



Weekly

Jan 19–25

Add new energy to the fight against FGM

On 6th February 2015, Uganda will join the rest of the world to speak out against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Statistics indicate that more than 130 million women and girls have experienced a certain kind of FGM. Uganda is one of the very affected countries.

The Karamajong and Sebei sub regions have continued to register the highest prevalence of the practice. On several occasions, I have traveled to these regions; to do what I do best, tell stories in words and pictures of the lives of the poor and marginalized persons. Each of the accounts that I listen to often causes tears to well in my eyes. The stories depict physical scars, emotional torture and a life of missed opportunities.

These girls and Women suffer for the rest of their lives physically and emotionally.

According to the World Health Organisation, there are 4 different kinds of FGM. The most common in Uganda is the excision of the clitoris prepuce; and the excision of the clitoris prepuce, the clitoris and the inner lips.

The Government of Uganda has prioritized the fight against FGM. Both the National Development Plan and the Development Sector Strategy have FGM elimination as a top priority. This is further supported but the Anti FGM Act that was passed.

With these efforts, one would think that FGM is history. Not at all. Evidence in the communities indicates that FGM is still thriving. Amina Nambuya, a pupil of Kalasi Girls School in Amudat reported that what has changed has been the hype that used to be accorded to the ceremonies.

“Today, several girls are being cut from their homes and distant valleys. To make matters worse, Girls are mutilated at birth, while our mothers who survived the knife are mutilated during child birth.’ She revealed.

Nambuya’s school receives an average of five girls a week who are running away from FGM. The number often triples during the initiation seasons. These figures show us the gravity of FGM. ActionAid, with funding from the European Union is implementing a project aimed at Eliminating Violence against children.

There is need to operationalize the Anti-FGM Act, and the provision of boarding schools for Girls. Add your energy today, to the campaign to end FGM.



A former surgeon joins the campaign against FGM



Distict leadership in Amudat join ActionAid to fight against FGM.

On our Webpage



Read the strong story about Aciro Joyce from Amuru [here](#).

Read about Young leaders of today in Western Uganda [here](#)

On YouTube



- [Legal Aid Week in Amuru and Pader.](#)
- [The second leg of the Anti-Corruption Caravan.](#)
- [Oil in Uganda.](#)
- [Experiences of Public Financing for agriculture in Uganda.](#)

ActionAid strengthens Partnerships



Last week, ActionAid organized a relationship-building meeting with Teso Anti-Corruption (TAC) Coalition, one of its partner organizations in the East.

According to the ActionAid Memorandum of Understanding, an annual reflection meeting with each of our partners is mandatory for an effective working relationship.

The meeting was attended by the TAC board members, staff, ActionAid staff from Katakwi LRP and was chaired by the Programs Director at ActionAid; Harriet Gimbo.

The meeting appreciated TAC for its highly qualified technical staff. These have come in handy to jointly organize events with ActionAid like the Anti-corruption caravan. ActionAid further urged TAC to strengthen the weak points for a result oriented 2015. The same meetings will be held with all other partners before the end of the first quarter.

WEEK AHEAD

- The Projects Manager will hold a meeting with RUSH foundation later today to discuss the HIV/AIDS Interventions Project.
- The Organizational Knowledge Management team is currently in Eureka Hotel for a week long retreat.
- The Country Director will take off a few days to visit Northern Uganda in the bid to build and strengthen partnerships.
- The country Director will be in Garuga this week to attend the Select NGO leaders retreat.