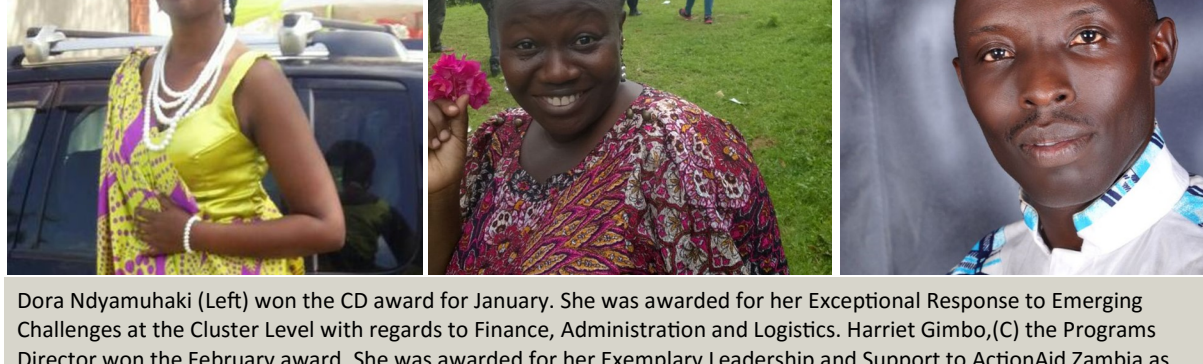




Weekly
July 11— 17

Dear reader, as communicated last Monday, we continue to count our gains in addressing GBV on the Weekly Bukedde TV program, Buli Mukyala. Currently featuring is Zainab Mbabazi, a young lady who was allegedly gang raped by Pakistan Nationals. Tune in every Sunday at 4pm. Welcome to the Weekly

Meet the AAU Half year star performers!



Dora Ndyamuhaki (Left) won the CD award for January. She was awarded for her Exceptional Response to Emerging Challenges at the Cluster Level with regards to Finance, Administration and Logistics. Harriet Gimbo, (C) the Programs Director won the February award. She was awarded for her Exemplary Leadership and Support to ActionAid Zambia as Acting Country Director and Programs Director. Nickson Ogwal, (Right) the Fundraising Director took the March award for his Dedication and Exemplary Support to the Women Rights Team on Women's Day where an innovation of the Twitter Rally hit millions of Tweets



Jenipher Ayot (L) took the award of April for her Excellent handling of Gulu WPC and especially the handling of a sensitive case of a foreign national. Stanley Wobusobozi, (Centre) was the star performer for the month of May. He was awarded for his hard work to kick start the CSPV Development Process and over seeing PRRPs as part of the Strategy Development. Hope Wambi (Right) was the star performer for the month of June. She was recognized for her Exemplary hard work as we hosted the EU Head of Delegation in Uganda in Kapchorwa. The Ambassador was very impressed with our work.

It was all smiles and celebrations as AA Uganda recognized and awarded half year star performers last Friday. There couldn't have been a better occasion than at the Performance Management Training that took place between Wednesday and Friday at Royal Suites, Bugoloobi. In total 10 staff were given awards for their outstanding performance.

Top on the list were Moses Elem, the Driver in Lira who was the best performing staff from the 2015 Annual Appraisals. Christine Aboke, the Human Resource Director was recognized for the impressive leadership she has and continues to provide for the Change Management Plan especially following the restructuring process that started last year.

Other top performers were Dorah Ndyomuhaki, the Finance and Admin Officer at Kapchorwa Cluster who scooped the CD Award for January 2016, Harriet GIMBO who took the CD Award for February, Nickson Ogwal – CD Award for March, Jenifer Ayot, the Project Officer - WPC in Gulu for the CD Award for April, Stanley Wobusobozi for the CD Award for May, Hope Wambi, Project Coordinator, EC VAC and Richard Olong who both scooped CD Awards for June.

We encourage staff to keep working hard and get inspired by these star performers at half year!

Pallisa Youth Ignited— “we are tired of being used”



Uganda is their country and they are its future; the energetic youths committed to work hard to ensure that their challenges such as unemployment are addressed.

Its 2pm on a Thursday and Damba walks into a betting shop in Pallisa town. Damba, 26, was unlucky last night. He lost his bet of 10,000 shillings on four English football teams. He could have won 220,000 shillings. "Just one team – Manchester United's loss to Everton – killed my receipt but today I will bet carefully," he says. "I can lose today, but tomorrow I will win." Damba, a development studies graduate from Makerere University, is just outside the International Labor Organisation's 15-24 year-old age range for global youth unemployment, estimated at [73 million](#).

As a student, he dreamed big – to finish his education, work with a large organisation and, perhaps, earn a good wage. Three years after graduating, there are no jobs, and not even the hope that there will be any soon. Youth unemployment in Uganda is the highest in Africa. A recent study, [Lost opportunity? Gaps in youth policy and programming in Uganda](#), published by ActionAid, put youth unemployment at 62%, although the [African Development Bank](#) says it could be as high as 83%.

Its against this background that ActionAid Pallisa Cluster LRP revamped the youth Activista Clubs. Shiba Namulindwa, the Pallisa Cluster Program Officer stated that the clubs were revamped to mobilize youths and children to demand for a more democratic and equitable Uganda that will address their needs, employment being one of the most urgent.

The meeting that was attended by over 300 youths turned emotional when the young people told tales of how they are used by politicians during elections but quickly forgotten after the election season.

Naula Grace, one of the participants appealed to the youth to demand for their involvement in the Community and country development agendas.

"We should demand for our own involvement. This is not a rebellious act but a development agenda" she roared to a thunderous applause.

Other participants also stated that they have been denied access to land and this locks them into gambling activities instead of farming or other productive activities having failed to secure office jobs. The youths also expressed disappointment at the way the youth livelihoods programs are rolled out.

"These programs are only benefiting those who are related to the program staff or those who have money to give kickbacks", confessed one of the participants.

The District LCV Chairman, who closed the meeting applauded the youth for speaking out on the several challenges they encounter in the district.

"This is the time for youth Involvement. Uganda is your country and you are its generation. We pledge to work with you to ensure that you turn out to be the generation that Uganda will be proud of", he pledged.

SASA training to Reduce GBV Prevalence in Katakwi



One of the elders during a SASA session

ActionAid Katakwi LRP has expressed worry over the increase in the number of GBV cases reported at the Gender Violence Shelter every week. More unfortunate is the Police and Courts delay in disposing off these gender related violence cases.

Benjamin Tukei, while speaking on phone stated that every day, the shelter registers between 10 to 15 cases of GBV.

"Most of the cases reported are of physical and emotional abuse . Many others are land related. Every day, we get about five women reporting that their land has been grabbed by relatives and in-laws", he said.

He added that most of the cases are not immediately attended to by the Police and Courts of Law and this delays justice for the GBV survivors.

The LRP with support from UNFPA has embarked on a drive to revive the Male Action Groups to support in tracking and mediating GBV cases in the community. The groups will also support in referring and reporting the cases that have failed with mediation.

The Start! Awareness! Support! Action! (SASA) methodology was rolled out last week during a four day meeting . The meeting attracted 50 male participants including local council, cultural, religious and youth leaders. The team was equipped with information and knowledge on legal procedures, Human Rights, sexual gender based violence, the referral pathway among others.

Besides mediating and referring cases, the trained team is expected to sensitize the communities on the causes of GBV and how the community can work towards peaceful and happy homes.

Mr Omodo Gilbert, one of the participants at the training acknowledged that GBV is on the increase because its shrouded in cultural patriarchy.

"Our approach to addressing it should change. All men in this room should go and tell all the men out there that real men lead peaceful homes. Don't be deceived that beating up a woman will make you powerful", he challenged.

The meeting ended with a commitment by the participants to exhibit fairness while handling GBV cases, but more importantly to work hard to ensure that the incidents of GBV reduce in Katakwi district.



Participants took notes on legal procedures and the referral pathway



The team commit to end GBV in the community after the training.

When Women Protection centers become Children's homes-Nebbi



Agness and Prossy (sitting on the mat looking down) where reunited with their families and argued to go back to school.

Agnes, 10 and Prosy 11 (not real names) hoped for jobs in Nebbi town. They escaped from home with hope of finding employment as domestic workers. They looked forward to cooking, washing and cleaning for families to earn a living having dropped out of school.

When they got to Nebbi, the situation was not as rosy as they had thought. After moving from one street to the other aimlessly, the children were rescued and referred to the ActionAid Nebbi Gender Based Violence Shelter for custody. Working with the Zombo and Nebbi District Child Protection units, the girls' families were traced and the girls were reunited with their families.

However, Agness and Prossy represent a bigger population of children who drop out of school at a very early age and resort to move to neighbouring towns and cities in search for quick jobs and easy cash. This partly explains the ever increasing number of street children in most urban centres in Uganda.

Upon returning the girls to their families, the AAU Gender Based Violence Shelter team held a sensitization meeting for the parents on the dangers that the children, especially the girls face while in the urban centres.

"Most of them are forced into unwanted sex for money", warns. The unfortunate ones become pregnant and undergo several complications in the bid to abort or during labour", warned the GBV shelter Program Officer.

Parents were cautioned to keep the children in school to avoid similar and a lot more unfortunate situations. It was tears of joy as the children and the parents hugged to a welcome home.

Deputy ActionAid CEO AND ActionAid Zambia Country Director in Uganda



CSO leaders at the candle lit dinner at Piato

As mentioned in last week's Weekly, AA Uganda is privileged to be hosting our Deputy CEO and Director for Institutional Development, Chris Kinyanjui and the Country Director of AA Zambia who is Uganda as part of her orientation.

Several activities are lined up for the Deputy CEO and so far, he attended a highly successful NGO Leaders Dinner at Piato Restaurant on Thursday evening. The dinner was organised in his honour but also to accord him an opportunity to interact with top sector leaders in Uganda. The CEO was impressed by the calibre of leaders at the dinner as well as the quality of the discussions that ranged from what is happening globally, to the developments at the African Union summit and finally the challenges Uganda is facing. The Deputy CEO also met members of the Board as well as the Country Management team on Thursday and Saturday respectively.

He, together with the Country Director of ActionAid Zambia were part of the Performance Management Refresher Training for AAU line managers last week.

The CEO is so far impressed with AAU work and will be concluding his time with a Debrief Meeting with ActionAid management. The Country Director of Zambia is still in the country for an induction in his roles.

WEEK AHEAD:

- The Deputy CEO and the CD of AA Zambia are in the field in Kumi. They will meet with the WPC in Kumi, smallholder farmers and finally youth Activista in the district.
- The Country Director will be attending a Select Civil Society Leader's Retreat in Jinja on Monday and Tuesday to discuss the current Political Situation in Uganda and implications for Civil Society