.I will end by saying the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others, ' Mr Yiga said.

Opio praised Yiga for his key role on the Programme committee as well as his humorous character that lightened up board meetings. To view the AGM Proceedings, follow the link

[HERE](#)

School Anti Corruption Clubs taking root, getting administration support from AAIU!



Member Schools of Anti Corruption Clubs in the Albertine Districts pose for a group photo after a training by AAIU



Students showcase their annual calendar.



Philip Kabuye, the AAIU I Paid A Bribe Officer training teachers, students and patrons of Anti Corruption Clubs in Masindi.

By Philip Kabuye

In 2017 ActionAid International Uganda embarked on spreading the anti corruption campaigns in schools. The objective was to bring to the students' attention the repercussions of corruption and engage themselves in fighting the vice as responsible

citizens.

Two years down the road the Anti Corruption Clubs (ACC) are bearing fruit as the student community spread across several schools in the Albertine districts has grown very strong!' Agnes Nakintu, the ACC patron of Kitara SS in Hoima district, says a remarkable development that has happened at the school is the club members presiding over student elections to rule out cases of bribery.

She reports that at the recent student elections, a particular candidate was well known to the panel of teachers and overwhelmingly the favourite.

"The ACC members raised this concern and protested that the ground was not levelled as the particular candidate was well known to the panel. The school administration took action and the club members were able to preside over the elections that turned out free and fair," Nakintu says.

Nakintu proudly says the club membership in her school alone has grown to about 200. She notes that students have embraced the anti corruption crusade so much that they even engage the communities back home.

"Students report document cases of corruption back in their communities and return with them when reporting back to school, and they endeavour to pursue them." she says.

Katusiime Jacqueline, the ACC patron for Mandela SS, acquiesces with her colleague, saying students now see it as a noble duty as responsible citizens to fight corruption.

"Being part of the ACC has given students a sense of responsibility and changed their attitude towards corruption. They no longer look at these cases as just an everyday part of their lives but rather see it as a danger to the community," she says.

Students are actively involved in documenting articles on corruption the best of which are then read out in recognition during school assemblies. Students testify that culprits in their schools have been brought to book or made to account for their actions through their clubs.

In Masindi SS, the club members report how the school administration tasked the games master to explain why he had not procured items meant for the winning teams yet he had received the funds. This was as a result of the ACC members raising the concern.

An interesting dimension to the ACCs is that patrons have designed sustainability strategies for their continuity in schools. 14 clubs in Pakwach, Nebbi, Masindi and Hoima have drawn activity calendars for them to follow while executing activities of ACC as a sustainability strategy. Ongwech Sylvester, the club patron of Pakwach SS elaborates that the need to even involve school bodies like the Parents Teachers Association and local council leaders in their activities as a strategy to spread the crusade against corruption in the communities.

Across the board patrons and students alike expressed fair satisfaction that the administration was recognising their work though they are not accorded as much time to execute most of their activities.

AAIU last week organised a meeting with the ACC patrons, teachers and students to devise workplans for the next one year, to enable continuity and relevance of the clubs, not

only in school but also in communities in the struggle to fight against corruption in the country.

Ford Foundation Visit to AAIU- Very Appreciative of the Extractives Governance Work Among Youth!



By Joyce Amuron

On June, 13th 2019 AAIU in partnership with Ford foundation held a meeting to check progress of the running project 'Youth Having a Stake in Extractives Sector' under the Extractives Governance Unit.

The Country Director Xavier Ejoyi thanked Ford Foundation for its continued support to humanitarian work amidst Uganda's shrinking political space. He further emphasized that AAIU is resilient and shall continue to work with young people and women to address poverty and injustice.

He emphasized AAIU's strategy to work with young people, especially young women to head the fight in the demand for justice, since they are the most abused group in Uganda. This, he said is AAIU 's strength and results are there to show for such campaigns,

including the recently won 'war' by women miners in Mubende to attain operational licenses for the new mining area that was recently accorded to them by Government.

The Fundraising Director Nickson Ogwal further explained that CSOs still have a big role to play to empower citizens to demand for their rights since the citizenry is still covered in fear.

He also highlighted that the black Monday Movement is a citizen driven movement that brings to light all those who engage in corruption and AAIU is continuing to support the Movement as one of the moves to fight corruption.

According to Mr. Didas Muhumuza, the Coordinator Extractives Governance Unit, the Extractives Sector is looked at as the next big employer of young people, with many already accessing opportunities in the mining sector as well as the oil sector. He however highlighted the challenges affecting the sector that include family break out resulting from land fights, low and unfair compensation rates from oil companies and government entities and abandonment of children, all of which indirectly affect young people and thus, remain an important aspect to be addressed with support from civil society.

Ford Foundation has been supporting the Extractives Governance Project for about the last eight years, with special interest in uplifting young people in the sector. They are moving into addressing the shrinking political space while working with Young people, a sphere AAIU too is focusing on in the 5th country strategy.

Public Service Delivery Marathon On; Celebrating the Value and Virtue of Gender Responsive Public service to the community!

By Joyce Amuron

23rd June every year is designated as the international service delivery day. To commemorate this day, AAIU has organized the 3rd public service delivery marathon which will take place in Nebbi, West Nile sub region under the theme 'celebrating the value and virtue of gender responsive public service to the community' on Saturday 23rd June, 2019. The chief runner shall be The Minister of Public Service Hon. Wilson Muruuli Mukasa.

Mr Charles Mulozi Olweny, AAIU's Project Coordinator for Governance and Social Accountability highlighted that the general objective of the event is to galvanize citizens to demand for improved and quality gender responsive public services in Uganda.

