



PROJECT FACT SHEET FOR THE EU FUNDED PROJECT

Contracting Authority: European Union

Number of proposal: DCI-HUM/2013/323-279

Project Name: Empowering Communities to Address Harmful Practices and Violence against Children in Eastern Uganda

Total Project amount: 1,180,002.17 EUR (80% contracting authority 944,001.73 EUR and 20% matching fund 236,000.43 EUR)

Project Period: 36 months

Project Start and end date: November 2013 – October 2016

Project geographical scope: Uganda, Eastern region; Amudat, Kapchorwa, Kween, Bukwo Districts

Distribution of partners per district: 3 National level partners (USDC, UCRNN and FIDA) implementing activities in all the 4 districts. 4 sub-grantees (KACSOA, VISION CARE, KWIPI and CAFHUR implementing in Kapchorwa, Amudat, Bukwo and Kween respectively)

Project description and its effectiveness:

This action will contribute to the wider promotion of rights of children and end violence against children in a region that is driven by harmful initiation and traditional practices. The overall objective of this project is **to contribute to the reduction and prevention of violence and exploitation of children especially girls in districts in Eastern Uganda**. The specific objective is **to prevent and respond to violence and exploitation of children (especially girls) by promoting violence free school environments, improved referral mechanisms and increased community awareness of abuse issues**. The action identifies three levels at which Violence Against Children (VAC) occurs which are: at home, school and at community level. The project particularly focuses on issues faced by adolescent girls and boys – such as region-specific harmful cultural practices of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), early marriage and unsafe initiation rites. The project responds to the identified needs of children, especially those who face violence due to gender, disability or cultural beliefs. Our proposed action therefore aims to address violence issues in a holistic way by tackling the issues at all levels and with a wide range of stakeholders.

Project results and Major Components:

1. Result 1: 40 primary and secondary schools across 4 districts promote violence free environments for children.
2. Result 2: An operational referral mechanism in place between the Probation and Child-welfare Office, Police Child and Family Protection Unit, Child and Family Court and local health systems to address reported cases of child abuse
3. Result 3: 40 communities recognize violence against children and advocate on violence against children with emphasis on completion of basic and secondary education
4. Result 4: Local Governments supported to enact ordinances and bylaws to operationalize existing laws and policies on defilement, FGM and other forms of violence against children in the target 4 districts of Eastern Uganda
5. Result 5: Children with disabilities access education and actively participate in child led actions

Project Outcomes

- a) 40 communities made aware of, identify with and challenge VAC;
- b) PRS framework promoted and adopted in 40 schools;
- c) Increased school enrolment, attendance, improved learning outcomes and transition from primary to secondary level in 40 targeted primary Schools;
- d) Increased enrolment, retention and completion of primary level and secondary education by girls and children with disabilities in 4 targeted districts;
- e) 40 school and 40 community Youth clubs established and supported with information, life skills training and on-going mentoring to act as change agents in their schools and community; For maximum impact, school clubs will be formed in the same 40 target communities to ensure all children in that location are reached and that they can share experiences between groups and therefore increase the impact of their activities;
- f) An enabling environment for the prevention of violence against children is established in 40 schools;
- g) Timely and coordinated response provided by the referral institutions to reported cases of child abuse especially early marriage and FGM;
- h) Key referral institutions collaborate in community awareness raising and sensitization on the impact of violence against children, existing national laws and mechanisms to address violence against children;
- i) Roles and responsibilities of each stake holder in preventing and management of cases of violence against children clearly mapped out and understood leading to better coordination amongst stakeholders especially households, schools, district Local Government office responsible for children and family affairs, Child and Family courts and the Police Child and Family Protection Unit;
- j) Increased availability of data and information on the extent and forms of violence against children leading to improved planning and response to VAC by the various stakeholders;
- k) Biannual meetings held between referral institutions leading to joint planning, and coordination in the prevention and response to Violence against children;
- a) Major Outputs

Thematic area: Participatory democracy and good governance

Stakeholders: Children, Community/parents, School Management committee/Parents Teachers Associations, Local leaders including cultural and religious leaders, local government, Ministries and line departments, Judiciary, Teachers, School management