

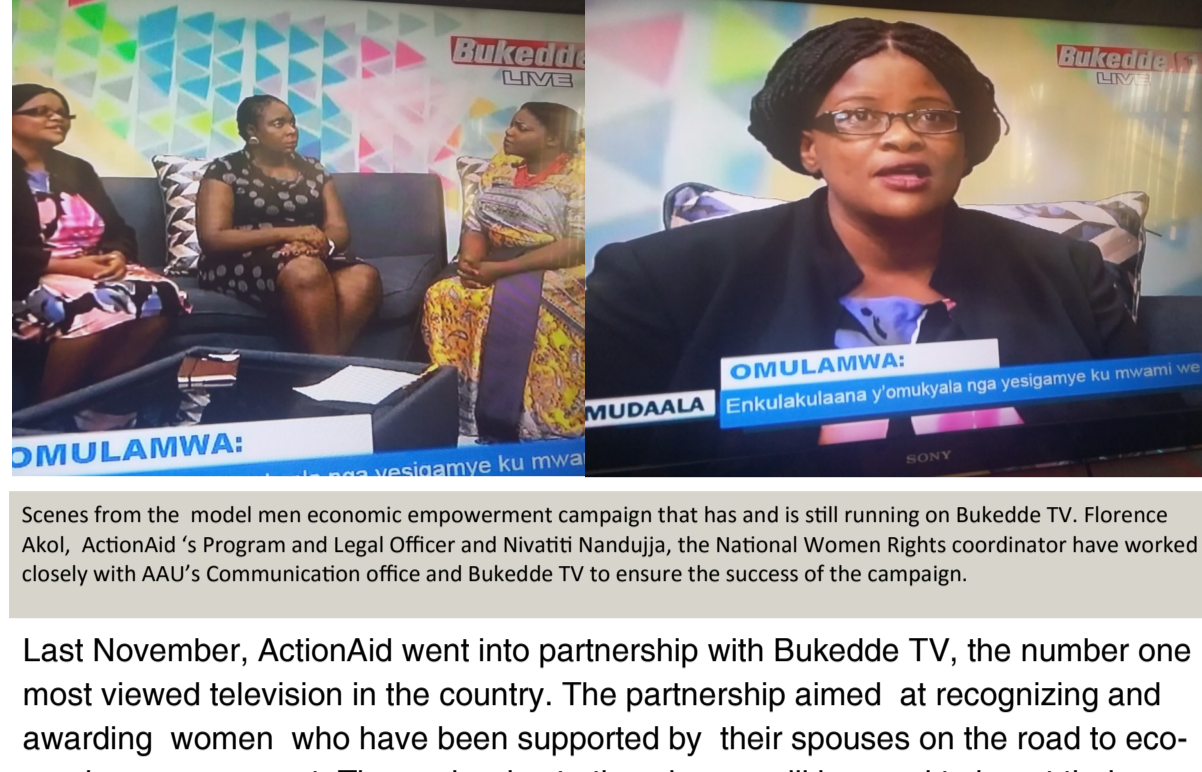


Weekly

Feb 27 – 5 May

47 year old Seuno Lucy can smile again. After being sent away from her marital home and land after her husband got a second wife, Lucy won the case in court and her land was given back to her. This women's day, we celebrate the bold women like Lucy! Welcome to the Weekly!

The model man grand Finale is here; Cast your vote!



Scenes from the model men economic empowerment campaign that has and is still running on Bukedde TV. Florence Akol, ActionAid's Program and Legal Officer and Nivati Nanduija, the National Women Rights coordinator have worked closely with AAU's Communication office and Bukedde TV to ensure the success of the campaign.

Last November, ActionAid went into partnership with Bukedde TV, the number one most viewed television in the country. The partnership aimed at recognizing and awarding women who have been supported by their spouses on the road to economic empowerment. The cash prize to the winners will be used to boost their business.

Four months down the road, we are glad to report that the partnership has yielded results. Out of the over 85 stories that registered for the recognition and the award, we are now left with 4.

Sara Nalukenge, a poultry farmer tells the story of resilience and hard work, but more importantly support from her husband in running the poultry business. Sara made it to the top four contestants and counts on your vote to win this competition.

Nakato Justine, another finalist was initially ashamed of working with her husband. She would hide while he went about hawking quail eggs. Nakato's husband steadily and patiently transformed her and encouraged her to put shame aside and invest interest, time and energy in her economic empowerment. Today, Nakato is making millions out of the same trade she once despised, thanks to her husband. Nakato needs your vote.

Betty Kabiine probably has the most heart-warming story. Not to bias you but Betty wanted to work and earn a living. Her husband had no substantive capital for her and offered that they work together in their brick laying business. The entire village ridiculed Betty's husband. According to them, Betty was just another man doing a job meant for men. They however remained focussed. Today, they have been able to lead a life free of poverty. Their children are going to school. Betty hopes that you will vote for her so that she wins the money. She also says that winning the award will be the best reward she will give to her husband for allowing her to work with him. You are the voter!

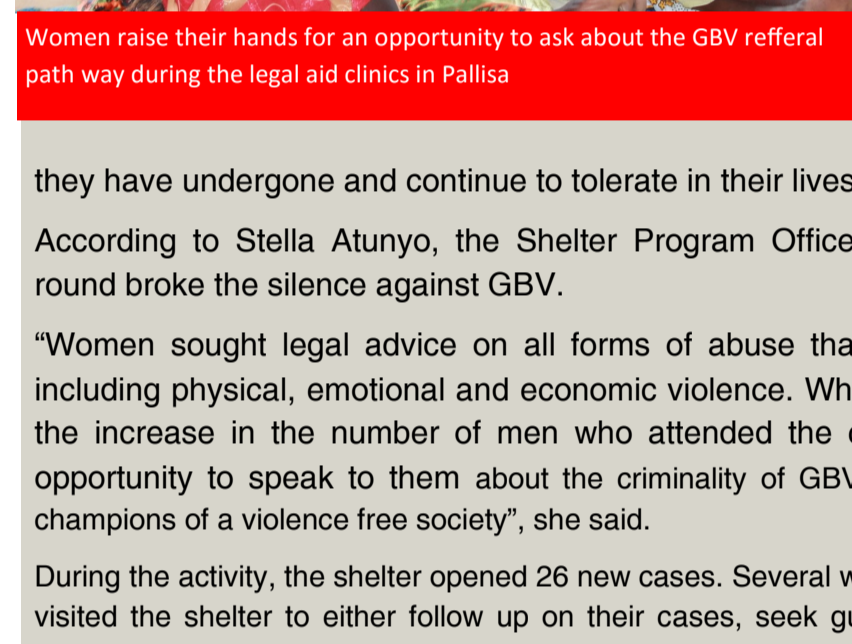
Nassolo Aidah, the last finalist runs a food joint in Katwe Market. Aidah is the envy of many women in the market. Her husband not only gave her start-up capital but also cooks with her the food. He says that he is not ashamed to cook with his wife because they are building their lives together. Most importantly, their partnership has seen them lead a violence free life and a life of dignity.

To vote for Betty, Aidah, Justine or Sara, please write the word **Omudaala**, leave a space, write the name of your best candidate and send it to **8338**.

ActionAid and Bukedde TV will award the winners this Wednesday (International Women's Day). The event will attract women from Central Uganda and will be broadcast live on Bukedde TV. If you can't be there, catch it live on your TV set

The weekly cameras will be there to capture every moment for you. Happy women's day and may your best candidate win! [Click here to read the profiles of the four women](#) (but you need an interpreter).

Legal aid clinics break silence on GBV



Women raise their hands for an opportunity to ask about the GBV referral path way during the legal aid clinics in Pallisa

Hundreds of women and men from the Districts of Kibuku, Butaleja, Pallisa and Namutumba braved the heavy rains last week to attend the legal aid and psychosocial clinics organized by ActionAid Pallisa Gender Based Violence Shelter with funding from UKAID.

The three day activity saw hundreds of women and girls seek legal aid from the several GBV abuses and challenges that they have undergone and continue to tolerate in their lives.

According to Stella Atunyo, the Shelter Program Officer, the women, this time round broke the silence against GBV.

"Women sought legal advice on all forms of abuse that they are subjected to, including physical, emotional and economic violence. What stands out however is the increase in the number of men who attended the clinics. This gave us an opportunity to speak to them about the criminality of GBV and why they should be champions of a violence free society", she said.

During the activity, the shelter opened 26 new cases. Several women and men have since visited the shelter to either follow up on their cases, seek guidance or report cases of GBV.

During the legal aid clinics, legal and psychosocial services are taken closer to the people. The community members have free and direct access to lawyers and psychosocial officers for legal advice and psychosocial support respectively at no cost.

The event is also used to sensitize the community on the dangers of GBV and why its every one's role to work towards a violence free society.

ActionAid Flags off Message collection



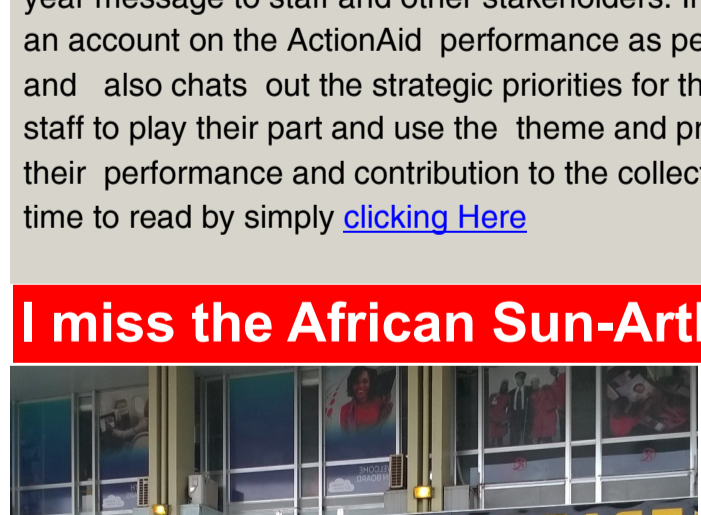
Children in Nebbi prepare to write messages to their supporters last week.

Last Week, the ActionAid Sponsorship unit embarked on the first period message collection for all the sponsored children. In Nebbi, Patricia Nakabugo, the National Sponsorship Officer met with all partners and community intermediaries to address some of the challenges they face during message collection. The team was empowered to produce quality messages during this period in the shortest time possible.

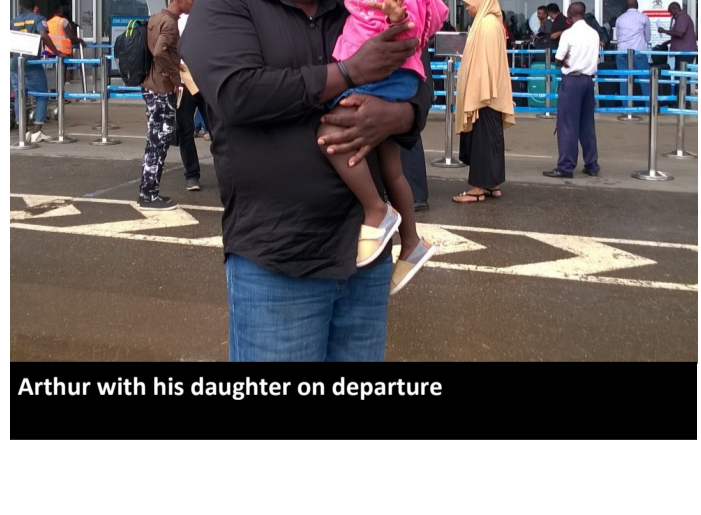
Child messages are some of the commitments that ActionAid makes to the supporters. This is an accountability and communication mechanism that the organisation uses to the funding supporters.

ActionAid Uganda carries out child message collection activities twice a year (Jan-Jun and July-Dec) to mobilise funds for the country run programs, account to the funding supporters and to strengthen the link between the supported communities and the individual supporters.

We must operationalise our strategies-Miriam Cherukut



Above: Stakeholders strategise to address GBV during a group discussion.



Below: The LCV Chairperson of Katakwi addressing the stakeholders

Last week, ActionAid Katakwi held the first GBV review meeting for the year 2017. The meeting brought together the district political and technical staff and likeminded CSOs that are working towards the elimination of GBV in the community.

Miriam Cherukut, the ActionAid Katakwi Cluster Coordinator and convenor of the meeting appealed to the stakeholders to stick to their commitments and roles in ensuring that GBV addressed.

"Quite often, our well thought out plans and strategies only stop in the meeting room. We must operationalise them for the betterment of our society", she appealed.

Miriam also challenged the stakeholders to get out of their comfort zones and work in partnerships and coalitions if they are to effectively prevent and respond to GBV.

During the meeting, the leaders noted that the services of the Police, Courts of law and the District Probation office had greatly deteriorated.

"The negative attitude of some of these officers has kept away GBV survivors from seeking for Justice", stated the District LCV Chairman.

The meeting cited the late reporting to work, resigned attitude and corruption tendencies by the officers in charge as some of the obstacles to GBV response and the lack of information on GBV response and legal frameworks and this was affecting the quality of their work. The Katakwi District Chief Administrative Officer appealed to ActionAid to come up with some guiding documents on how to respond to GBV.

"While I commit to work on the attitude and behaviour of my technical team, I appeal to ActionAid to support us with Education and Information on GBV response and prevention", he appealed.

Fundraising in a transitional year-CD's new year message

It's finally here, the Country Director has kept good his tradition of delivering a new year message to staff and other stakeholders. In this year's message, Arthur gives an account on the ActionAid performance as per the objectives set out last year and also chats out the strategic priorities for this year. Finally, he calls upon all staff to play their part and use the theme and priorities of the year to self-assess their performance and contribution to the collective goal by the end of year. Take time to read by simply [clicking Here](#)

I miss the African Sun-Arthur Larok

Arthur with his daughter on departure

In this blog, Arthur writes about his anxiety as he boarded the plane to the famous Donald Trump's territory.

"In addition to my personal effects and clothing, I carried all sorts of foods and goodies from Uganda, some for a friend's friend - thanks to Africa's love and care economy. Of course, my cases were not just over the allowable weight of 23kgs (one was 37kgs and the other 28kgs) but also exceeded the limit that could be checked", he writes.....

You will be forgiven to think that he was flying for the very first time in his life. [Read Arthur's blog here.](#)

Week Ahead

⇒ ActionAid will join Bukedde TV to commemorate International Women's Day by awarding Women who have been supported by their spouses to attain economic empowerment. The campaign aims at rallying men to invest in the economic development of their spouses and families.

⇒ ActionAid will hold a media rally to advocate for the increased budgetary allocation to the Women causes. The chief advocate will be Dr Stella Nyanzi, the Controversial Makerere University Don.

⇒ ActionAid will join the rest of the country to commemorate International Women's day at the National event in Dokoolo District.