



**A VOTE SOLD IS A SERVICE DENIED!**  
*“Reject Vote Buying Now”.*

November 2015



## About ActionAid Uganda

ActionAid Uganda (AAU) is a National Development Organisation registered under the laws of Uganda and an Affiliate Member of the Action Aid International Federation. The Organization has been in operation in Uganda since 1982 working directly with citizens or their groups in civil society to eradicate the injustice of poverty through addressing both the immediate needs (condition) as well as underlying obstacles (position) that militate against a life of dignity.

The Organisation's philosophy is built around two fundamental beliefs: a) that the injustice of poverty is a violation of human rights perpetuated by unequal power relations that permeate the entire social strata from the family level to global institutions; b) that the injustice of poverty can be overcome through purposeful action by individuals acting on their own and or collectively with others. Central to our understanding of development is therefore an emphasis on the question of power and how it is exercised.

The Anti Corruption Caravan reinforces not just ActionAid's philosophy but directly contributes to the realisation of at least seven strategic objectives with the main programmatic entry point being mission priority three on 'strengthening local democracy'.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**A**ctionAid Uganda extends appreciation to our partners and individuals who contributed to the success of the Western Leg of the Anti-Corruption Caravan including but not limited to; West Ankole Civil Society Forum, Kick Corruption Out of Kigezi, Kanungu District NGO Forum, South Western Institute for Policy and Advocacy, Rwenzori Anti Corruption Coalition, the Uganda Police Force, Artistes, Journalist, Local Government of Kabale, Kanungu, Kihhi, Rukungiri, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Sheema, Rubirizi, Kasese and Fort Portal and all Citizens of Uganda in the areas that were reached by the Caravan

Finally, ActionAid greatly appreciates the financial, technical and solidarity support the Democratic Governance Facility extends not just to us but several other Civil Society Organisations whose capabilities directly contribute to the success of the model that the Anti-Corruption Caravan is evolving into



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# Introduction

**S**ince 2013, AAU has partnered with the citizens of Uganda in a nationwide crusade against the scourge of corruption in its various manifestations. From supporting strong grassroots accountability movements monitoring critical social services to national campaigns like the Black Monday Movement, a space for engaging state and non-state actor duty bearers has been provided and the exercise of the citizen voice is an integral part of our programming under the Participatory Democracy and Governance component of our programming.

Over time, we have built a commendable network of citizens; youths, women and elderly playing an oversight function to address the challenges of poor social service delivery emanating from the wanton misuse of public resources with impunity. Though still a challenge, hope has been ignited among many, about the possibility of change however small but progressively that a collective effort of determined citizens can adduce, once purposed and sustained.

In December 2013, Action Aid pioneered a landmark Anti-corruption caravan in Northern Uganda that was organized under the theme, “Wake up! Report the Corrupt! Save Uganda! Join the Caravan against Corruption”.

The second Anti Corruption Caravan was conducted in September 2014 in Eastern Uganda under the theme “Stop the Silence, Shame the Corrupt” and it covered the 11 Districts of Kotido, Abim, Amuria, Soroti, Katakwi, Kumi, Mbale, Pallisa, Tororo, Iganga and Namutumba.

The third anti-corruption caravan has been conducted in November 2015 under the theme “A Vote sold is a Service Denied” and it routed through the Western districts of Kabale, Kanungu, Rukungiri, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Shema, Bushenyi, Rubirizi, Kasese and Kabarole (Fort Portal).



**A Vote Sold is a Service Denied!**  
**Reject Vote Buying Now**

**THE ANTI-CORRUPTION  
CARAVAN**

actionaid in partnership with **DGF**

**A Vote Sold is a Service Denied!**  
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## Table of Content

Acronyms	3
About ActionAid Uganda	5
Acknowledgements	6
Introduction	7
The Anti Corruption Caravan just keeps growing bigger and better	8
Fighting graft is every Ugandan's responsibility	9
We shouldn't confine the fight against corruption to only Urban Centers?	10
Government has no heart for the Common Man	11
We deserve the Leaders we get because we are the ones setting the parameters	11
Politicians should embrace the fight against corruption instead of harassing Activists	12
Institutions must act on the Culprits	13
Politicians have no agenda for the people	14
I lost trust in all institutions, nothing ever works in Rubindi	15
We owe a lot to Society as Artistes	16
We are the primary Victims of Election Malpractices	17
It is a norm to give out money for votes if anyone is to win an election	18
The way I saw the Caravan	19
What people said about Service Delivery	20
More Searchlight needed for the Rwenzori Region	21
The Anti - Corruption Fight should start in Homes	22
It takes everyone's involvement to effectively tackle corruption	23
The Western Leg Caravan was all about Partnerships and Relationships	24



## Acronyms

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About ActionAid Uganda

Acknowledgements

Introduction

The Anti Corruption Caravan just keeps growing bigger and better

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Institutions must act on the Culprits

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I lost trust in all institutions, nothing ever works in Rubindi

We owe a lot to Society as Artistes

We are the primary Victims of Election Malpractices

It is a norm to give out money for votes if anyone is to win an election

The way I saw the Caravan

What people said about Service Delivery

More Searchlight needed for the Rwenzori Region

The Anti - Corruption Fight should start in Homes

It takes everyone's involvement to effectively tackle corruption

The Western Leg Caravan was all about Partnerships and Relationships





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#solidarity

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## The Anti Corruption Caravan Keeps growing bigger and better

Florence Obua, National Coordinator Governance

**T**he Western leg of the Anti-Corruption Caravan went through the 11 Western districts of Kabale, Kanungu, Kihhi, Rukungiri, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Sheema, Bushenyi, Rubirizi, Kasese and Kabarole.

With 2016 being around the corner, people were keener. This time around the Caravan attracted bigger and more enthusiastic crowds. Stopovers were more or less rallies. Complaints and concerns from the Western Leg were more angled towards the elective season, with grave concerns over election rigging, poor social service delivery and malpractices within the NRM Primaries.

Given the theme of the Caravan, “A vote sold is a service denied,” we came to establish that people are more aware about malpractices. There were a lot of complaints about voter bribery and rigging. People in the Countryside are in touch with what is happening on the political scene. We had scenarios where people openly accused the President of Uganda of being the vanguard of Corruption in the country, people in very hard to reach areas like Kihhi are aware of corruption cases against Hon. Mike Mukula from the East, people raised concerns as to why Hon. Jim Muhwezi is always getting promoted all the time despite the corruption scandals he is enmeshed in.

At the Tertiary Institutions that the Caravan went to, Citizens are more informed than we have been assuming. They exactly knew what has been happening; all the debates had allusions to what has

transpired across the country with live quotes from players on the political scene.

The Music that was used was beyond mere entertainment. Artistes like Ronald Mayinja, Eighton Sente, Nector, Beanie Swag and Jema performed songs that had direct messages about corruption. The music attracted huge numbers of people to the extent that the road side stopovers ended up having almost the same numbers of people as the main rallies.

The choice of the theme for the Western Leg of the Anti - Corruption Caravan was very relevant owing to the fact that we are in a political season. Wherever we went, people suspected us to be an advance team of some candidate and all would flash signs of their preferred candidate at the Caravan.



Artiste Coco Finger entertaining people during the Anti- Corruption Caravan in Kabarole.  
Entertainment was one of the main tools used during the Western Leg of the Anti Corruption Caravan



## Fighting graft is every Ugandan's responsibility

Father Gaetano Batanyenda, Chairman Kick Corruption out of Kigezi (KICK)

**C**orruption in Uganda stretches its tentacles to all areas in the country and Kigezi region hasn't been spared. Corruption has negatively affected all sectors in Uganda; Education, Health, Tourism, Agriculture, name them, yet the majority of the people don't understand what corruption really is. Instead of looking at Service Delivery as a right that Citizens are entitled to, Leaders have made it appear as though it is a favor to offer these services to the Citizens.

Leaders have deviated from the tenets of what leadership should be and divorced themselves from serving the people. Instead it is the other way round where the Led are the ones to serve the Leaders. It is a Constitutional Obligation for all Ugandans to engage in the fight against Corruption but the Government of Uganda has deliberately kept the majority of Ugandans in ignorance by not translating the Constitution of Uganda into local languages for the common man on ground to understand.

We have been using radio and utilizing public gatherings like church services, marriage ceremonies and burials to sensitize the population in Kigezi about corruption. We have discouraged Voters from accepting to be bribed during elections and Leaders have been reminded that they are there to serve the people and not to be served. Leaders who have nothing to offer the people have found the political terrain harder this time.



Kigezi Region's Citizen's Ambassador Father Gaetano Batanyenda (L) and KICK's Coordinator Robert Kakuru commit to fight corruption and reject vote buying by taking the Residents of Muhanga Trading Centre through the "Uganda My Country, Uganda Our Country, Uganda Our Responsibility" commitment.



## We shouldn't confine the fight against corruption to only Urban Centers?

Turyanzomye Francis, Local Businessman Muhanga Trading Center Kabale District

**C**orruption is everywhere within our community. People in rural areas are ignorant about the vice because they are rarely sensitized. Many of them have surrendered their lives to fate and detached themselves from public affairs that affect their lives because they think Leaders are there to milk them and they have nothing to do about it.

Ugandans are disappointed with the Politicians' empty promises and frustrated with non performers. People are now apathetic to public affairs because they have a sense of feeling that they benefit nothing from them, instead it is the Leaders who benefit alone.

The few public Health Centers that we have are not functional. They are mainly located on hills where it is difficult for those in need of the services to access them. Education in public schools is poor, Teachers take months without being paid and their motivation ends up being low. There is a lot of poverty within our community.

Now that we are in an election season, Politicians are exploiting the poverty levels to bribe Voters. We have witnessed cases of open bribery of Voters during the NRM Primaries and we are anticipating worse scenarios during the general elections. Even those who are aware that it is improper to be bribed for votes cannot help taking the bribes because of the circumstances surrounding them. People are poor.

Government and CSOs should partner with the people and empower them out of poverty. It is only after people are out of that poverty trap that they will be able to make informed decisions.





Residents of Katerera village in Rubirizi district stand in front of a dilapidated house. There is need to extend the Anti Corruption fight to rural areas too



**THE 3<sup>rd</sup> ANT  
CARAVAN**

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**I CORRUPTION**

**N, WESTERN**

**ANDA**



## Government has no heart for the Common Man

Tweyambe Didas, Carpenter Muhanga Trading Center

**C**orruption is too high in Muhanga especially within the NRM Party. Members are ever bribing voters at night with Ugsh 2000/=, other times they go as low as 500/= basing on the financial status of the Voter. They don't even make any promise of delivering services but they just come to buy votes and that is it. You either sell your vote for their money or they move on to the next buyer.

Most of the Residents here are illiterate and ignorant. Even when an incompetent person bribes them, they will still vote for that person on polling day. It is hard to fight corruption in Muhanga because institutions like the Police and LCs are corrupt. Crime Preventers have also become an additional nuisance to us because they extort money from people who are already poor. It is hard for poor people to get employed and those who do farming are exploited by the middle men who buy their produce at laughable prices.

Personally I spend my entire time at my workshop but the little money that I earn from here is all spent and I remain with nothing. There is nothing for me to save because the cost of living is high and I know it is Government causing all this. They despise people at lower levels. they have not helped people at all. We cannot even educate our Children yet Government officials are enjoying at our expense.



A Farmer waits for buyers of her yams at Katerera in Rubirizi district, Western Uganda. Many Politicians and Middlemen have exploited the rural folks due to ignorance.



## We deserve the Leaders we get because we are the ones setting the parameters

Beinomugisha Fred, Supervisor Sky Line Hotel Kabale

**C**orruption is very broad and excessive in Kabale. Whenever one is aspiring in elections and he or she has nothing in terms of wealth, people are always scared of that person even when he has great plans. Money is used as a yardstick for positions and in this case it is the voters who are causing problems.

Whenever someone comes up to contest, the first thing that the voters will demand for is a drink or money. It has been made to appear as though only those who can offer drinks and money to voters are the only ones who are eligible to contest.

It baffles me how Aspirants become extremely generous during the election season. You find them giving generously in Church, contributing iron sheets for construction, giving out scholastic items, giving out salt and sugar to households, and then offering drinks to the locals. You rarely get to witness this generosity once they are elected into power.

It is just a myth that voters can demand for accountability from these Politicians because most of them just buy their way into power. I have heard programs on local radio stations sensitizing people about corruption and also exposure of the corrupt officials by the local newspaper Entasi, but people need more sensitization and I am happy that the Anti-Corruption Caravan is supplementing some of these programs.



A woman dries sorghum for making local brew "Muramba" at Muhanga in Kabale. It is common place for Voters to demand for alcohol and money from their Leaders instead of Services.



## Politicians should embrace the fight against corruption instead of harassing Activists

Arihaihi Obadiah Kamaga, Coordinator Kanungu District NGO Forum

**V**ote buying in Kihiki is minimal because the majority of the Contestants are poor. It is just candidates from the NRM Party who have been giving out salt, sugar, t-shirts, soap and money at night. Ordinary citizens are paid between UGSH1000/= and 2000/= while those deemed to have some influence and position are offered UGSH10, 000/=.

People here are too poor that they look at this Vote buying business as an avenue to make some money. In most cases, the elected Leaders disappear and only remember to return during the election season. This trend encourages the locals to squeeze whatever they can from their Leaders because they know it will take them another five years before they can access them again.

We have been doing Advocacy to reverse this trend of buying of votes by monitoring the whole electoral process. We have set up Village Committees which are providing voter education to the locals and encouraging them to vote genuinely. All the information gathered on ground is then disseminated to the rest through radio.

We have been facing a challenge of interference from Government Agents especially the Resident District Commissioner Harriet Nakirya and other senior NRM Mobilizers who have made it a habit to intimidate and harass Activists. Our Mountainous terrain also makes it hard for us to reach all areas. There is need to increase programs on Civic Education and the Economic Empowerment of the Locals. The Anti Corruption Caravan is important because it is raising the awareness of the people to know their rights and how to utilize them. It is a big empowerment to the people that will have an impact long after it is gone.





A man displays a poster during the Anti- Corruption campaign caravan rally in Kihhi Western Uganda. Use of IEC Materials has been instrumental in changing the attitudes of people towards corruption in Kigezi region

Artist Ronald Mayinja entertains a crowd of people in Kizinda Town Bushenyi District. Some of his Anti- corruption songs like Enguzi, Africa and Tuli Kubunkenke are cross cutting to all regions and generations because of their thematic relevance to the situation at hand in the different parts of Uganda







## Government Institutions must take action against Corrupt Culprits

Natamba Edward, Program Coordinator South Western Institute for Policy and Advocacy

**T**here are various cases of corruption at the District. We have had cases of corruption against the District Engineer who diverted funds that were meant for the road construction but he only resigned without any action taken against him.

We witnessed high levels of voter bribery during the NRM Primaries where Hon. Rukutana openly distributed money to voters. We have cases of corruption at Sub County level where chiefs have to be bribed before transacting any official business. The President of Uganda pledged 1.2 Billion shillings to Kikoni Model Village where 400 million shillings was in cash and 800 million shillings in form of inputs but the District Youth Councilor Rutogogo Benon connived with Mugizi Dan and mismanaged this Presidential Pledge. They supplied half of the



### Three Suspects Remanded For Stealing President Museveni's Farm Inputs

February 21, 2015 6:10 pm - [Crime](#), [Farming](#), [Home-Slider](#)

Post Views: 19

**Elly Katahinga**

**In Ntungamo**

**Three suspects arrested over misappropriation of items meant for the Kikoni model village have finally appeared in court after spending 21 days in police custody.**

Mr. John Ndamira an employee of state house, Dan Mugizi Mujinya secretary of the model village committee and Ben Rutogogo Ntungamo district youth councilor and chairperson model village committee were arrested by police on 30th January this year on orders of the Ntungamo RDC Mr. Fred Bamwine accusing them of mis-allocating items including cows, goats, pigs, chicken among others given to the model village farmers as a presidential pledge from the presidential initiative against poverty and hunger from poverty alleviation department of state house.

The three appeared before Ntungamo Magistrate grade II Ms. Resty Gatera and were not allowed to make plea to charges of theft. prosecution requested that the trio be remanded to Ntungamo central prison until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 when they will reappear for plea and bail application before a court of the case's jurisdiction.

inputs and the rest were taken to their personal farms.

We mobilized the Beneficiaries and filed complaints with the Resident District Commissioner who instituted investigations. Two weeks later, they were arrested but court released them under unclear circumstances and they are now living at large.

The challenges we face now are people who remain lip tied whenever corruption cases arise. The few who try to stand up to the challenge abandon the cause along the way after getting intimidated or harassed and without that critical sacrifice from the masses, the would be easy fight against corruption becomes harder.



Most Rural Farmers are entitled to Farm Inputs from Government. Unfortunately they never get to receive them yet they are budgeted for and sent.



## Politicians have no agenda for the people

Rugangwa Dan, Tailor in Rubindi Town Council Mbarara District

**P**oliticians come to buy votes from people because it is the main business during the election period here. The competition is too high that candidates have to buy to everything to out compete their opponents. They just come strictly to buy votes with a few lies to hoodwink the voters and they don't discuss anything about tackling the problems facing service delivery in our area.

Our Health Centers lack medicine. Patients rush there for treatment but they can't be helped by the hapless nurses because they are not supplied with the medicine. They just hang around the health centers hoping that maybe medicine will be delivered any time by someone until they give up in the evenings and return to their homes.

Our roads are poor and it takes us longer to cover very short distances. Our Local Council 3 that is supposed to work on the roads just embezzles funds that are released for the roads. Whenever it rains, My Clients don't bring any business because the roads are impassable.

Our Government Schools are too lousy for our children. The only alternative is to take our children to Private schools but again they are expensive for the majority of us to afford them. I would expect politician to be addressing such issues as they seek for votes, unfortunately it is not the case.



A School girl takes off time to attend the Anti- corruption caravan campaign at Rubindi in western Uganda. The quality of education in most Government aided schools in the area is poor due to poor logistical support from the Government



## I lost trust in all institutions, nothing ever works in Rubindi

Senyonga Andrew, Roasts meat for sale in Rubindi

I stopped wasting my time going to Health Centers in Rubindi because they are dysfunctional. Today you will get there and you won't find any nurse on duty, tomorrow you will get there and find the Nurse but there will not be any medicine. So when I clocked 44 years, I decided to spare myself from that kind of comedy. In fact I even abandoned my book at the Health Center in Rubindi.

Life is increasingly becoming unworthy to live. I don't know why our area has been neglected to this extent. Water is scarce, we only have two taps serving the whole Rubindi Town yet we need like 10 taps. Rubbish is all over the place because we lack garbage collectors and as if that is not bad enough for us, we have this new menace of Crime Preventers who have started arresting us the moment they find you outdoors beyond 10:00pm.

I don't see any of the Contestants in our area with that vision to redeem us. I usually judge a Candidate by their performance and the way they work, unfortunately, I don't see anyone bringing medicine to our hospitals, lobbying for our roads to be worked on or improving on our sanitation. They are all just lying to the people and don't deserve my vote.





Crime Preventers lining up at Ndekye in Rubirizi District. Many Locals accuse these Crime Preventers of being Crime Promoters in the area as they harass and extort money from them



Residents of Kizungu Zone in Mbarara Town mount structures to have a clearer view of the proceedings during the Anti-Corruption Caravan at Kizungu Grounds.





## We owe a lot to Society as Artistes

Eughton Sente-Good Money Brothers Entertainment

I feel that we as Artistes have a role to play in society. It should not just be about making money. We owe much to the community because it is through their support that we have managed to sustain ourselves in the industry. It is the money they pay for our music and shows that we use to buy the cars we drive, the houses we have built, the fees for our children and more connections with the rest of the world.

As a Musician, I felt the best way I would play my part was through music. I came up with the Kikokolo and Tukakane songs that talk about electoral violence. In these songs I am advising Ugandans that Uganda is all about us, with or without the 2016 elections, we should live in a harmonious way because at the end of the day, it is the common person who pays the price. As Artistes, we have a huge following of fans who believe in us and everything that we do or say through our songs and that was the best I could play my part.

This Anti Corruption Caravan in western Uganda has struck me with mixed feelings. We live a good life in Kampala and we barely know what exactly it is that transpires in the villages. People in the countryside have so many biting issues that are never articulated by anyone and now that no one is out to help these people on ground out of their predicament, then there is a big problem. Politicians are simply taking people for granted and they need to have a change of heart.

As Artistes, we need to play more of our CSR with the people on ground. We don't have to do everything for money. We need to guide, educate and teach Ugandans because we live off these very Ugandans. The good life that some of us live is because of these Ugandans, so we need to do mindful things.



Artiste Eighton Sente performing during the Anti- Corruption Caravan in Kabale.  
Artistes have a bigger role to play to society beyond stage performances



## We are the primary Victims of Election Malpractices

Aganaga Omulugwala, Bodaboda Rider Ndekye Trading Center Rubirizi

**V**oter Bribery has different forms and as a Transporter who keeps getting hired by different politicians, I know quite a number of tricks. Sometimes they find you standing and they give you Ugsh 20,000/= and they tell you to vote for someone else. Others give you that amount and task you to change people from supporting his or her candidate to theirs.

Of late, Vote Buyers have become sharper after discovering that some people take their money and vote for different people. What they do is to get a car stationed somewhere near a polling station, whoever is getting bribed has to be paid in that car after proving that you have voted for that candidate. They first give you a smart phone and you move with it to the ballot box, you tick their candidate, then you photograph the ticked ballot paper and you go back to the vehicle with the phone picture and you are paid after their confirmation that you voted for their candidate.

My motorcycle here is strictly for business. Different candidates come to hire me to be part of their processions and I never hesitate because I need that money. A candidate can get you fuel for Ugsh 10,000/= and tell you to be part of his convoy, sometimes these guys just lie to us and never fulfill their part of the bargain. They just pay a half and then disappear. Then when they see you working for another candidate, they feel jealous and start accusing you of fleecing them of their money. We have had scenarios here where our colleagues are attacked by agent of these politicians.



Boda Boda Riders at Muhanga Town in Kabale district, Western Uganda. Transporters get hired by different Politicians to spice up their campaigns





Residents of Katerera in Rubirizi complaint about bribery and vote rigging.





## The way I saw the Caravan

Okwi David, Transport Section-AAU

I was part of last year's Caravan that visited the Eastern parts of Uganda and one inference that has come out clearly is that poverty and service delivery are a cross cutting problem across the country. Much as poverty is not as open in the west as it is the East, I witnessed poor service delivery in the West; the road network is pathetic in Kabale, Kihhi, Kanungu, Rukungiri and Ntungamo. Issues of corruption, Vote buying, infrastructural neglect kept arising.

Accessing information from Government institutions like Police and hospitals was extremely hard. The Authorities in Mbarara denied us access and I suspect there was something they were hiding. Nurses were hesitant to talk about their working conditions for fear of reprisals from higher authorities. As a result, Journalists and the Documentation Teams ended up hitting dead ends in many stories that they were working on and this was in direct contrast to what transpired in the East where it was a bee hive of activities for the Journalists. They had opportunities to verify the information and allegations that were raised and there was great Cooperation between ActionAid and other Institutions.

May be it was due to lack of direct Partners in the West that this came about. At some points we had to mobilize ourselves, managing time on the Hosts' side was an issue in some areas. But on the whole, the Western Caravan was special in its own way, we had better working relationships with everyone on the Team, the Commander from the Uganda Police was very open minded, I didn't see any kind of conflict within the Team and I am very sure that it was the teamwork that enabled us achieve all that we did in the West.



Police Officer Wahwaka gives a speech upon return from the Western Leg of the Anti- corruption caravan. The Uganda Police Force were one of the pivotal Partners during the Caravan



## Akumu Brenda, Activista-AAU

**T**he Western Leg of the Anti Corruption Caravan was timely and sensitive to the people. We attracted huge crowds especially in Mbarara and Ishaka. It was well organized, the branding was classic, we had more T-shirts, more Musicians and more teamwork. People were coordinating well and complimenting each other, people were willing to spend more time at the Venues.

Since the theme was directly addressing practical issues that are fresh in people's minds, Ugandans were talking in detail, about vote buying, vote rigging, election violence, lies, etc.





Residents display posters during the Anti- Corruption caravan stop over at Rubare trading center in Ntungamo.





## What people said about service delivery



Henry Tumwine, Shopkeeper Bugongi Trading Center

Vote buying and selling will thrive as long as Members of Parliament are paid those hefty salaries. People are too poor to reject money. Voters cannot resist enjoying free transport, money and eats whenever they are felled to campaign rallies. The solution to end this form of corruption is to start from the top by reducing those big salaries for the elected Leaders



Eliod Gumusiriza, Land Surveyor- Kitagata

Aspirants who buy votes are Weak Leaders who cannot convince the Public and it is too unfortunate that the majority of the Voters lack necessities due to poverty. The best solution is to arrest and jail Politicians who engage in vote buying. Civil society should also do more sensitization to help government to educate people at grass root levels



Esther Tugabwire, Drug Shop Operator - Butare

Politicians persuade Voters to sell their votes because they know there is a lot of money in salaries. Government should reduce on the salaries of elected Leaders because Politicians are getting a lot of money compared to civil servants in key sectors like Health and Education.





### Sowed Ishanga, 78, Hardware Shop Owner - Butare

Corruption is widespread because people have changed and become greedier compared to the past. We need civic education to alert masses on the value of their vote and politicians who engage in vote buying should be banned from contesting in future elections once caught.



### Asuman Banyanga, 23, Mechanic - Kizinda Town Ishaka

Politicians desperately want to remain in power and therefore they heavily invest in buying votes. On the other side Voters cannot refuse money because everyone has pressing needs.

The only solution is for government to change the voting system. We should go back to the old system of lining up behind the preferred candidate so that we eliminate these ballots which rich politicians are exploiting by printing their own replica papers.



### Akowa Manut, 45, Truck Driver - Kizinda town Ishaka

Corruption is embedded within our Leaders who are not Patriotic right from the top and that explains the rampant voter bribery we have witnessed in recent years. People are poor that they get money from these selfish politicians.

Apart from voter bribery, traffic police are the other Corrupt Public Officials. Even if you drive a car in dangerous mechanical condition they will clear it to remain on the road as long as you give them something. I think government needs to sack all the current Traffic Officers and train new professionals who are not corrupt.



**Rose Nakweza, 35, Shopkeeper - Kizinda Town Bushenyi**

Voter bribery will not be eliminated here because majority of the Voters are broke Peasants and once they see money they want it. They just don't care whether they are voting for services or not. The government should act from the top, including president Museveni, to stop distributing money during the election period.



**Moses Seruwagi, 50, Sugarcane Farmer - Kizinda Town Bushenyi**

Poverty and lack of necessities such as salt, soap and sugar are the main reasons why Rural Voters sell their votes to Wealthy Politicians. The Government should boost incomes of Peasants and create more employment for Youths to combat this form of corruption.



**Abubakari Katera, Chairman Kizungu Market Traders' Association chairman**

Personally, I have never sold my vote but many people here sell their votes to politicians because they don't expect any services from government even if they refused to be bribed. But I don't want to blame politicians alone; government should arrest and punish people who sell their votes because if they were not willing sellers the buyers would not be there. Here corruption is generally high in every sector because people don't have money yet they have to buy food every day given Kasese's low food production.

## More Searchlight needed for the Rwenzori Region



### Busingye Vicky- Rwenzori Anti Corruption Coalition

We receive reports from the Community and the Leaders on a daily basis. In our reports we encounter instances of shoddy works by contractors, you find there is no medicine in hospitals and patients dying. In Bundibugyo, a lot of money is received by the Local Government but never used or mismanaged.

If we don't vote for right Leaders, service delivery is definitely affected because with that you will know that money will be stolen and if not stolen then it will be put to wrong uses. The theme of the Anti -Corruption Caravan shouldn't be taken as a Joke because we have too much backlog in the Public sector as a result of electing the wrong leaders. But with the right people in power, one is at least assured of medicine in hospitals, proper working conditions for Teachers, good roads to travel on, proper hygiene and infrastructural development.



L-R Amina Kyarukunda and Kyomugisha Dendatha play with their children at Buzibwera town, Rwanyamahembe sub - county, Mbarara district. Poor service delivery puts mothers at risk when giving birth.





## The Anti - Corruption Fight should start in Homes

Rwabulindi Richard, LC5 Chairman Kabarole District

**P**salms 121:2- “I will lift my eyes onto the hills where my help comes from.” Corruption in Uganda is too high as Leaders; we have danced to its tunes for quite a time. We all know it is a problem that we have tried to fight time and again without dislodging it from our midst. The question now is, where is our help coming from?

The answer is Home. Those corrupt people come from homes, they were born in homes, raised up in homes, they have homes and as long as we have homes, we shall have them forever. Let us use our homes to raise people who are straight forward. When you are sending a child to do something, instill in them a mindset of service and not promising to reward them with something after doing something for you because that is corruption.

In Primary schools, when kids are contesting for elective posts, you see them giving out sweets such that they are elected, who gives them the money to buy the sweets, it is the parents, that is corruption. At Universities, it is the same story. Guild elections are fully funded by political parties and MPs and this trend goes on to Local Councils and Central Government.

We have a responsibility as Ugandans to say enough is enough. I personally disagree with the habit of eating someone’s money and then you vote for someone else because that is theft. For any market to thrive there must be a willing buyer and a willing seller. So long as Voters keep demanding

for money from politicians during political seasons, then they are also to blame. Society is supposed to know that their vote is more important than UGSH 200/= or UGSH 500/=.

We have the confession Prayer in the Anglican Church where we all know where our help should come from. We need good roads, electricity, water, medicine in hospitals but it is not the 200/= that you are bribed with to fulfill all those needs. You cannot eat your cake and still have it. Imagine if someone has invested all their money into bribing you to vote for them, do you expect them to implement anything before recovering their money? Where shall our help come from?

A Leader is someone who knows the way, shows the way and goes the way. The CSOs show us the way but they don't know the way. I am waiting for that time when CSOs will invite us and tell us the sources of their donor funds. As we preach to the people, we should also walk the talk. I know one day Corruption will end. Our Voters should know the value and power of their vote and all Politicians should shun Vote Buying.



A Students of Bushenyi Primary Teachers' College makes a presentation on Corruption during a debate that was held at the Uganda Technical Institute Bushenyi when the Anti Corruption Caravan visited the Institute.



## It takes everyone's involvement to effectively tackle corruption

Sydney Asubo-Director F.I.A

I have dedicated my entire professional life to fighting crime right from the time I was at the DPP's Office, the IGG and now the F.I.A. One of the forms of crime is money laundering and detecting this crime is extremely difficult. Initially, money laundering hadn't been criminalized but gangs in the United States knew how to play around with the system and hide because there were no regulations against it. The only solution was to come up with money laundering laws to curb the menace.

Money Laundering is derived from corruption. Once there is corruption somewhere, just know there is money laundering and Uganda is considered to be amongst the highest corrupt nations in the world. Our fight against money laundering as F.I.A fits into the overall anti corruption fight. Every country in the world has against this evil and for us in Uganda we have the F.I.A.

Many Ugandans know what corruption is but even as they know, they still participate in it. Majority of Ugandans don't take action and are inactive in the fight against corruption. We have the Police and the IGG as the main institutions fighting corruption but that is a very small population. Once you leave the fight to a few individuals, you make the risk higher.

The moment you bribe local leaders with executive powers at the district and councilors with legislative powers at local level together with MPs at national level, they will pass laws that are unfriendly and once these laws are passed, they become binding and lawful. Just take the case



of South Africa, Nelson Mandela was a criminal according to the law but had he followed the law, maybe South Africa would still be under colonial rule.

Organized crime is a syndicate at all levels of the chain. The moment someone is caught on the wrong side of the law, that person will seek for protection from the accomplices who are usually influential and powerful people. The corrupt think they can always get away with the crime.



Justice Owiny Dolo talks to the Media during the launch of the Western Leg of the Anti-Corruption caravan as AAU's Fredrick Kawooya, Nickson Ogwal and Harriet Gimbo listen. It takes the concerted efforts of all stake holders to effectively fight corruption



## The Western Leg Caravan was all about Partnerships and Relationships

Fred Kawooya, Policy and Campaigns Manager-AAU

**W**e traversed the biggest part of Western Uganda from the foot of the country in Kabale via Kanungu, Kihihi, Ntungamo, Rukungiri, Mbarara, Sheema, Bushenyi, Rubirizi, Kasese and Kabarole. We covered 11 districts in 10 days and this was not a simple task but I am happy that the team was strong throughout.

During this Caravan, we had 11 major rallies and over 8 roadside discussions with the Citizens. From a conservative estimation, we directly interacted with over 15000 and indirectly with 3 million people through Media and other means.

There are a number of observations that were made but to me, the most striking one is the level of investment that people are putting into the elections. From one location, we got information that a Candidate and his alliance had invested over 2 Billion Ugandan Shillings to ensure that he wins the primaries. This is very shocking because you begin to ask yourself the logic behind all this investment, how that particular Candidate is going to recover this money if at all there is nothing that they are going to siphon out of the system. Really how much is this person going to get out of this investment? It just doesn't make sense if you begin to think about it.

In Fort Portal, one of the Candidates came and confessed to me that he had invested over 20 million Ugandans Shillings in just one cell but his opponent beat him in that village because he had invested over 60 million Ugandan Shillings in just that one village. So for me it was an eye opener that the

issue of commercializing leadership cannot just be left hanging on market forces otherwise we are bound to lose quality leaders and we cannot surrender the destiny of Ugandans into a commodity of trade. Where we are heading, we are destined for disaster and as Ugandans who care about this country, we have all reasons to get concerned.

This is the beginning of yet another effort by the Civil Society and peace loving Ugandans to come together and change the course. We believe that this should be a partnership and we value the Partnership that we have had in this struggle. We want to thank the Uganda Police Force, WACSO, KICK, RAC, the Media, the Local Governments, DGF and other CSOs that we have worked with on this Caravan. It wasn't just about AAU, but it was all about the Partnerships we have with the CSOs and Government and I would like to thank whoever contributed to the success of the Western Leg Anti - Corruption Caravan.



Residents of Rubindi attend the Anti- Corruption campaign in Mbarara District.

## The Western Anti Corruption Caravan in Pictures

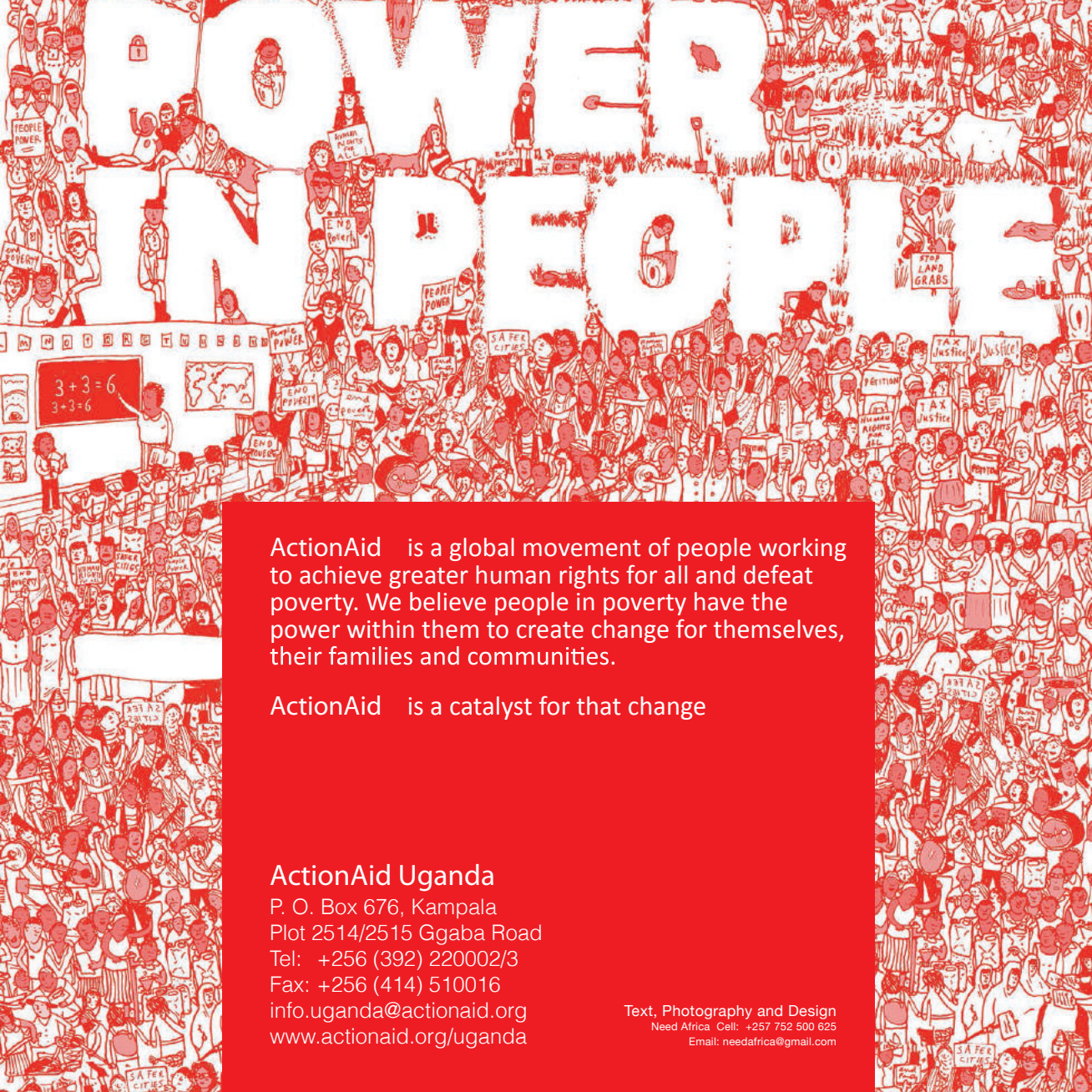






Pupils peep through a wooden structure to have a glance at the Anti-Corruption caravan as it passes through Muhanga town in Kabale.





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