



Last December, ActionAid embarked on a campaign to recognize teachers who are working to ensure a violence free environment in schools for the pupils, especially the girl child. Today, we shall be crowning the best three teachers. (Photo) is Abel Irene from Katakwi. She told the Weekly that she looks forward to going to school every day because her teacher does not cane her!

Have you visited www.ipaidabribe.or.ug?

I paid 10,000/= to access a police file number

Rampant corruption at Nakawa High Court

Are we supposed to pay for 'To whom it may concern' reference



I paid 7 times more for refusing to pay a bribe.

Boarder point Officers are honest

Mulago security is honest

I did not pay bribe after an accident

Above are some of the corruption cases that have been logged on www.ipaidabribe.or.ug. Log on now for details on these cases. You too can share your experience today. Together, let us say No to corruption, but also share information on officers of integrity who offer services without asking for bribes.

The Weekly reported about the launch of www.ipaidabribe.or.ug by ActionAid and partner civil society Organisations. The digital platform was launched during last year's anti-corruption Convention by the Deputy Chief Justice Stephen Kavuma.

The website is currently enhancing the fight against corruption through better corruption tracking by sector, Region, and period. The website is giving the general public an opportunity to either report bribe payment, refusal to pay bribes or officers of integrity who have delivered services to the population without asking for anything in return.

"We rely on the public to report corruption to us through the website. Their reports are an important source of information to fight corruption and hold leaders accountable for their actions", said Fredrick Kawooya, the Policy and Campaigns Manager at ActionAid.

Fred added that any one can safely share what they experience and observe through SMS, email or directly posting on the page.

ActionAid and its partners will investigate selected reports of alleged acts of corruption, giving priority to cases that bear serious impact to our society. Cases involving health, education among others affect majority of Ugandans. Their findings will be handed over to the relevant authorities for further action.

Log on right now. Its simple and fast. Report all forms of corruption, including vote buying and vote selling today. Get to know the most corrupt sector as per the current reports so far. Get to know the honest officers that Uganda has at the moment. And let us know your experience on paying bribes, refusing to pay bribes, vote buying and vote selling.

We shall be waiting.



Who is the best teacher-grand Finale!



"There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they can grow up in peace." -Kofi Annan. File photos of girls from Katakwi in school.

For the past 40 days, ActionAid and CBS Radio have been running a campaign to recognize teachers who are working to ensure a violence free environment for the girl child in schools. A study by Save the Children reveals that girls experience several forms of violence in schools including emotional violence where they are hurled insults at either because of their poor grades or their body development, physical violence like defilement and corporal punishments, sexual advances from male teachers and other older pupils among others.

Hope Wambi, the Coordinator of the European Union Funded Eliminating Violence Against Children Project adds that once the school environment is not violence free, then the girls will not be motivated to go to school or even learn.

"Its one of the leading factors for girl child school dropouts in the country", she said.

The competition that was rolled out throughout the country is holding its grand finale today. Out of the 137 entries received by ActionAid and CBS, Five outstanding teachers have been picked out. These will be live on CBS radio, 88.8FM to convince the public that they deserve the cash prize that ActionAid put aside for the winning teachers.

The finalists are; Nandutu Betty from Buganda Road Primary school, Kabanda John of Nakasero Primary school, Maria Lutaaya of Ntinda school for the Deaf, Mugerwa Charles Lwanga of Mutundwe parents school and Nabayinda Stella of Kidda Parents School in Masaka.

All the five teachers received outstanding nominations that spoke about their determination and passion to making learning safe for the girl child. The vetting committee made a follow up on the five nominees and there was evidence of their interventions on ground.

The five teachers will tell Ugandans today the different things they are doing to make Education Safe, explain how they would support a girl if approached with a particular problem and recommend solutions to the different gaps in the education system and society that expose girls to violence.

Tune in, join the competition and support the best teacher. Together, we can make education safe for the girl child. May your favourite teacher win.

Gulu Cluster gets set

The ActionAid Uganda Gulu Cluster team was engaged in a review and assessment of the cluster and its partners in preparation for the 2016 engagements. Following the successful conclusion of the Organizational efficiency review last year, ActionAid came up with five clusters of Gulu, Nebbi, Pallisa, Kapchorwa and Katakwi.

The four day assessment meeting that took place at Hotel Free Zone was attended by ActionAid staff of the Gulu cluster and three partners from Amuru, Nwoya, Pader and Gulu. The main objective of the meeting was to review partners' files and submit them for fund disbursement for the first half of the year.

A total of five files were reviewed and a consolidated Gulu Cluster work plan developed by closure of the week. These will be submitted for disbursement of funds to partners and the cluster for immediate implementation of activities.

The meeting also served as an induction for the Gulu cluster team. The team is hence ready to work towards eradicating poverty, promotion of women Rights and defend human rights in totality.

Every coin should count-Harret Gimbo

Last Week, ActionAid Uganda's Program Director, Harriet Gimbo was in ActionAid The Gambia to support the peer review process of the 4th Country Strategy paper. The review focused on measuring the quality in the programming, the change realized so far, fundraising and financial management, leadership and Governance among others. During the process, several interactions were conducted with staff, partners, Government departments and the communities.

"I was challenged by the small scale holder farmers in one community who constructed a dike to tap salt out of water in a surrounding swamp so that they are able to use the water to irrigate their plants", she said.

She added that the Dike has ensured complete removal of salt from the water which is now being used for production by 3000 farmers. These are demonstrating togetherness and determination to modernize and expand their farming with this asset.

"The whole process made me reflect on the value of every coin we invest in an intervention amidst dwindling resources. We should be mindful of every coin we invest and what we expect from it."

Harriet concludes that with the drastic reduction in financial resources, ActionAid countries should practice cost consciousness and assess value for every investment made for greater impact.

WEEK AHEAD:

- The ActionAid hunt for the teachers making education safe for the girl child in school ends today. Tune in to 88.8, CBS FM and vote for your best teacher.