

The ActionAid Uganda Weekly 27th Aug-2nd Sept, 2018

Dear Reader,
For the resilience Ugandans and the rest of the world put up last week in the fight to an end to an unjust government, big up! Government felt the pressure and released some legislators on bail. Many activists were behind this struggle, find out who.
Do not miss the updates from the Annual AAU Women's Forum.
Enjoy the Weekly!

**#PeoplePower, #FreeBobiWine; The world Joins Uganda to
Fight for Freedom**

Court Grants Bobi, Wadri and Others Bail!



By **Flavia** **Nalubega**

The week-ended was filled with riots and counter riots across the country in demand for the release of the 33 legislators and activists who were arrested on the eve of the bi-elections in Arua. The demand to release these, especially MP Kyadondo East Kyagulanyi Ssentamu run across the world. Communities as far as Kenya, South Africa, UK, USA, Denmark demanded that the Uganda Government respect human rights and releases the legislators. In Kenya, artists and human rights activists including AAKenya joined the struggle at Uhuru Park on Friday in a peaceful demonstration across Nairobi City in demand for the release of Bobi Wine. One artist was heard saying; 'An attack on Bobi Wine is an attack on all

artists, on all vulnerable groups, on all Ugandans, on all East Africans because he fights for the good of the common man who Government has ignored! This pressure didn't come low on the Government as they have eventually granted the legislators bail. Today, 27/August 2018, at 11am, High Court in Gulu granted bail to Hon. Kyagulanyi, Hon Francis Zaake and 31 others and granted the right to access medical care of their choice, most likely abroad! This, however according to Arthur Larok, is not a struggle for Bobi Wine, but a struggle to bring an end to the inhumane and unfair governance system that stifles people power. "By focusing on the sole intention of retaining power, the current government is cracking down on dissent in very tragic ways as we have seen in the Bobi Wine and other MPs incarcerated. The beating up of MPs and human rights violations are just part of a tactic to suppress dissent and alternative views. It is this very reason that was behind ActionAid's siege and closure of bank accounts in 2017." For live updates, follow the link here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13xo_h3fGoA

Women's Forum; Work-Life Balance- A Must in Everyone's Life!



AAU Women pose with one the facilitators Pastor Dorothy Isaka(in a blue suit)

By

Flavia

Nalubega

A three day long empowerment engagement for all ladies of AAU left them a changed people. Under the theme, 'Women tapping into Financial and Leadership opportunities', we were treated to empowerment sessions that left us better than how we arrived at The Ankrah Foundation in Mukono last week. We were treated to a perfect cocktail of topics ranging from work-life balance in a competitive and dynamic work environment to feminism, Work ethics: Relationships and work, what is in for women in CSPV, Personal care and health and Dressing for success without breaking the bank! Dr. Eng. Eunice Adibango nailed it when she called on us to call back order to our lives by planning well; 'Be planned, Know yourself, Know when to stop!(To take a break), know your passion, learn work methods that are easy, choose your wars wisely, leave what you can't win, manage your time and value it! Read at least three books a month!' Meanwhile Pastor Dorothy Isaka while discussing work ethics urged us to value our work by being efficient and effective. She said if you lack the two principles at work, then it's time to move.

**Women's Forum; Top leadership speaks out & Hope Masika Sylvia to
Chair the Forum**



Jennifer Achaloi (C/P Women Forum), Harriet Gimbo(PD) and Josephine Laker (Project Officer WPC Amuru) chat away during a session on Feminism at the recently ended Women Forum in Mukono.

By **Flavia** **Narubega**

Women had an opportunity of hearing from the only two women in top leadership-Christine Aboke and Harriet Gimbo. The two Directors who attended fully, instilled hope of possible growth in the organisation for AAU ladies. The PD Harriet, while speaking about the Country Change Promise V of the organisation encouraged us to occupy spaces available to us while taking note of self-love; 'Avoid self-pity, instead stand out and grab opportunities within your reach, which is largely the essence of CSPV.' The Ag CD Christine Aboke re-confirmed her belief in the women's forum which she said is carried out across ActionAid International. She said the growth of women in the organisation is a given, and she holds it in high esteem; 'I am

opportunities!

She urged the new leadership to engage closely with top management to make women matters priority in the organisation. This she told to the new Chairperson Hope Matsika who was voted in overwhelmingly. Hope assured the women of excellent service delivery and selflessness as she serves them for the year 2018-19. Hope will be deputised by Matilda Natukunda. The women appreciate the outgoing leadership headed by Jennipher Achaloi, Nivatiti Nandujja, Esther Kisembo and others who put up a great show! This was marked as the best Forum ever over the years!

Pallisa Youth Ask Local Leaders to Resign!



LCV Pallisa Mr Okurut John addressing young people at the District Youth Day Celebrations

By George Awad:

Youth in Pallisa district have urged their local government leaders to urgently vacate their positions after their failure to introduce programmes that are attractive to youth.

In a dialogue organized by AAU last week, more than 250 Activistas engaged local government leaders in a tense 5-hour closed door meeting to celebrate the International Youth Day whose theme was "Safe Spaces for Youth."

"You are busy spending money putting up more buildings for government offices yet we do not have proper functional public toilets. Besides, Pallisa town is very dirty, drainage system is very poor and our roads are in pathetic state because you do not care about our welfare. We want you to resign urgently",

They also demanded for the resignation of the probation officer Mr Okwalinga Michael, who is in charge of Youth Livelihoods Programme in Pallisa whom they deemed too corrupt for public office; 'he usually asks for a bribes before registering youth. We want him arrested and charged in court !'

In Pallisa many youth remain jobless because of poor policies in place. In his response, the District Senior Labour Officer Mr Onyait George said, "I have instructed all the Chinese and Arab contractors working in Pallisa to employ majority of young people from Pallisa district, and as I speak, 90% of their casual workers are local. He, however, challenged the youth to equip themselves with vocational qualifications such as plumbing and masonry to fit in the current job market.

Kapchorwa Activista in Clean Up Campaign!



Youth at Parliament after a Moot debate session.

By

Donald

Tafadzwa

Activista in Kapchorwa honored the youth day. The young people involved themselves in various activities such as cleaning of the town, mobilizing the young persons to join the activista movement, as well as sensitizing communities on importance of conserving the environment by planting trees within the town. Vice chairperson Kapchorwa district Chemonges Amuza cautioned the young people to embrace education and get involved in all government programmes, so as to lead the creation of safe spaces from within government institutions. The vice chairperson LC5 Kapchorwa district Ramathan Twalla encouraged young people to actively compete with the elders in all elective positions. The youth also took part in garbage collection in the main centres in Kapchorwa, Suam-Mbale highway and ended in the streets of one of the dirtiest centres in Kapchorwa town - government lodge. They as well took on tree planting as a way of protecting the environment.



YESSEN Project Reviewed!



By

Norah

Nakyegera

The YESSEN project held the second review meeting in Kotido last week attended by project beneficiaries, local government such as agricultural officers, LC3' and project implementing teams. The IASL manager Simon Wolumeli urged the project beneficiaries to take the CRSA modal serious so that agriculture isn't a game of gamble in the various districts where they came from.

The team was able to visit 3 gardens in Panyangara sub county which was growing simsim on 9 acres of land and 2 in Kotido sub county which were both growing ground nuts and beans on 20 acres of land. The project beneficiaries were amazed by how much effort and dedication the Kotido team had put in to have such big gardens in such as semi-arid area.

Did You Know??



Did you know that President Museveni visited the Apaa Community last week and gave them one option, to relocate away from their current home? Find out more details here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Mxi1il_gLY;

WEEK

AHEAD

1. A training for young journalists, CSOs and activists is ongoing at Royal Suites Bugolobi on the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and good governance.
2. A training for local government officials in the oil rich districts slated for Thursday 30th and Friday 31st August in Hoima

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