



Gender Transformation & Empowerment

Uganda Women's Network



UWONET

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

BUILDING BRIDGES: CREATING A CRITICAL MASS





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List of Abbreviations

CBO	Community based Organisation
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DV	Domestic Violence
FIDA	Association of Women Lawyers
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GBV	Gender-based Violence
JLOS	Justice, Law and Order Sector
LC	Local Council
MDB	Marriage and Divorce Bill
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MWENGO	Mwelekeo Wa NGO
NAADS	National Agriculture Advisory Services



NGOF Uganda National Non-governmental Organisation Forum

PF3 Police Form 3

PRDP Peace, Recovery and Development Plan

RR Reproductive Rights

SACCO Savings and Credit Co-operative Organisation

SIP Strategic Investment Plan

SOB Sexual Offences Bill

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

UWOPA Uganda Women Parliamentarians Association



Chairperson's Message



The Women's Movement is growing from strength to strength. This was my first impression from the first ever National Women's Week organized by UWONET and her Partner organizations in October 2012 to coincide with national celebrations to mark 50 years of independence of Uganda. Reflecting on the rich history of the women's movement, we celebrated individual and institutional efforts, as well as generational achievements that have led to the many political and socio-economic gains for women in the often tumultuous history of our nation.

UWONET's formation was in response to the need for a co-ordinated approach to influence national policy agenda in support of women's rights. We are gratified to know that the original ideals for which UWONET was formed continue to be realized and even further expanded in our institutional, policy and programmatic response to women's rights concerns both in Uganda as well as at the regional and international level.

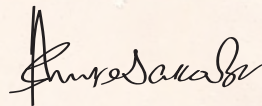
Our mandate further recognizes the importance of citizenry, and the stake all women have in national development. This

has prompted us to engage in the discourse on the future of our country in recognition of the importance of participation as a means to building sustainable democracy.

We recognize and appreciate the many partnerships that have supported and informed our work. Partnerships with civil society particularly gender-focused organizations at national and community level; Partnerships with Government—particularly the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and the Local Government Structures in the districts in which we work; Partnerships with specialized agencies such as the Justice, Law and Order Sector Institutions; Partnerships with development agencies supporting our work; and finally new Partnerships with the private sector. All these partnerships are part of our effort to

build a wider and inclusive social movement for women's rights and gender equality in Uganda.

Finally, I would like to express appreciation to the entire Board and Membership of UWONET for their engagement in institutional oversight and programmatic support to the Secretariat during the year. I also acknowledge with appreciation the contribution of the Secretariat team led by the Executive Director for their untiring efforts to deliver our institutional goals.



Hon. Sheila Kawamara-Mishambi

Chairperson

Message of the Executive Director



It is my honor and pleasure to share with you UWONET's Annual Report for 2012. The penultimate year of implementation of the strategic plan 2009 - 2013 during which the work of the previous years continued to be consolidated. This was evident in both programme implementation and at the institutional level.

Our programme focus remained on both policy and people centred advocacy to address women's access to decision making, improved socio-economic conditions for women, increased access to and control over resources, working towards the elimination of gender based violence and information dissemination on priority issues of concern to women.

In line with our own organizational understanding of social change, we worked with the most affected through nascent women's rights groups established at the community level to bring change driven by women as agents of their own change processes. We networked far and wide with a range of organizations and institutions committed to the realization of women's rights and continued to make headway with duty bearers such as the police and judiciary that are

primary agencies in ensuring law and order and recourse to justice for women victims of social injustice including GBV.

While social change is a slow process, we take note and acknowledge each incremental step made towards its realization through policy and legislative processes, institutional change and most importantly small but significant gains in the lives of women demonstrated by increased levels of empowerment. Our scope of work encompassed both the national and community level with a specific focus on selected districts based on poor socio-economic indicators.

2012 marked the occasion of Uganda's golden jubilee, 50 years of independence. This provided the opportunity to register women's contribution towards the country's development in all spheres (political, socio-economic and cultural). While there were many positive elements to acknowledge in the year, our resilience was also put to test through challenges such as the nodding disease in the Acholi region as a debilitating illness affecting children in northern Uganda that was previously under reported. The public response to the advocacy efforts for medical

and other interventions for the victims of nodding disease transcended all borders and convinced us that there is sense of humanity in the citizens of Uganda, young and old, and particularly women who give a sense of hope, amidst many challenges faced, that despite our differences, we can still look out for each other as citizens of Uganda.

One of our major innovations and also achievements for the year was instituting the first ever National Women's Week which provided a space for women from all walks of life to deliberate on issues affecting them, network and celebrate the strength of every woman. The response to our invitation to women and gender responsive men to participate in this event was overwhelming. The newly created space was evidence of a rejuvenated women's movement operating in solidarity for effective advocacy. Among the advocacy outcomes were key recommendations to advance the rights of women in all sectors in the medium to long term. The Women's Week culminated into an award ceremony to recognize women, men and a women's right organization that have made significant contributions towards the realization of women's rights in areas as diverse as the

Arts, Science and Technology, Human Rights and Leadership.

Our interlinked programmes on Gender Based Violence, Women, Peace and Security, governance including social Accountability and legislative reform, continued to yield results. UWONET continues to play an important role of building social movements from the communities through nurturing women organizations. We played a co-ordinating role in bringing member organizations of the network and other CSOs together for joint programming and implementation on mutual themes of focus. Our training programmes not only built individual and institutional capacities, but also through a multiplier effect have enabled us to reach out to many others who work with the cause for women's rights and social transformation.

Through reflection on programme implementation, we are gaining insight into what works best and how we can continue to learn from ourselves and from those we work with to improve programme delivery. Our learning points to strengthen partnerships within civil society, communities, institutions and work with structures and adopt a sustained approach

towards programme implementation to realize significant social change is paramount. This approach requires a great degree of commitment from those we work with including; development partners and government.

To all our stakeholder who have continued to support UWONET's work in various ways, we do sincerely appreciate your partnership without which it would have been a much difficult hurdle for us to address. We say thank you and look forward to the continued collaboration at all levels.

We, at the Secretariat remain committed to the pursuit of our goal of a Ugandan society free of all forms of gender-based discrimination.

UNITED WOMEN CAN!

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY



Rita Aciro-Lakor
Executive Director

PROGRAMMES

1. Policy advocacy, research and Information
2. Networking and capacity building
3. Information management
4. Institutional strengthening

Programme Work

In 2012, UWONET continued programming in line with the strategic plan in the interlinked areas of policy, research and advocacy, networking and capacity building and information–management. Institutional strengthening remained central to our programmatic efforts. On the thematic areas, we consolidated our work on Gender based Violence and Reproductive Health Rights, Women's Economic Rights, Women in Politics and Decision making, Legal Reform and Peace and Conflict. The strategies applied to ensure programme delivery remained policy research and analysis, awareness creation, lobby and advocacy, coalition building and shared learning, movement building, dialogue, documentation, mentorship among others.

Co–ordination remained the nexus of our approach to programme delivery, bringing together the skills, competencies and passion of

various organizations and individuals for specific advocacy interventions as well as programme implementation in mutually identified thematic areas. We realized significant benefits in this approach including:

1. Co–ordinated resource mobilisation and interventions
2. Enhanced cross–organisational learning through harmonization of approaches of the different institutions involved in implementation and sharing of good practices.
3. Scaling up the numbers for a bigger outreach
4. Shared documentation including utilization of existing documentation such as manuals.
5. Institutional strengthening of partner organizations in areas as diverse as

report writing, documentation, finance and procurement procedures.

Overall, programme implementation during the year yielded significant results including:

1. Increased social movement building for women's rights
2. Enhanced skills of duty bearers and the community in handling GBV thus improved service delivery for citizens.
3. Increased collaboration between local and national activism
4. Increased resource allocation for gender and reproductive health at national and district level
5. Policy and legislative gains on women's rights through the JLOS SIP III, progress towards enactment of the Marriage and Divorce Bill and the Sexual Offences Bill.
6. Amendment of the Police Form 3 and 3A which are used for collecting evidence on sexual and physical violence.
7. District Women's Alliances/ Caucuses/ Working Groups more vibrant and incorporating sustainability strategies to deliver on women's rights beyond projects.
8. Increased influence towards gender responsive decisions.
9. Enhanced information sharing and networking including documentation and application of social media tools amongst women's organisations
10. Increased resource base for UWONET's work
11. Increased understanding and appreciation of women's rights among the youth
12. Increased district based activism for better service delivery.
13. Increased appreciation of UWONET's work and hence increased out reach
14. Increased visibility of district based organizations
15. Increased expressed interest to join UWONET's membership
16. UWONET has become a point of reference on women's rights and gender equality
17. Strong hold on advocacy
18. Establishment of GBV Shelters and improved services to GBV survivors.
19. Enhanced collaboration between duty bearers and communities
20. Increased activism at local levels informing national level advocacy and direction
21. Integration of GBV and reproductive rights work into local CBO's and NGO's programming and local government plans.

POLICY ADVOCACY, RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

The purpose of this programme is to advocate for enactment and monitor the implementation of gender responsive laws, policies and programmes. The areas of focus include: Gender-based Violence and reproductive health rights; women's economic rights; Women in politics and decision making; legal reform and peace and conflict.

Focus Area 1: Gender-based violence and reproductive health rights

Gender-based violence remains an impediment to the realization of rights for the majority of Ugandans especially women. The situation of women is further compounded when their reproductive rights are compromised as a result of GBV. This programme area is aimed at building and supporting national and community structures to mitigate GBV. In 2012, community dialogues we rolled out as a participatory tool to engage communities in discussion on remedies to address GBV in their own context. We also continued work on the establishment of GBV shelters with referral support to address women's challenges, i.e; health, legal and capacity building on GBV and RR.

The Community dialogues were delivered through district GBV working groups established

with support of UWONET as a measure to address GBV in districts of operation. The GBV Working groups were also introduced to the SASA Methodology aimed at stimulating local activism for a community response for the elimination of GBV. The result of these were candid discussion within the communities on the specific steps they can take to reduce the incidence of GBV such as; passing of bi-laws and door to door community out reach.

GBV Shelters

There has been growing consensus on the need for GBV shelters as one of the response mechanisms in Uganda. In 2011, during the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), Uganda committed to supporting the establishment and upscaling

of GBV shelters. this commitment was made after the realization that there was a gap in the service delivery component.

In Kitgum, Ms. Margaret – one of the police officers under the Child and Family protection unit narrated; “... structures/ shelters for victims of domestic should be set up to avoid more violence by the in- laws on women for reporting their brother. Citing an example of a woman who was kicked by her husband when she was pregnant for reporting the case to the police which prompted re arrested of the husband. she also shared another senario of a woman who was beaten by her in – laws for reporting her husband and their brother which led to infliction injuries on her.

Ms Nasianga a police officer from the Child and Family Protection Unit in Bugiri district. shared her working experience; “I work at the main police station with women and children who are victims of GBV. My biggest challenge is that i always keep abused children in my home since the station does not have where to keep them. I live in a one roomed house with my husband and children. In 2011, i received a child of less than 4yrs who was being violated

by the father who used to smoke opium. The child had not been fed or given a bath for months. The father was arrested but there was no home to keep the child hence i kept the child for three months and later sought assistance from World Vision. she continues to ponder about the abused women and children who need that temporary safe space and hopes that a simple house could be constructed at the police station to house such people who are received at the station.

2012 was pivotal in the work on establishment of safety shelters. UWONET coordinated the efforts of Mifumi and Action Aid international Uganda on shared learning for establishment of new shelters in Moroto, Masaka, Lira and Mbarara districts. Each organization brought its own local knowledge of the specific context to determine what works best in establishment of the shelter. UWONET was supported under the GOU-Irish Aid Joint programme to conduct a study tour to South Africa to learn from the governmental and Non governmental experiences on the operationalisation and modalities involved in running shelters, services offered and sustainability mechanisms; and their overall impact in mitigating the effects of GBV.

The South African model adopts an approach of public investment to the shelters recognizing that for the shelters to run efficiently and effectively, sufficient resources are required. While discussion on the level of public support towards the shelters is ongoing, a feasibility study was carried out by UWONET and her partners, the findings of which informed part of development of national guidelines on shelters by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. The 4 shelters in the project districts are now operational and are set to be launched. It is believed that collectively, several women every year will benefit from the services which will include; legal aid, medical, meeting basic needs among others. The shelters therefore will become an important tool of redress for Gender-based Violence.

Capacity-building for GBV response

Capacity building forms a core strategy in UWONET's efforts to build a concerted response to GBV. UWONET carried out capacity building of district JLOS structures and technical staff in Acholi sub region, civil society coalitions as well as duty bearers—as



*Rita Aciro Lakor – Executive Director –
UWONET hands over assorted stationery to
the Iganga District Police Commander*

stipulated in the Domestic Violence Act in the districts of operation.

There is a registered improvement in duty bearers handling of GBV matters as evidenced by increased reporting of incidences of GBV by the public previously weary of the tedious

and insensitive law enforcement and judicial processes. CSOs and opinion leaders have also been trained on GBV response. The results are increased collaboration at national and district level on GBV response. As a result, there is also increased resource allocation for gender and reproductive health notably in Kanungu district where the budget was significantly increased 2011/2012 financial year. Katete subcounty allocated sixty three million shillings (63,000,000UGX) and Kanyantorogo subcounty allocated fifty five million (55,000,000UGX). The funds were allocated for maternity wards, beds, placenta pits. In Katakwi district, a special fund of eight hundred thousand shillings (800,000UGX) per emergency delivery case was established to offer support to pregnant women who experience complications in delivery and require referral services. At the national level, through advocacy with UWOPA, Parliament deferred approval of the national budget for the financial year 2012/13 until the executive committed to the Ministry of Health budget. These funds were earmarked for medical officers in health centres III and IV which structures are the immediate health facility for most pregnant women amongst handling other health matters.

Engaging leadership

UWONET's efforts for a co-ordinated response towards addressing GBV, particularly at the district level, were greatly supported by political will of those local government leaders who recognize GBV as a major development concern that needs redress. In the districts where strong political will exists to address women's rights, UWONET made significant gains in devising new strategies to address GBV i.e. supporting CSO engagement in the planning and budgetary process as well as building credibility for a deeper recognition and space for NGOs advocating for women's rights through focus on the community realities on GBV. .

Linking GBV Response to peace building

The project on post-conflict recovery in Northern Uganda particularly the Peace Building Fund (PBF) also addressed aspects of GBV and RR recognizing the increase in the incidence of GBV as a consequence of the long period of conflict and break down of social norms in the community. In Pader district, the district leadership actively engages with

CSOs to address GBV and RR particularly in the context of post-conflict recovery and has intervened to offer support to victims of violence through follow up of the due legal process. To this effort, in Anaka Sub county Nwoya district, resolutions and bye-laws on GBV were passed. While in Bobi Sub County, Gulu district community members had dialogues on GBV when women attend antenatal and postnatal clinics at health centres.

UWONET also engaged the media platforms through radio talk shows to share information with communities on GBV with reference to legal and human rights commitments such as CEDAW. The radio talk shows created a space for interactive discussion between community call in's and the CEDAW experts. All these implementation strategies resulted in a shift in community perceptions on GBV as demonstrated by an increase in reporting of incidences as well as seeking alternative methods for resolving disputes including counseling.

A Milestone of Achievement – launch of the amended Police Form 3 and 3A



Hon. Rukia Nakadama State Minister for Gender and Cultural Affairs, Hon. Hilary Onek Misinter of Internal Affairs and AIGP Ochom officially launch the amended Police Form 3 and 3A



Civil Society, Police and Community members march through Kotido Town during the regional launch of the amended Police Form 3 and 3A

Police Form 3 and its appendix is a medical examination report used for documenting

evidence in the investigation of crimes where the victim has sustained injury, harm, maim, bruise, cuts etc

Police Forms 3 and 3A are issued at a Police Station/Post where a complaint has been registered (case). It is issued when:

1. There is need to corroborate the allegation of the crime

2. To help classify the degree of injury grievous or minor
3. To provide basis for medical treatment etc.

Why the amendment to PF 3?

The old forms only allowed medical doctors and police surgeon's (who are few in number) to conduct the examination which impeded on access to justice.

- It initially did not provide adequate parameters for reporting. Did not give direction on which parts of the body were to be examined. (Reason for Appendix to PF3)
- It was ambiguous: e.g. are there any sign of penetration?, Is the hymen ruptured?
- Did not provide for historical details behind the crime
- Did not establish organs or item used to inflict the injury
- Provision for the medical worker's particular was not sufficient- allowed only for signature. No name/address etc.

During the annual commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence which runs from 25th November to

10th December, In partnership with the Uganda Police Force, Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development, the Norwegian Embassy and UNFPA, UWONET organized a national and regional launches of the amended PF3 and 3A. The regional launches took place in Mbarara—for the Western region; Gulu—for the northern region and Kotido—for the Eastern and North Eastern regions. The purpose was to ensure that this evidential document is now widely recognized by all stakeholders; and, through its application, the burden of proof will be eased in cases of sexual violence, with the long term impact of reducing its incidence. The launches were opportunities to highlight the facts about the new/ amended forms which include:

- The new Police Form 3 and 3A was made official on the 24th of February 2012.
- Police Form 3 and 3A is available FREE of charge at Police Units.
- Clinical officers, Midwives and Doctors are authorized to examine a sexual violence victim.
- Clinical officers, midwives and doctors can now examine and give evidence in courts of law.

UWONET was able to secure sector commitments and statements on SGBV and the policy amendments



Judiciary: Justice Benjamin Odoki, The Chief Justice of the Republic of Uganda.

Sexual violence is a grave crime. It is a gross injustice and perpetrators should be held accountable. I urge law enforcers to work together with the victims of sexual violence to enforce and protect their rights and to ensure that the law is upheld. I want to pledge that the sector will do its best to ensure that women and girls are protected from sexual violence and that programmes are put in place to protect their rights. I urge all stakeholders to support these endeavors.



Health Sector: Dr. Jane Achieng, The Director General, Ministry of Health.

Sexual violence is both a human right and a public health issue. Sexual violations can lead to various health complications including acquisition of sexually transmitted diseases and emotional trauma affecting both the individual and their families. The Ministry of Health is committed to provide free medical treatment to victims of sexual violence. With the revised police form 3, clinical officers, nurses and midwives can complete these forms correctly and these help the victims to access justice.



Uganda Police Force: Major General, Kale Kayihura, The Inspector General of Police

As you know very well, society cannot survive with the girl child who is not protected. Your mothers are the ones who give you life. police form 3 is a tool used by the Crime Investigations Department (CID) to collect evidence on sexual cases. In the past, it required that it should be a police surgeon to do it, but now even the nurses in the villages which makes it even easy to collect evidence. I want to assure the public that you are going to see the police focus more in this direction to fight this curse.

UWONET could not agree more with Dr. Sylvester Onzivua, Consultant Forensic Pathologist, Mulago Hospital who said: "The real war has just begun. We have won a battle, now we need to win the war. We must now have the forms available at the Police units, we need to train health workers especially the clinical officers and midwives in their use."

Focus Area 2: Women in politics and decision making

Women in politics and decision making; is a critical area for the realization of women's rights. In 2012, UWONET continued to build on programmatic work in this area through advocacy for increased participation of women in politics and decision making and capacity building of district women councilors. The work also focused on support to district leaders and communities to build community led approaches for social accountability with immense women's involvement and leadership. The initiatives endeavoured to address the

challenges faced by women and young women leaders in governance and accountability processes. In partnership with the Uganda Women Parliamentarians Association, we reached consensus on a pro-women legislative agenda.

Supporting District Women Councillors

Linking the work in leadership and decision making with GBV response and the gender



Abim Women Together in Development (AWOTID) now offers vocational training in tailoring for the female youth

equality and women's empowerment agenda (GEWE). UWONET set out to strengthen women in politics and decision making through establishment and capacity building of district women caucuses in 8 districts. Working with FOWODE, through quarterly meetings of the women caucuses, councilors developed plans to influence their district legislative agenda

and budget process in favour of GBV and Reproductive Rights response. As a result, the women caucuses have adopted a gender agenda encompassing women, children, youth and persons with disabilities. The agenda focuses on the critical issues each district identified such as girl child education, early marriages/ pregnancies among others. The women leaders



Training of women councillor in Abim District

through the caucuses have embarked on a sensitization campaign especially for girl child education as a first step in working together as leaders across political and other divides.

A refresher training for women councillors on effective leadership reached more than 60 councillors in the districts of Abim and Amuria. The refresher training was adopted after the needs assessment of 2011 on the recommendation of local council candidates who were trained. This platform enabled learning



Local Activism: Women in Agago District rise for their rights in procession in town council

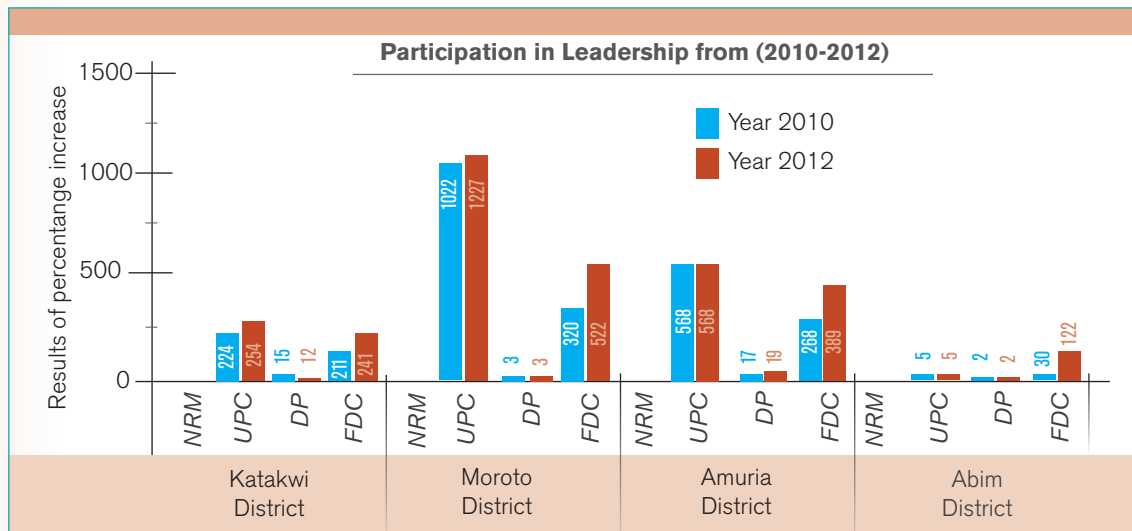
on a wide range of concepts and key issues affecting the community which enhanced the capacity of the councillors on gender, financial

management and their roles as councilors in enhancing social accountability.

Some of the results largely attributable to UWONET's efforts in enhancing women's participation in leadership include: a great increase in the number of women elected

to leadership positions in political parties for instance in the four districts of Abim, Amuria, katakwi and Moroto.

The percentage has increased by 10% in the three years of implementation as illustrated in the table below:



Building Institutional Capacities of Women Organizations

Through our mentoring programme, developed to support committed women groups and

CBOs to carry out advocacy at the community level, capacities of CBOs in Abim, Amuria, Kaabong and Kotido have been enhanced in politics and decision making. The support offered to women CBOs and NGOs enabled

the organizations to set up institutional structures, develop policy documents, comply with registration requirements and gain skills of resource mobilization; understand the social significance of NGOs and CBOs. A total of 60 grassroots CBOs now have structures and are legally formalised in the four districts. UWONET continued to support district women networks including: Abim Women Together in Development, Amuria Women's Network and Toroma women in struggle Alliance and Karamoja women umbrella association. The district women networks are actively engaged in monitoring service delivery and advocacy at local level for gender equality and women's empowerment. The networks attested to the fact that over 200 schools drop outs were able to re-enroll in school in Abim and over 320 in Katakwi districts as a result of their advocacy.

Promoting women and community led initiatives in Social accountability

In 2012, UWONET launched a programme to strengthen local activism and social accountability. Capacities of individuals and

organizations to carry out social accountability so as to ensure effective service delivery and value for money were enhanced. This was done through training on advocacy, gender mainstreaming, gender budgeting and support for community led social accountability initiatives through application of tools such as citizens report cards. Significant results were realized through increased community involvement in monitoring service delivery eg service provision at health centres in Pader, Agago, Kitgum, Lamwo, Abim, Kotido, Yumbe and Koboong. 191 women and men in the districts of Yumbe, Abim, Agago, Kotido, Koboong and Lamwo through the project on enhancing social accountability engaged in their district planning and budgetary processes.

As a result, an increase in the effectiveness of women in leadership demonstrated by their engagement in critical thinking in the approach to planning on women's rights. This was evident in 2013-2014 proposed district priorities where women specific issues were high on the agenda. For instance, Lamwo district prioritized expansion of Lokung health center III maternity ward due to the



Community Members monitor facilities at St. Maximilian Kolbe Arembwola Primary School in Abim District

overwhelming number of mothers accessing services. Through the programme UWONET nurtured CBOs and NGOs and strengthened their capacities both institutionally and for advocacy. Due to this organisations are now recognised and have attracted funding. UWONET linked these organizations to other partners for financial support. For instance in

Kotido our partner organization Nakere Rural Women's Network was tasked to organize the 16 Days of Activism; and received support from Mercy Corps to train communities on GBV. This is attributed to the Capacity Skills Building and Mentorship sessions of CSOs on Organizational Development. Using these skills, the organizations have increased their visibility in

the district. The participating groups recognized that the lack of social accountability leads to poor or no service delivery to the communities further affecting livelihood. It is important to note the challenges faced due the fact of low literacy levels particularly for women. During a knowledge building forum in the district, the stakeholders reported that about 90% of women in Yumbe district are illiterate and are vulnerability to religious and cultural norms. Capacity enhancement therefore should focus on addressing these barriers so that they can begin to understand and progressively articulate their rights.

While UWONET supported community efforts for social accountability, risks were also encountered. In Kaabong, the organizations trained were threatened after exposure of poor project implementation related to road works. In order to mitigate the risks associated with social accountability, UWONET has always taken an approach of signing MoUs with district local governments; creation of space for duty bearers and rights holders to interface; encouragement of joint monitoring of on going projects and sharing information emerging from the monitoring process.

Case study

A development agency in Kabong district, that employs ordinary citizens as casual labourers failed to pay them for the work done for a period of over 6 months. Following a number capacity building initiatives such as advocacy, social accountability among others by UWONET, the community used the skills and the knowledge to demand for their pay for work done. As a result of their actions, the women labourers were paid. Although it was a risky move, their courage in advocacy was strengthened and yielded results.

Focus Area 3: Women, Peace and Security

Conflict has differential gender impacts, meaning that any effort to address it must take cognizance of the gender dimensions. Through this programme area UWONET focused on inclusion of women in post conflict recovery and engagement with stakeholders. UWONET built capacity of 300 district technical staff and CSOs in Kitgum, Pader, Lamwo and Agago districts in gender-responsive planning. As a result of these capacity skills development

sessions, district NAADS groups for women in the districts of operation were formed.

In addition, in Agago and Pader districts, women were included on School Management Committees as a result of the capacity building. Both the district leadership and the community at large particularly in the target sub counties of pajule, lira palwo, lokung and akwang in Pader; Agago Lamwo and Kitgum districts respectively recognise and appreciate the enhanced women's role in school management committees, water user committees and their benefit and participation in government development programmes for example NAADS, NUSAF, and CDD among others. The women are implementing different economic empowerment projects through government programmes for example under NAADS, they have been able to access agricultural inputs and knowledge; this has helped boost their economic well being.

Community capacities in monitoring Government Programmes

Community knowledge on government programmes, policies and financing were enhanced through development and dissemination of materials, skills development

sessions in communities in the districts of Kitgum, Lamwo, Agago, and Pader. This intervention has increased understanding of government programmes among community members as indicated by the increased questioning of government service delivery by communities. Through the project community watch dogs were established and trained; reported an overwhelming increase in community participation during sensitization on government programmes, vetting of beneficiaries and as a result, ownership of the programmes.

District and sub-county technical staff also received training on government programmes, policies and financing, and the importance of gender mainstreaming in these programmes and how to bridge the information and confidence gap in terms of social accountability between the communities and technical staff. A lesson learnt through programme implementation is that the state of the health system is a particular concern in these districts. While the communities can take actions on some issues, a more concerted advocacy effort on healthcare, targeting both local and central government is required. That is, linking the local activism to national advocacy.

UWONET together with iCON worked in 7 districts of Acholi to build capacity of CSOs, district leaders, technical staff, opinion leaders, cultural, religious, and the JLOS structures. Community driven initiatives for social actions were encouraged for improved service delivery. Through the capacity building and information sharing, one of the trainees was able to mobilize his community in Kalongo Sub County, Agago district to construct a primary school. The construction of the school was successful because of the concerted efforts of the community. Roles were shared amongst members of the community, i.e; women participated in gathering grass and collecting water while the men cleared the land, made the

mad brick and actual construction of the school structure. Currently, it is the only primary school in the village with about 200 children between the ages of 4–12yrs. All parents do contribute maize to the school for feeding children and teachers, who are supported with food in lieu of salaries. The communities desire is to have the school be taken as a public school with entitlements of public support.

Monitoring and advocacy for implementation of UNSCR 1325

UWONET coordinates the national UNSCR 1325 taskforce initiatives and efforts. The taskforce is composed of 15 national organization with over 15 local organizations. The task force members implement and monitor government commitments under the four pillars of the UNSCR 1325 including Participation of women in peace building, leadership and decision making, Protection of women against SGBV, Prevention of women against SGBV and Relief and Recovery (PPPR). UWONET's roles involve organizing taskforce coordination meetings which provide space for reflection, information sharing and joint strategic planning to address the still existing gaps. This has increased networking and coordination among members.



Kalongo Primary School in Agago District. School was built by community members

Focus Area 4: Women's economic rights and justice

Women's economic rights and justice is imperative to address both basic needs and strategic rights of women. It has also increasingly emerged as a cross cutting issue in our interlinked programme areas. For instance, regarding GBV and the establishment of safe shelters, it is recognized that economic empowerment is one strategy for the economic independence of GBV survivors.

In 2012, UWONET developed a programme with partner organizations – Uganda Women's Trust and FSU, recognising that women's economic empowerment serves not only to generate income for women but also to provide the social benefits that come from women's enhanced status and independence including aspects such as reduction of fertility rates and support towards education. Women's economic empowerment is therefore a means towards

the realization of broader goals of social transformation. The programme specifically focuses on women in agriculture recognizing that the sector is key to rural livelihoods and women are significant actors in it. The programme approach is through policy analysis and advocacy with a view to ensuring more gender responsive agricultural programme formulation and implementation. In addition, the Women and Agriculture Programme also interfaces with our programme on Social Accountability specifically Government Policies, Programmes and financing through advocating for more support to women farmers in existing Government Programmes such as the National Agricultural Advisory Services. This programme continues to be the centre piece in all UWONET's interventions for the attainment of gender equality.

Focus Area 5: Legal Reform

Policy and legislative reform in support of women's rights is an indicator of social transformation. UWONET took forward the policy discussion on the 2010 recommendations of the CEDAW committee on Uganda's

Joint 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) report and the civil society response. The approach was to advocate for the recommendations to be incorporated into

the Justice Law and Order Sector Strategic Investment Plan III. In a review of the interface between the CEDAW recommendations and the JLOS SIP III, UWONET identifies opportunities through the SIP III to further influence strategic actions to eliminate discrimination against women including institutional arrangements for the involvement of CSOs and development of sector strategies/ plans for the SIP III. The JLOS SIP III development process was concluded by end of June where a number of CEDAW concluding observations that are geared towards enhancing services delivery by JLOS for women and girls were incorporated in SIP III;

- Efforts to develop a JLOS gender strategy was on-going (draft existent)
- SIP III's policy focus shift under civil and criminal justice included addressing GBV
- SIP III provides an approach to adopting a programmatic and systematic approach to gender mainstreaming with the existence of Gender champions in the sector and gender focal persons in each institution-trained and equipped with practical tools for gender mainstreaming.
- JLOS committed to supporting the Transitional Justice mechanisms and build its service delivery in criminal justice.
- A committed strategy highlighting Guidelines for Prosecution of Sexual and Gender-based crimes was included.
- JLOS intended to fast track the enactment of pending legislation. i.e. the Sexual Offences Bill, Marriage and divorce laws among others.
- Commitment from the sector to undertake Gender analysis to inform priorities and implementation
- SIP III acknowledges the role of NSA's in the JLOS structure for promotion of pro- growth in Uganda.
- JLOS institutions under SIP III will give special consideration for access to services to children, poor women etc. this will be done through tracking institutional performance.
- JLOS will ensure institutions promote human rights principles, social accountability measures strengthened

and institutions understand national and international obligations.

- One of the thematic area priorities under Transitional Justice in the sector now aims to promote women and children's rights to access justice, basic services and accountability for past human rights violations and war crimes, among others. With the full implementation of the priority areas incorporated in to the SIP III, a number of the recommendations from the CEDAW Committee will be implemented.

UWONET developed a CEDAW monitoring tool on implementation of the CEDAW recommendations by the JLOS institutions—specifically Judiciary, Prosecution, Law Enforcement, Prisons, Probation and LC structures—at district level. Documentation will inform the CSO alternative report to the CEDAW committee in 2014. The monitoring tool serves the dual purpose of information generation and awareness creation on CEDAW as an instrument; and, the responsibilities of duty bearers and rights holders to ensure its implementation.

Advocacy for Law Reform

Advocacy initiatives on the Marriage and Divorce Bill, Sexual Offences Bill and the Muslim Personal Law Bill went beyond the national level to the districts. We engaged with Parliament and reached consensus on various articles; and worked closely with the media to influence public opinion on the Bill. As a result of these efforts, UWOPA included the Marriage and Divorce Bill in the Common Women's legislative agenda; and the Bill was also included on the order paper of the 9th Parliament. Work was more on demystifying provisions in the MDB and carried out policy analysis on new emerging issues; a similar process was undertaken for the SOB; and informed our advocacy efforts on both pieces of legislation.

Reforming the Evidentiary requirements on SGBV

The advocacy efforts on Police Form 3 and 3A which is applied by law enforcement agencies to record medical practitioner's evidence in cases of sexual violence including rape and defilement is one of the most notable achievements of the women's movement. Previously, this form could only be duly filled by a Police surgeon (a qualified doctor who has a central role in examining

children and obtaining forensic evidence for any legal procedures) – of whom there were only 4 in the country – to provide evidence admissible in courts of law; with the exception being the rare occasions of judicial activism. The new PF3 and 3A is more responsive to victims needs and can be filled in by a Medical Doctor or a registered Midwife. UWONET advocated for its adoption based on the pragmatic position that a victim of sexual violence cannot receive justice with such severe restrictions on the burden of proof. With its adoption, we urged Local Governments and JLOS structures to make it widely available. In Katakwi the district local government supported photocopying to ensure availability of the form; while in Yumbe, the district leadership indicated that this will be included in the plans and budgets for PRDP financing next financial year.

Implementation of newly enacted legislation

While UWONET engaged in advocacy to influence the enactment of pro-women legislation, UWONET also realized that

dissemination of the new legislation is inadequate impacting on its effective implementation. Specific reference is made to the Domestic Violence Act, although we carried out training for district JLOS structures on this new legislation last year, in the districts of operation subsequent follow up revealed that it was not being applied. Several district JLOS structures had also neither received the new law nor its regulations from the central government. It is therefore important that advocacy process includes follow-up with those institutions responsible for the legislation in the case of newly enacted legislation to ensure that it is efficiently rolled out for effective implementation. In addition, sustained training is required for institutions to adapt to change notably the JLOS institutions so as to adjust to use of the DV Act as opposed to the sole use and reform to the penal code – which they are more familiar with—for cases of domestic violence.

NETWORKING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

This focuses on continually building and strengthening networking, coalitions and partnerships which is key for its advocacy efforts to achieve the desired impact.

Focus Area 1: Social Movement–building

Social movements are critical for mobilization and collective action to realize social change. Our programme focuses on building a strong and cohesive movement for the realization of women's rights in Uganda. We have nurtured the formation of community groups of women and supported civic action in favour of women and children's rights including action to show solidarity with the victims of nodding disease. We recognized the enormous potential of young people to become women's rights activists and continued to implement the Internship/ Mentoring Programme which provides an opportunity for 6 young women and men to hone their leadership skills through a 9-month internship at UWONET Secretariat. And, finally, we created a space for women and gender-responsive men to reflect, review and revive the

women's movement in Uganda through the first ever national women's week. This space offered us the opportunity to rejuvenate and link our individual and institutional strengths to work in solidarity for the attainment of women's rights; and enabled each participant to recognize that we are part of a bigger whole—The Uganda Women's Movement.

In strengthening the social movement for women's rights synergies have been built between local and national activism through support to the formation and strengthening of both community groups and District Women's Networks/organizations for collaborative action. Among these are Abim Women Together in Development in Abim District, Amuria Women's Network in Amuria District; Toroma women



Women activists from the various district based organizations at the Launch of the National Women's Week

in struggle Alliance in Katakwi district and Pallisa Women's Network in Pallisa district, Gulu Women Economic Development And Globalisation (GWED-G), Kitgum Women Peace Initiative (KIWEPI). In Kitgum, Forum For Kalongo Parish Women Association (FOKAPAWA) In Agago, Women In Rural Development Network (WORUDET), Pader; Organisation Development For Women In Lamwo District; Nakere Rural Women Activists, Kotido District Many of these organizations have expressed interest in becoming affiliated

to UWONET; an indication that the disconnect between local and national activism is being bridged.

United Women Can: Celebrating 50 Years of Women's Contribution to Uganda's Development

The purpose of the week was to honour 50 years of Uganda's independence by hosting a week dedicated to the contributions of women to Uganda's Development; provide a platform for reflection towards building a



Hon Tezira Jamwa(one of the few women in the constituent assembly) and others at one of the sessions

strong women's movement and voice; create opportunity for networking, information-sharing, shared learning and peer review; bridge the gap between the grassroots and national women's initiative, across class and develop a campaign that reaches all women.

The week began with a charity drive to Gulu and Kitgum districts in support of the victims of nodding disease and to the Uganda Cancer Institute to visit female patients. In both instances

donated items were delivered to the patients and their families. This was in response to the dire need and in recognition that advocacy actions must sometimes be complimented with an effort to address the basic needs of the most vulnerable.

As part of the week, an exhibition was organised alongside a 3 day Conference. The exhibition space was a hive of activity with professional services offered including cancer screening

and blood donation; organizations sharing their work and publications; and individuals and organizations in the pursuit of economic empowerment selling natural products including honey, jewelry and eco-friendly cooking stoves in a drive for sustainable development.

The conference was a celebration of achievements of the Ugandan woman. 28 thought-provoking workshops were held each spurring active engagement on the trajectory of Uganda's development, the past, present and future of the women's movement in light of

political, economic, social, cultural and religious considerations. Inspiration emanated from special talk sessions; individual, organizational and collective achievements and lessons learnt; faith; music, dance and drama; and the ability to connect or re-connect with each other.

The outcome of the week included visioning on women's rights and gender equality; and, commitments to strengthen the women's movement including practical actions for collaboration to realize social change.

Focus Area 2: Mentorship

The Mentorship Programme for Young Leaders yielded results in terms of personal empowerment through strengthening the interns self esteem and providing them with exposure. Selection of the Interns is based on their skills and leadership potential through demonstrated passion for women's rights issues. They therefore bring an added value to UWONET. This year, one intern provided support to the organization in the resource centre and strengthening of the IT function. The interns were involved in GBV indexing / documenting the type, nature and frequency of

GBV cases; and participated in various activities including exhibitions.

They have become advocates of women's rights issues and can speak confidently on these issues. For instance, Allan Kikaawa who moved on with Total E&P Uganda mentioned that under the programme on compensation for resettlement of people formerly resident in the oil zones of the Albertine region in the districts of Nebbi and Nwoya in the sub counties of Pakwach, Pakech and Pulong, he initiated a gender approach where husbands come



Hon. Miria Matembe chats with young ladies and advises them on lifestyles

along with their wives during the compensation process. “This was because i noticed that women were being left out yet they hugely contribute in the farms and building of the homes for which their husbands were being compensated”. Allan Kikaawa.

He attested to the fact that the knowledge to do this kind of gender analysis and mainstreaming was acquired while at UWONET. In addition,

several interns have received employment offers as a result of their participation in this programme. Over the years, lessons have been learnt that the successful implementation of the internship programme can be strengthened by taking up some of the great ideas and innovations of the young people. However, these would require vigorous resource mobilisation and support from various institutions and stake holders.

In a bid to bridge knowledge, information and generational gap among young people and senior women activists, UWONET organized a dialogue for university leaders on GBV, as part of the celebrations to mark 16 days of activism under the theme, “GBV has the face of the elderly and illiterate.” The Purpose of this dialogue was to deepen their understanding of the manifestations and dimensions of GBV and in a move to raise awareness about the fact that GBV also exists among young people and thus the need for them to steer initiatives to minimize these incidences. The students shared some of the manifestations of GBV in their institutions such as some universities refuse girls that are

pregnant from sitting for their exams; lecturers treat female students to be less intelligent than the boys; lecturers intentionally hiding female students' marks so that they can 'sleep' with them, female students are being abused by their boyfriends because they financially depend on them, among others. To overcome these degrading and gross abuse of women's rights, a number of strategic interventions need to be put in place and implemented. For example, encouragement of girls education, sensitisation on sexual and gender based violence, personal empowerment, self esteem and economic empowerment for young women among others.

Focus Area 3: Coalitions and Memberships

Part of the efforts towards building of social movements, UWONET is part of and identifies with several issue-specific coalitions. These include:

1. The Coalition on the Marriage and Divorce Bill; co-ordinated by UWONET
2. The CSO Coalition on CEDAW; co-ordinated by UWONET
3. The Coalition on UNSCR 1325; co-ordinated by UWONET
4. The Steering committee on Pluralism and Knowledge Programme-Cross Cultural Foundation
5. The Steering committee on the International Criminal Court; co-ordinated by HURINET
6. Raising her Voices-maternal health under the Maputo Protocol; co-ordinated by AMWA
7. The Coalition for a Gender responsive PRDP; co-ordinated by Isis-WICCE

8. The Uganda Women Speak out Campaign on Nodding Disease; co-ordinated by UWONET, Isis-WICCE and FIDA.
9. Solidarity for African Women's Rights (SOAWR)
10. UWONET condinates UN Joint Programmes Gender Equality, Gender Based Violence and 7th GoU/UNFPA Country Programme
11. Women Democracy Group

No	Organisation	UWONET's Participation in 2012
1.	Uganda National NGO Forum	Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform – provided analysis and follow-up of women specific issues in the citizens manifesto Joint action to address the breakdown of public accountability
2.	Uganda Land Alliance	Women's Land Rights' Movement; contributed to the ULA newsletter
3.	MWENGO	Regional workshop on constitutional reform processes and the maintenance of constitutionalism
4.	EASSI	Information sharing and participation on the EASSI Board
5.	FEMNET	Information sharing
6.	UDN	Information and participation in debt and expenditure tracking initiatives

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Institutional strengthening is aimed at building UWONET's capacity to realise its mandate. The approach is three-fold: capacity building of the Secretariat, development of internal membership systems of reflection, management and administration of the network. Specific actions included in-house training for staff in facilitation Skills, taxation and team building. The training and coaching in facilitation skills was conducted by the Institute for Social Transformation. This helped to equip staff with different styles of facilitation; principles and values of facilitation; how to prepare, plan and design a good facilitation process; how to effectively facilitate a process; tips to deal with disrupters, challenges, conflict; and how

to evaluate a facilitation process. Secondly, training on taxation was conducted by Ernst and Young and this among others enhanced staff skills on how to file corporation tax. Finally a team building session was held for the Board and Staff. As a result, the staff was able to view themselves as members of an interdependent team as opposed to being individual workers.

The session was so interactive– it included a variety of practical practices involving simple bonding exercises and games.

In addition different staff members attained trainings relevant to their programme focus organized by the several partners as detailed in the table below;

TITLE OF TRAINING	STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	CONVENER	LESSONS LEARNT
Pastel	Edith Nabuzana and Anthony Nakhayima	Vastech Kampala District	Using Pastel Accounting Package ensures accuracy when preparing financial reports.

TITLE OF TRAINING	STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	CONVENER	LESSONS LEARNT
Peace Building and conflict resolution. Lessons for NGOs working in conflict sensitive environments	Sarah Jesca Agwang	UNFPA Gulu District	Conflict sensitive approaches are important in programming to avert possible situations where organizations activities are likely to cause conflict taking the communities back to crisis. This approach was carefully applied during the social accountability projects implemented in Acholi, Karamoja and west Nile.
Web 2.0 and Social Media	Sandra Komuhiimbo	Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET) Kampala District	Social media is quickly becoming the best way to get your message to the widest number of people. The advantages of using social media include: low (or no) hard costs for set-up; potentially wide reach; quick/instantaneous sharing of messages; new opportunities to listen, engage, and monitor your progress.

TITLE OF TRAINING	STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	CONVENER	LESSONS LEARNT
Taxation	Edith Nabuzana and Alice Ndyabawe	Institute of Certified Public Accountants Kampala District	Filing Corporation tax is a legal requirement for the organisations. When the organisation files corporation tax she avoids getting fined by URA
Human Rights Standard and National, Regional and International protection mechanism	Susan Labwot	The Human Rights Centre Uganda Kampala District	Skills and knowledge on national, regional and international protection mechanisms Knowledge on referral for human rights defenders Knowledge on the office of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders

In addition co-ordination was enhanced through articulation of co-ordination mechanisms in interventions involving member organizations and partners at both national and district levels.

Several forums have been instituted to support reflection and learning within the organization. These include programme and staff meetings; an annual staff retreat and an annual board-staff retreat. All the forums have collectively improved

institutional management and programme implementation leading to a growing sense of confidence in the work UWONET does. Among the reasons attributed for this success are:

1. The organizational strategies are more pro-people and involve local activism
2. There is regular interface with the district local governments in the districts where UWONET programmes are implemented
3. Production of information and documentation
4. Objectivity and focus on issues that women appreciate

5. Recognition of the membership
6. Utilisation of social platforms for advocacy and information-sharing

This has led to a shift in perception of UWONET by several institutions demonstrated by their request for support in certain areas; for instance the Church in addressing GBV; the Police and Government Institutions. UWONET views these requests as advocacy opportunities which then are approached with the same level of objectivity applied to all her work.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



A community member in Buyende district information material published by UWONET

Our approach to information management is to increase knowledge and understanding of women's rights and gender through information sharing and capacity building amongst members and stakeholders. In 2012, UWONET ensured optimal utilization of social media tools to advance her advocacy agenda. This included twitter and face book; both of which showed a growth in the on-line community accessing information on UWONET. Our followers on Twitter have grown to 200 and our fans of the Face book page have grown to 340 over the year. The online community has generally grown covering 18 countries.

The UWONET website remains both active and interactive. UWONET documents are uploaded onto the website and can be downloaded by any individuals interested in them. The document most frequently downloaded during the year included: The CSO Alternative Report on Uganda's Implementation of CEDAW and the

Advocacy Skills Training Manual and CSO Alternative Report on Uganda's Implementation of CEDAW with 3140 and 2707 downloads respectively. This implies that many individuals/ institutions are interested in UWONET's approach to advocacy.

UWONET runs an E-mailing list that comprises of her members, allies, and partners. UWONET also facilitates online conversations with spaces such as the Uganda Feminist Forum that brings together Ugandan Feminists to deliberate on issues of key concern to the movement. UWONET also shares information widely with several list-serves such WOUGNET, ACFODE, and UWMA. During the year the 'A glance at the news' – UWONET daily news update continued to run. Through this update UWONET shares information on gender-specific and other topical issues covered in the media. Feedback on the update is positive.

COMPLIMENTS

Thank you very much for the news update. I take this opportunity to wish you and all friends at UWONET A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. You ladies touched many lives this year including mine, and I know God will bless you for it. Joyce Baayenda

It's a pleasure to receive the information on the launch of the amended Police Form 3, I congratulate UWONET for the hard work and struggle to change the women's a reality. Best wishes, Gladys Canogura

Thanks allot for the information. Please keep the fire burning. Long live UWONET. Elliot Orizaarwa, Women and Girl Child Development Association

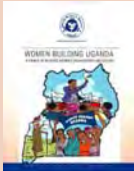
I enjoyed this news bulletin. Regards, Emmanuel Manishimwe, Country Director, Emberplus Uganda.

I thank you for the initiative you have started to share with us the current affairs within the realm of our work. But above all sharing also the information in the available call for proposals. Thank you so much UWONET. This will make our funds mobilization easier. Mukasa Daniel Muwanga Jack, Slum Aid project

On behalf of the civil society Organization, community ,leadership of Kitgum and on my own behalf I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your concerns with the families affected by Nodding Disease, solidarity and kind heart as inspired citizen who are responsible and God/Allah loving people. May God bless you all. Thank you. Gladys Canogura

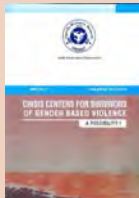
Thanks for the updates. Great food for thoughts. Esta, Gabula Atudde Women's Grip

UWONET Publications 2012

No.	Title of Publication		Purpose
1.	<i>Report of the Experiential Learning on the Feasibility of GBV Shelters/ Crisis Centres in Support of GoU/ Irish Aid Programme to Address GBV in Busoga Region</i>		<i>The report presents findings on issues of accessibility, availability, acceptability and sustainability of the GBV Shelters and crisis centres as a response mechanism to GBV.</i>
2.	<i>Women Building Uganda: A Profile of Selected Women's Organisations and Groups</i>		<i>Profile of a range of organizations making significant contribution towards the advancement of women's rights in Uganda</i>
3.	<i>Integration of the Concluding Observations and Recommendations of the CEDAW Committee into the JLOS SIP III 2012/13 – 2016/17</i>		<i>Considers policy convergence between the CEDAW recommendations and the SIP III; what was included and actions to address the issues not included.</i>
4.	<i>United Women Can: Celebrating 50 years of Women's Contribution to Uganda's Development Programme of the Week</i>		<i>Synopsis of the Women's Week including workshop abstracts.</i>

No.	Title of Publication		Purpose
5.	<i>United Women Can: Celebrating 50 Years of Women's Contribution to Uganda's Development</i> <i>Policy Brief</i>		<i>Flagging of gender-specific advocacy issues during the Golden Jubilee.</i>
6.	<i>A Handbook on citizen's roles and responsibilities</i>		<i>To create awareness of the critical role citizens play in democratic processes and understand the importance of participation in government processes</i>
7.	<i>A simplified handbook on the roles and responsibilities of district and sub county political and administrative leaders</i>		<i>To create awareness on the role duty bearers both at district and sub county level play in democratic processes and enhancing service delivery</i>
8.	<i>Documentation of pluralism with in the women's movement in Uganda</i>		<i>Highlight the different diversities with the women's movement in Uganda, causes of pluralism and how it manifests within the movement</i>

No.	Title of Publication		Purpose
9.	<i>Advocacy skills training manual</i>		<i>To equip women and other stakeholders with skills to enhance their capacities to understand and monitor the implementation of service delivery in their communities and to influence local governments for gender sensitive and participatory planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes.</i>
10.	<i>Organization Development Manual for NGOS / CBOS</i>		<i>To address organizational needs of CBOs to be able to deliver their intentions and mandates</i>
11.	<i>Fact sheet on Violence Against Women and Amended Police Form 3 and 3A</i>		<i>To create awareness on the magnitude of prevalence GBV and share strategies to address the vice.</i>

No.	Title of Publication		Purpose
12.	<i>Crisis Centers for survivors of Gender Based Violence; A Possibility</i> <i>Policy Brief</i>		<i>This summarises study findings on issues of accessibility, availability, acceptability and sustainability of the GBV Shelters and crisis centres as a response mechanism to GBV. It further highlights policy proposals towards establishment of safety centres in the country</i>
13.	<i>Handbook on understanding government policies, programs and financing in local governments</i>		<i>To create awareness on the policy making process, government policies, programs, budget cycle and financing of programs in the social and economic sectors.</i>
14.	<i>A Baseline Survey on communities awareness and knowledge levels on government programmes, policies and financing</i>		<i>To assess community awareness and knowledge levels on government programs, policies and financing</i>
15.	<i>Simplified compendium of some international, regional and national legal instruments against gender based violence</i>		<i>To create awareness on the different international, regional and national legal instruments against GBV in order to generate an united front against which GBV can be reduced and overtime reduced.</i>

ADHOC ADVOCACY

In 2012, UWONET embarked on a number urgent action initiatives to revive advocacy on good governance and social justice in response to quality service delivery in the country. The initiatives aimed at shifting contexts to create new meanings and increase the visibility of the issues affecting the citizens of Uganda.

Media Advocacy

Media advocacy on GBV through indexing of cases from media reports for further lobby and advocacy with law enforcement officials and the judiciary is an ongoing effort. UWONET worked

with other gender-focused organizations including FIDA-Uganda to address some of the most blatant violations of women's and children's rights as reported by the media.



Hon. Miria Matembe (far right) during the press conference blamed the government for failing to do enough to save its citizens from people of Baro's nature claiming that he was advised to plead guilty to the offence so as to hide the details of the case

Among these was the case of Emin Baro, a pedophile who almost slipped through the justice system due to the flippant manner with which his case was initially handled by the police, prosecution and magistrate's court.



Solidarity visit by women of Uganda to Ingrid Turinawe

The process of handling this case exposed the flaws in a legal system that is sometimes compromised. Emin Baro a 53 year old Turkish national who came to Uganda six years ago as a tourist. He paid children between two-five thousand shillings (UGX 2000 and UGX 5000) equivalent of 1 to 2 USD to perform sex acts on him while he recorded and posted the

videos on Facebook and other online forums. It was revealed in court that he had abused 50 children most of them below 10 years. He was arrested, charged and convicted for computer misuse and possessing child porn. Before Nakawa Court Grade One magistrate Rosemary Ngabirano, Baro pleaded guilty and he was fined Six Million shillings (6,000,000

UGX) which he paid. Through a concerted advocacy effort, UWONET and FIDA-U rose up and expressed their fury forcing the police to re-arrest him. 'The disks, photographs, and videos of child pornography talked about were not produced as exhibits for court to satisfy itself that it was child pornography,' argued High Court Judge Justice Faith Mwendha. She ordered that the paid fine of Six Million shillings (6,000,000 UGX) be given back to Baro. He was then charged with 13 aggravated accounts of defilement.

Women activists under UWONET led by the Association of Uganda Women Lawyers (FIDA – Uganda) called on government to charge Emin Baro with 50 counts of defilement to represent the 50 children revealed in court. The activists demanded for the compensation and counseling of the 50 girls who were molested by Emin Baro.

Hon. Miria Matembe blamed the government for failing to do enough to save its citizens from people of Baro's nature claiming that he was advised to plead guilty to the offence so as to hide the details of the case.

Other specific cases included the indecent manner with which a female opposition politician-Ingrid Turinawe also head of the Women's League of the Forum for Democratic Change was arrested by the police and the presidential pardon of Sharma Kooky who together with his younger brother killed his wife Renu Joshi in 2000. The women's movement like other Ugandans was outraged by the manner in which Ms Ingrid Turinawe was arrested when she was reportedly on her way to an "unauthorized" rally by the "For God and My Country" (4GC) movement on 20th April 2012. Television footage clearly showed that, as several officers tried to pull her out of her vehicle, another grabbed and squeezed her breast - and she was heard shouting out in pain. In the same footage, Ingrid mentioned that her arms had been twisted and squeezed and also that her breasts were oozing blood because they were squeezed by the police officers. On Wednesday 25th April 2012 - the Uganda Women Parliamentarians Association (UWOPA) on behalf of a Consortium of 14 women's organizations and human rights activists made a statement on the floor of Parliament to condemn the sexual assault on Ms Ingrid Turinawe and other women suspects.

Uganda Women Network led a team of women's rights and human rights activists in a solidarity visit to Ms Ingrid Turinawe on Friday 27th April 2012 while hospitalized and contributed to her medical bill.

In response to this incident, UWONET transcended all political boundaries and delivered a clear and unequivocal message that the women's movement of Uganda will not tolerate the violations of the rights of any woman particularly from those meant to protect them. A further engagement with the Inspector General of Police-IGP organized by UWONET and FIDA-Uganda resulted into investigations and prosecution of the Officer who perpetuated violence.

In addition, the Association of Uganda Women Lawyers (FIDA-Uganda) together with UWONET organised a Press Conference condemning the release of Sharma Kooky, as an injustice to the women of Uganda. In 2000 Sharma Kooky and his younger brother Davinder Kumar were sentenced to death by the High Court of Uganda for killing his wife-Renu Joshi. She was beaten and electrocuted until she eventually died. After spending 12 years behind

bars at Luzira Maximum Prisons, President Yoweri Museveni pardoned Sharma Kooky on humanitarian grounds. Pardoning Kooky showed lack of commitment by government to fight domestic violence. The women demanded for boundaries to the Presidential Prerogative of mercy, and there must be justification before the prerogative is effected.

UWONET together with the larger women's rights organisations transcended all political boundaries and delivered a clear and unequivocal message that the women's movement of Uganda will not tolerate the violations of the rights of any woman.

The women Speak out Campaign

In addition to mainstream programme interventions, UWONET led the women's movement to launch a campaign under the theme "The Ugandan Women Speak Out Campaign – A Response to the Nodding Disease Syndrome. "Women Unite to Untie Ugandans from the shackles of poor governance in public healthcare systems". This was intended to raise support for children affected by nodding disease in the post conflict districts of Gulu, Pader, Lamwo and Kitgum.





UWONET staff - Sandra Komuhiimbo hands over donated items to a family affected by Nodding Disease at Padibe Health centre in Lamwo District

In 2009 the first case of the nodding disease was reported in Uganda, though recent reports in the media mention of an earlier case reported in 2002. As Ugandan Women celebrated the International Women's Day on March 8th 2012, the Women of Uganda decided to Speak Out

with a united voice on their deep concern about the poor response to and management of the issue of nodding disease which had so far caused the deaths of over 200 children and more than 3,000 were at the time affected in

the northern districts of Gulu, Pader, Lamwo and Kitgum.

The advocacy campaign initially focused on obtaining credible information through organization of a fact-finding mission to the affected districts. The next step was to address the immediate health concerns of those afflicted with the disease by urging government to commit resources towards healthcare, nutrition and research into the causative factors as this had not been clearly established but was only being deduced.

Further, a fundraising drive to solicit donations in form of food items, clothing and cash from the public for the victims and their families was carried out. The drive targeted colleagues, friends, family, organizations, companies, congregations at churches and mosques, shoppers at supermarkets among others. The public response was overwhelming. The items collected and purchased include; rice, beans, maize flour, sugar, soya porridge, soap, salt and clothes, among others.. A caravan code named Kitgum Karavan (KK) was organized to the affected areas to deliver the support for the victims and their families. The items

collected were delivered by a team of CSOs from UWONET, FIDA – Uganda, Action Aid International Uganda and the Inter religious Council of Uganda (IRCU), Kitgum Women Peace Initiative (KIWEPI) and Women in Rural Development Network (WORUDET). The victims and their families received these items while in hospitals, at health centres and in the communities. The K K reached 300 families affected by Nodding Disease in the four affected districts.

Civil society and the local media in the affected areas were also prompted by UWONET's response to take action in support of the patients and their families through engagement with the District Local Governments and a continued fundraising drive. Mega FM and GWED-G in Gulu district and WORUDET in Pader district have continued to open their doors to donations towards supporting the children and families affected by Nodding disease.

A second delegation visited the Havens of Hope home in Odek Sub County, Gulu District and Atanga Health Centre III in Pader District to deliver the humanitarian support for the affected families during the national women's

week that was organised between 1st–7th October 2012 to celebrate 50 years of women's contributions to Uganda's development as part of the national jubilee celebrations.

The concerted advocacy effort involving the women of Uganda led by UWONET, Members of Parliament, and the Media realized results in terms of prompting Government to provide resources to manage the medical response and research and engaging citizens to respond to this critical health concern.



Sandra Komuhiimbo (UWONET) and Betty Kugonza (ActionAid) handover donated items to a mother with a child suffering from Nodding Disease at Atanga Health Centre in Pader District

Today, we continue to receive items that people bring to the Secretariat and we pledge to continue delivering them.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND FINANCE

New and On-going Projects

UN Joint Programme on Gender Equality Funding Partner: UN Women Implementing Partners: National and in Gulu, Pallisa and Nebbidistricts Period: UGX 99,802,900	GoU/ UNFPA 7th Country Programme UNFPA Partners: National and in kaabong, Kotido, Moroto, Katakwi, Yumbe, Oyam, Mubende, Kanungu, Pallisa, Kitgum, Gulu, Mbarara, Masaka, Kween, Nebbi, Lira, Kampala districts UGX 481,803,270	GoU/ Irish Aid GBV Programme Irish Aid Partners: MGLSD, CEDOVIP and Mystic Media National and Jinja, Iganga, Mayuge, namutumba, Kaliro, Kamuli, Buyende, Bugiri districts in Busoga region UGX 524,024,000
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Peace building Fund Funding Partner: UNFPA Implementing Partners: National and in the 7 districts of Acholi UGX 381,695,555	UN Joint Programme on GBV Funding Partner: UNFPA Partners: National and in Gulu, Amuru, Pader, Kitgum, Kampala districts UGX 1,413,637,648	Women Democracy Group Funding Partner: DGF Partner: National and in Yumbe, Kanungu, Mubende, Oyam, Kaabong, Kotido, Ka- takwi and Moroto districts dis- tricts UGX 103,420,080
Programme on Social Ac- countability Funding Partner: EU Implementing Partners: National and in Kotido, Kaa- bong, Abim, Yumbe, Agago and Lamwo districts UGX 1,329,318,676	Enhancing women's role in social accountability processes in northern and north eastern Uganda. Funding Partner: Diakonia UGX 339,898,000	Enhancing women's partici- pation and representation in leadership and decision mak- ing processes Funding Partner: Dan Church Aid UGX 328,758,000
Promoting civic engagement in governance in post con- flict recovery communities in Northern Uganda Funding Partner: Austrian De- velopment Co-operation UGX 1,079,976,400	Knowledge and Pluralism in Ugan- da Funding Partner: Cross Cultural Foundation Uganda UGX 15,000,000	Raising Her Voices Project Funding Partner: Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA) UGX 11,489,000

Sustainability

In an effort to develop a sustainability plan for the organization, UWONET adopted strategies aimed at diversification of resources. These include: co-ordinated resource mobilization with other like-minded organizations and diversification of funding sources including fundraising from the private sector. All these strategies along with prudent financial management supported efficient and effective implementation of the programme of work.

Financial Statement

UGANDA WOMEN'S NETWORK

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Note	2012	2011
		Ushs	Ushs
Non-Current assets			
Property and equipment	7	313,886,753	257,990,672
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	8	219,458,453	30,231,184
Cash and Bank balances	9	1,151,174,749	920,727,170
		1,370,633,202	950,958,354
Total assets		1,684,519,955	1,218,949,026

FUNDS & LIABILITIES

Funds

Restricted fund	10	940,761,383	815,491,042
Capital fund	11	313,886,753	267,990,672
General fund	12	369,078,260	50,799,312
		1,623,726,396	1,134,281,026

Liabilities

Creditors and accruals	13	60,793,559	84,668,000
Total Funds and Liabilities		1,684,519,955	1,218,949,026

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 26-02-2013 and were signed on its behalf by:



Chairperson

Hon. Sheila Kawamara Mishambi



Treasurer

Rosemary Mirembe Lukholo



Executive Director

Rita Aciro Lakor

ORGANISATIONAL GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING

Designation	Board of Directors	Organisation
<i>Sheila Kawamara–Mishambi</i> Chairperson		Individual Member
<i>Patricia Munaabi Babiha</i> Vice Chairperson		FOWODE
<i>Rosemary Lukholo Mirembe</i> Treasurer		Formerly SEND A COW
<i>Josephine Kalule</i> Executive Secretary		Uganda Women's Trust (UWT)
<i>Beatrice Mukasa</i> Member		School of Women and Gender Studies, MUK
Rita Aciro Lakor Ex-officio		Executive Director

Management and Staff

RITA ACIRO LAKOR



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Finance team



Alice Ndyabawe
Finance and Administrative Manager



Edith Nabuzaana
Finance Officer



Anthony Nakhaima
Accounts Assistant (from Aug 2012)

Programme team



Betty Kasiko Ikanza
Director of Programmes



Laureen Karayi
Programme Officer, Policy Advocacy
Research and Information



Sarah Agwang
Programme Officer, Women
Peace and Security



Gertrude Kabanyoro
Programme Officer, Women
Governance and Democracy



Sandra Komuhiimbo
Communications and Information
Officer



Rita Dradrimiyo
Programme Assistant, Networking
and Capacity building (Mentorship
and Young People's Programme)



Susan Labwot
Programme Assistant–Policy
Advocacy, Research and Information



Julian Naluwooza
Programme Assistant, Networking and
Capacity Building (Membership and
Constituency Building)



John Kazibwe
Information Technology Officer

Administrative team



Margaret Mugenyi
Administrative Secretary and
Personal Assistant to the
Executive Director



Sayda Nankwanga
Administrative Assistant



Alex Dralega
Office Assistant



Kagwa Twalibu
Driver



Jude Okesya
Driver



Madina Nabosa
Welfare



Samuel Butale
Security Officer (from November 2012)

Interns and Volunteers



Christine Koli
Intern



Miria Anyagurat
Intern



Allan Kikaawa
Intern (until August 2012)



Anja Katrine Søndergaard
Intern (until June 2012)



Charlotte Asimwe
Intern (until April 2012)



Robert Lorenzo Elliott IV
Intern (until June 2012)



Flavia Ajok
Volunteer



Yvonne Komuhendo
Volunteer

UWONET Organisational Members

1. Action for Development (ACFODE)
2. Association of Uganda Women Medical Doctors (AUWMD)
3. Association of Uganda Women Lawyers (FIDA-U)
4. Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP)
5. Community Development Resource Network (CDRN)
6. Department of Women and Gender Studies Makerere University (WGS)
7. Disabled Women's Network and Resource Organisation (DWNRO)
8. Empower Children and Communities Against Abuse (ECCA)
9. Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE)
10. Isis Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE)
11. National Bahai Committee for the Advancement of Women
12. Send a Cow
13. Slum Aid Project (SAP)
14. Uganda Media Women's Association (UMWA)
15. Uganda Women's Finance Trust

16. Women Engineers, Technicians and Scientists in Uganda

Individual Members

1. Ms. Annette Tumwijukye
2. Ms. Debbie Kaddu Serwadda
3. Ms. Hope Kabuchu
4. Dr. Alice Kagoda
5. Ms. Judy Kamanyi
6. Dr. Mary Nabachwa Ssonko
7. Ms. Maude Mugisha
8. Ms. Veronica Namagembe
9. Hon. Sheila Kawamara–Mishambi

District Partner Organizations

District partner organization	District
Abim Women Together In Development (AWOTID)	Abim District
Forum For Kalongo Parish Women Association (FOKAPAWA)	Agago District
Gulu Women's Economic Development And Globalization (GWED-G)	Gulu District
Kitgum Women Peace Initiative (KIWEPI)	Kitgum District
Toroma Women In Struggle Alliance Group	Katakwi District
Women Rural Development Network (WORUDET)	Pader District
Karamoja Women Organizations Umbrella (KAWOU)	Moroto District
Teso Women Peace Activists (TEWPA)	Soroti District
Nakere Women's Group	Kotido District
Acowa Women Peace Initiative	Amuria District
Dodoth Agro Pastoral Development Organization (DADO)	Kaabong District
St Monica Women's Group	Kaabong District
Organization For The Development Of Women In Lamwo (ODWOWUL)	Lamwo District
Women Of Purpose	Pallisa District
Yumbe Gender Based Violence Network (YUGNET)	Yumbe District

[illegible]

LOOKING FORWARD

Looking forward, we believe in the continued growth of a cohesive and vibrant women's movement responsive to the broader goals of social transformation and the realities the majority of women in this country continue to experience.

2013 is the final year of implementation of our current strategic plan. At the institutional level, we will therefore conduct an end term evaluation then initiate and finalise the process of development of a new organizational strategy. Both complementary processes will involve our entire membership and partner organizations and institutions.

We will continue to broaden our partnerships and build on our co-ordination role for effective engagement on critical issues of concern to women; and joint implementation of on-going programmes as well as new initiatives. We will further strengthen our institutional capacities to realize our broader organizational goals through remaining a learning organization, committed to the realisation of women's rights.

We remain focused on the achievement of a policy and legislative agenda responsive to the rights of women and will continue to advocate for legislation of the Marriage and Divorce Bill and the Sexual Offences Bill as well as effective implementation/ enforcement of existing gender-responsive legislation including the Domestic Violence Act.

Finally, we will further sustain convergence between community activism and national advocacy through continual building of a strong and rejuvenated women's movement operating in solidarity for effective advocacy and linking our individual and organizational strengths.



H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni with recipients of women achievers awards organised by UWONET and UWOPA



Uganda Police Force and Civil Society take the 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign to the streets. Police Officers and Civil Society members holding placards at various roundabouts in Kampala city to raise awareness on Gender Based Violence prevention and response.



Annual Album



Group photo of the 2012 UWONET staff



Group photo of the 2012 UWONET Board and staff



'Untie Uganda' Symbolic Press briefing to launch the Uganda Women Speak Out Campaign on Nodding Disease. Hon. Beatrice Anywar joined by other women to symbolise what mothers of nodding disease do to their children.



Kitgum Karavan Flag off to deliver donated items to the children and families by Nodding Disease in Northern Uganda. Hon. Matembe joined by others at the flag off.



Press Briefing ahead of the Launch of the Amended Police Form 3 and 3A. (Civil Society and Uganda Police). Hon. Sheila Kawamara Mishambi- Chairperson UWONET, Miss Judith Nabakooba, PRO Uganda Police and others at the press briefing.



Hon. Margaret Nantogo Zziwa officially opening the National Women's Week 2012 at Hotel Africana, together with, Hon. Betty Amongi, Hon. Sheila Kawamara, and Hon. Rukia Nadakama Isanga



A participant contributes during a mentorship session for Civil Society members in Karamoja region



Members of Mothers Union handover detergents to Rita Aciro Lakor the Executive Director UWONET a head of the charity drive to the Uganda Cancer Institute Mulago

About Uganda Women's Network

Uganda Women's Network (UWONET) is an advocacy and lobby network of national women NGOs and individuals, operating in Uganda. It was born out of the East African Women's Conference held in Kampala.

VISION

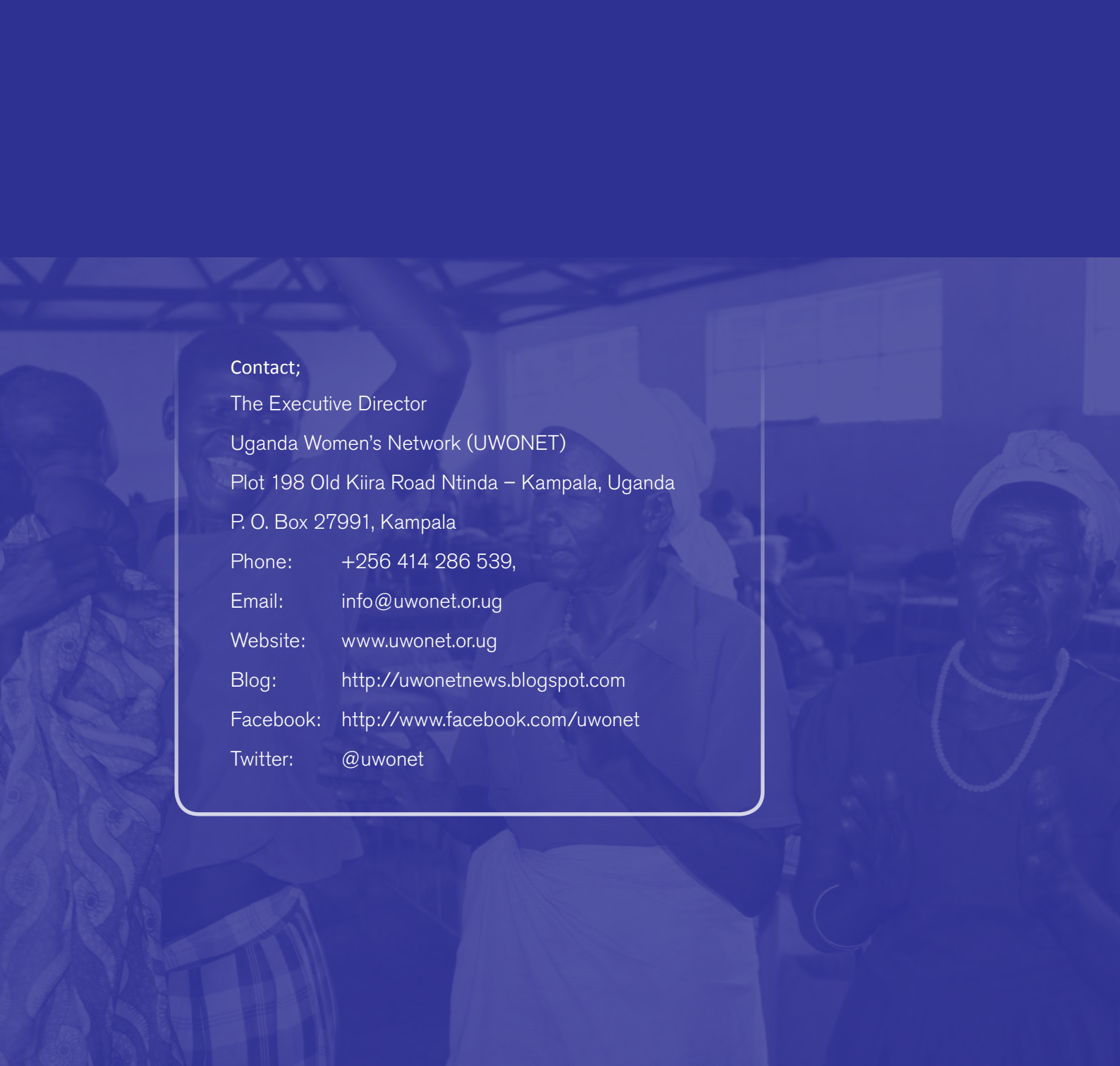
A Ugandan society free of all forms of gender-based discrimination.

MISSION

To co-ordinate collective action among members and other stakeholders through networking, capacity-building, resource mobilization, policy research and advocacy, for the attainment of gender equality in Uganda.

<i>Our Values</i>	<i>Our Principles</i>
Honesty	Equal Opportunity
Justice	Respect for All
Gender Equality	Time Consciousness
Accountability	Innovation and Continuous
Voluntarism	Learning
Mutual Respect	Service Oriented
Unity in Diversity	Mutual Support
Participation	





Contact;

The Executive Director

Uganda Women's Network (UWONET)

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Twitter: [@uwonet](https://twitter.com/uwonet)