



NEBBI DISTRICT NGO FORUM

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Group photo after Training of West Nile CBOs Training at AFARD Conference Hall facilitated by Uganda National NGO forum

DECEMBER 2022

About Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF)

Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF) with a current membership of over 85 civil Society Organizations (CSOs) was formed in June 2001, as a platform through which CBOs, NGOs and FBOs in the Greater Nebbi District can network, share information, influence policies and legislation and advocate for equitable development. The Forum is an umbrella organisation responsible for coordination of activities and sharing of information for all members of Civil Society Organisations operating in the 3 districts of the Greater Nebbi (Nebbi, Zombo and Pakwach) and supporting its Member Organisations (MOs) and the CSO fraternity to comply with the relevant laws and regulations governing CSOs operations in Uganda among others. NDNGOF is a member of the District NGO Monitoring Committee in Nebbi District in accordance with section 20(2)(e) of the NGO Act 2016.

The **VISION** of the Forum is ***a well-coordinated and strong Civil Society Organization in the Greater Nebbi Districts.***

The **MISSION** of the Forum is ***“to provide a platform for CSOs operating in the Greater Nebbi Districts to increasingly participate in development processes and contribute to policy dialogue through advocacy, networking, and information sharing”.***

The **GOAL** of the Forum is to develop civil the society into institution able to participate as effective partners in the conception, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, legislation and other aspects of development processes.

The Objectives of the Forum

The Forum sees itself as a platform whose existence is;

- 1) To enable CSOs harness their collective strength to advocate and lobby government and development partners for pro-poor policies and programmes
- 2) To promote good governance and human rights
- 3) To improve the institutional capacity of the Forum and its Member Organizations to effectively mobilize and utilize their resources to achieve their objectives
- 4) To improve networking and linkages among its MOs and between CSOs and development partners
- 5) To adequately, timely and reliably share information among its MOs to effectively mobilize and utilize their resources to achieve their objectives.
- 6) To do anything or activity that is legal to further the objectives of the Forum.

Mandates of NDNGOF

1. Capacity building of Member Organizations
2. Information sharing with MOs and other stakeholders
3. Carrying out advocacy and lobbying with MOs
4. Networking with Member Organizations
5. Implementation of pro-people project singly or jointly with member organizations

Membership

Membership is drawn from national and International NGOs, CBOs, and FBOs from the following Thematic Areas

- ✓ Good Governance and Human Rights
- ✓ Environment and Natural resources
- ✓ Education, training and Research

- ✓ Agriculture and livelihood
- ✓ Appropriate Technology
- ✓ Health, Water and Sanitation
- ✓ Women, youth, disabled and the elderly
- ✓ Etc.

PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED

- a) Alochi Ku Somu (AKS) Education Project in Zombo

Funders



NDNGOF received funds from COOPERAID – Switzerland the sum of UGX 486,499,044 (Four hundred eighty-six million four hundred four hundred ninety-nine thousand, forty-four thousand shillings only); NDNGOF Expect another batch of UGX 523,000,000 in 2023 to expand the project in the 4 new sub counties in year two of the project.

Project locations

NDNGOF operates in all the 3 districts of Nebbi, Zombo and Pakwach. However, the Alochi Ku Somu (AKS) Education project is located in Zombo only. In year 1 (2022), AKS is implemented in Zombo Town council (in Okoro County), Kango and Alangi Sub Counties in Ora County.



About to AKS project



During this reporting period, NDNGOF was engaged in various activities that included coordination CSOs in the areas of operation as well as and implementation of Project activities especially the AKS Project in Zombo District. The AKS Project is a 3year consortium project (2022-2024) being implemented by NDNGOF in conjunction with Life Concern (LICO) and CEFORD. The Consortium is directed by a steering Committee which is Chaired by Nebbi District NGO Forum which is also responsible for project reporting and communication with the donor. The AKS Project goal is to achieve an established active school management

and an established learning process for teacher teams in the project schools. In the first year 2022, the project rolled out into 3 sub-counties of Kango, Alangi and Zombo Town council with 29 government and private nursery and primary schools. NDNGOF is responsible for implementation of outcome 2: Improved learning and school governance. The objective focuses on trainings and activities for teacher teams, directors and school bodies (SMC/PTA).

ACHIVEMENTS

ALOCHI KU SOMU (AKS) PROJECT IN ZOMBO DISTRICT



Alochi Ku Somu (AKS) project is continued intervention of CO-OPERAID, Switzerland, and the Ugandan NGOs NDNGOF, CEFORD and LICO who are all established development aid actors in Zombo working toward improving education in Zombo district. This work was started way back in 2012. “Despite selective progress in some dimensions, the challenges remained glaring and effort is needed to ensure all children of school going age are enrolled in school. This requires all actors ranging from parents, the community, CBOs

and government actors to join hands and mobilise to promote education and help end poverty and illiteracy” the education authority of Zombo wrote in a 2019 report. The project aims is to improve infrastructures and therefore conditions for teaching and learning, but at the same time improve teaching and learning itself by offering trainings and the chance for enriched capacity/qualifications of teachers, directors/Head teachers and school governing bodies (SMC/PTAs).

The training component of the project aims at reaching a considerable part of the staff and actors of the education sector of Zombo. Trainings of trainers target directly about 8 Head Teachers and 10 Teachers annually, who are expected to become trainers of others (reaching additional 100 teachers). The same applies to SMC and PTA trainings. The trainings are an attempt to enforce the staff and members of school governing bodies to become the persons who develop education in Zombo. The recent perception of most actors still is that the solution of the problems of education will come from outside. The project aims at changing the mindset for education



actor to realize that they themselves are the solution to their problems. The trainings want to support the active part of the staff, enforce the positive deviance and create more role models. This process is led by the local NGOs and as representatives of the civil society, they lead and guide an important process for the development for the Zombo population.

The project focuses on basic education at primary schools and at kindergartens (Nurseries), but it has additional ambitious aims to touch other aspects of education. It also seeks to empower the role of Zombo youth and make their voice heard and to appreciate Education as a right and the youth given the chance to express this fact and express themselves.

Inception meeting



The AKS project was successfully launched at the Zombo district headquarters with full attendance of the technical and political leadership of the District. Also in attendance was the Prime Minister of Alur Kingdom and all the leaders pledged total support of the project during implementation. The meeting was attended by 50 different stakeholders including 7 district leaders, 9 selected sub-county leaders, 7 selected school head teachers, 7 SMC/PTA members, 1 representative of Alur kingdom (Prime Minister), 7 CBOs representatives, 12 members of Partner organizations.



Project Steering Committee Meetings



Project management team from all partner organizations in AKS met regularly (quarterly) to plan together and get feedback about the project. The committee chaired by NDNGOF held at least four meeting that was held at NDNGOF offices and attended by 9 members (NDNGOF = 3, CEFORD=3, and LICO=3). The steering committee was involved in planning and managing circumstantial occurrences that affected the project. Being a new project of the kind, many ideas were being explored and quick decisions were made to modify planned activities that were not working out.

Quarterly Radio talk show.

NDNGOF conducted 4 radio talk shows with purpose of Sensitization of key stakeholders on their roles and responsibility in education. Radio talk shows were conducted on Paidha FM 87.8 Radio Station usually between 7-8 pm. In the studio were usually 3-4 members comprising the Executive directors from NDNGOF and LICO and 2 project officers but also the staff from CEFORD from the same consortium organizations. Sub sequent Radio Talk shows were



conducted by Bikadho Patrick Othuma (AKS coordinator), Jalar Silvio Fred (DIS-Zombo), Kubi Rawlings (Director award winner) and Otimkisa Luke (SMC/PTA representative).

Mapping of CBOs and school baseline Survey.

NDNGOF Conducted the Baseline data collection to ascertain the status of the selected schools in order to develop a data base and plan for implementation of AKS Project. The data was also required for Identification of CBOs for school in order to engage them to support the schools in different aspects including establishing IGAs and school feeding programme in the project schools. 5 CBOs were mapped (Zombo MDD, Pimer family group, Aradu pi fur, Leke young star and Can pek group). 7 selected schools (Gamba, Ngele, Omua, Mathurumbe, Jubilant Canaan, Acamukech and Zombo upper) in Alangi, Kango and Zombo T.C were visited and data collected on teachers, pupils, teaching methods, time management, mode of assessment, learning environment, motivation strategies and career development among others. Most of the CBOs exhibited a dire lack of capacity and this led to NDNGOF coming up with a new strategy for involvement in the project. It was agreed that the new CBOs to participate in AKS should be newly created from the available members of the SMC/PTA and Mama & Baba Clubs who are already actively working for the project.



Assessment of school governing bodies (SMC/PTA).



Data was collected on SMC/PTA to assess how the membership is constituted, their level of qualifications as well as their performance level. 7 selected schools (Gamba, Ngele, Omua, Mathurumbe, Jubilant Canaan, Acamukech and Zombo upper) were visited by NDNGOF project officers and data collected on the activity of SMC/PTA. It was discovered majority of the members had low academic qualifications which affect their capacity to govern the school. This became a central issue during the advocacy meeting for the school stakeholders during review of the AKS Project.

Development of Training Manual on the Roles and Responsibilities of SMC/PTAs.

NDNGOF developed a Training Manuals and SMC/PTA Handbook to improve governance in the 21 selected. The use of the handbooks is however, not restricted to be used in only the project schools. Through multiplication training by the SMC/PTAs, nearly all the other schools within the district are able to receive the training as well as copies of the Handbooks. The SMC/PTA handbook was translated into the local language-Alur and approximately 180 copies were produced in addition to 531 English version. The Manuals has been shared with the District Education authorities and is being widely demanded by schools that were not lucky enough to be selected in the AKS education project, though during multiplication trainings, all schools received the handbooks



Training Of Trainers for SMC/PTAs



Training of the SMC/PTA members from the 7 selected schools was conducted by NDNNGOF. The trainings were facilitated by the District Education Officer (Mr Nicholas Odeba) and the Inspector of Schools (Mr Jalar Silvio). The key tool for the training was the handbook for SMC/PTA that was developed by NDNNGOF.

There were trained a total of 35 participants (24 males, 11 females) for the training as per the table below.

SN	SCHOOL	H/T	SMC	PTA	TOTAL
1	Gamba	1	2	2	5
2	Ngele	1	2	2	5
3	Omua	1	2	2	5
4	Acamukech	1	2	2	5
5	Jubilant Can	1	2	2	5
6	Mathurumbe	1	2	2	5
7	Zombo upper	1	2	2	5
	Total	7	14	14	35

The 35 members of the SMC/PTAs above were further engaged to train another 70 members of SMC/PTAs from in and around the sub county which are outside the 7 project schools. This is the multiplier effect of the original ToT that were conducted earlier. The members of the new schools equally received the handbooks to help them understand their roles in governance of the schools.



Multiplication Training by the 35 Teachers



low academic qualifications, part of the manual was produced in a local language (Alur).

One of the Key activities under the AKS Project is the Training of School Governing Bodies (SMC/PTAs). The training is focused on roles and responsibilities of the school governing bodies but also additional roles on mobilization of parents and communities to increase enrollment and to initiate and support school development projects. The training was based on a well-produced SMC/PTA Training Manual and participants handbook. Since assessment indicated that majority of the SMC/PTAs had very

Multiplication training for each of the 7 SMC/PTA teams was organized to reach 2 other schools each. 7 three-days Multiplication training was conducted at 2 different venues ie Jubilant Canaan and Golden N/P both in Zombo T. council the participants at Jubilant Canaan were from Patek Paduk & Golden N/P while Ray of Hope and Zombo Lower schools were at Golden N/P. Each school had 5 representatives with a total of 10 participants at each Centre giving the total of 20 participants and 4 trainers for the two venues. Of the participants at Jubilant Canaan 2f & 8m and at Golden 3f & 7m. The trainers at Jubilant Canaan were Mr. Chombe Tefilo and Nenungo Agnes (Zombo upper) coordinated by Ogenmungu Alfred from NDNGOF while the trainers at Golden N/P were Otimkuisa Luke and Odeya Vincent. This training was supervised by Mr. Bikadho Patrick Othuma the Project Coordinator.



Another set of training was conducted at Gamba P/S for Awusonzi and Eleze P/S and at Pasai P/S for Mvuranyi and Pasai P/S. Each school had 5 representatives giving a total of 10 participants at each venue. At Gamba there were 3f & 7m and at Pasai 92f & 8m). The trainers at Gamba were Odubi Alex Picho (Ngele) and Adokwun Sarah coordinated by Ogenmungu Alfred from NDNGOF. At Pasai the trainers were Mr. Kumakech Stanley (Gamba) and Openji John coordinated by Bikadho Patrick Othuma. And finally, another 3 days

training was conducted at Omua P/S for Lyanga, Angar and Kango P/S and at Kango for Luku, Nyang and Alube. At Omua P/S there were 2f & 13m and at Kango P/S there were 3female & 12 male. The facilitators at omua were Mr. Opini David (Omua), Jathonen Terence and Okumu Negujo Coordinated by Ogenmungu Alfred from NDNGOF and at Kango were, Obedling Faustino, Ongeitho Chrisanto and Odubi Alex Coordinated by Bikadho Patrick Othuma.

Training of SMC/PTAs on Income Generating Activities (IGAs).

The SMC/PTA members from the selected project schools attended training on income generating activities. The training was aimed at imparting to them basic skills for initiating and managing income generating activities to generate income from the local resources within the community to support education/schools. This initiative is aimed at equipping the school governing bodies to initiate their own income projects to sustain the achievements they have registered during the AKS project life time. The income generating projects could also benefit the pupils who learn from the projects and especially the proceeds of the projects could also be used to initiate school feeding programmes. The school feeding programme would especially attempt to address the challenge of high school dropout especially in the upper (Primary 5 – Primary 7) classes.



The 2 days training took place at Zeu Sub-County headquarter and the participants included the SMC/PTA members from the 7 selected schools each school represented by 5 members (1 head teacher, 2 SMC and 2 PTA). In this training there were 27 male and only 8 female participants. The lead trainer was Akenda Benson Ulama from NILOTRUST CO. LTD and assisted by NDNGOF project coordinator and project officers.

Capacity building for Teachers in Zombo District (PLC ToT).

The AKS 10 Award winning Teachers and the 8 Head Teachers from the 7 award winning schools plus the Head Teacher of the year were given a specialized Training in Professional Learning Community (PLC) training. The training was conducted by HIFADHI Africa Organization from Kenya. Professional learning community (PLCs) is an approach to professional development in which educators work collaboratively to learn about strategies to improve their craft and advance student learning. Typically, PLCs include small groups of educators who



meet regularly to explore new concepts, share expertise and insights from their teaching experiences, and engage in collective problem solving. Unlike traditional professional development sessions, teacher inquiries and reflections are at the heart of effective PLCs. Throughout this process, educators build knowledge by identifying what they need to learn in order to promote valued student outcomes. Effective learning communities also provide opportunities for frequent feedback and create a space for pupils to learn from each other and continually attempt to improve.



The PLC training aimed at building pedagogical capacity of local teachers to deliver quality education continuously. The PLC model also guaranteed transfer of the trained skills to other teachers through multiplication of lessons learnt. PLC allows teachers to collaborate, work together, and support each other in small working groups. Teachers can collaborate on lesson planning and preparation, execution of lessons in an interactive manner, evaluation and revision of teaching methodologies with colleagues and mentors etc. PLCs can build on

virtual correspondence but quarterly physical meetings are recommended for teacher groups in localized zones to ensure sustainability of trained skills beyond transfers, redeployment and/or retirement of senior and experienced teachers.

The 3 days PLC TOT Training was attended by 37 participants in the following categories: 2 District education department; 10 Award winning teachers; 4 Volunteer teachers; 8 Head teachers/Directors; 3 Sub County Chairpersons; Implementing partners; 4 NDNGOF staff; and 2 Media house (Radio Paidha and Rainbow FM from Nebbi). The trainees came up with action plans for pernal actions as well as outreach to new schools who were not part of the 7-project winner. Schools. All 25 schools within the project areas were eventually reached out.



PLC multiplication training



Outreach program for 18 Teachers was organized and they were able to reach out to all primary schools within the three project sub counties (Zombo T/C, Kango and Alangi Sub Counties). The various PLC multiplication Trainings took place at Awusonzi and Mvuranyi in Alangi sub-county. The lead trainers at Awusonzi were Akumu Josephat and Abiriga Modest from Gamba P/S, while Aparango Nestore (Ngele) and Piracel Irine (Pasai) were at Mvuranyi centre. For the other 10 participants Awusonzi 4, Ngele 3, Eleze 3 (3female & 7male). At Mvuranyi 4,

Gamba 3, and Ozorise 3 (4female & 6male). Another 3 days training was conducted at 2 different venues ie Pasai and Angar p/s. Participants at Pasai were, Angar cope, Angar, & Lyanga P/S. While at Angar we had Omua, Luku, Alube &Kango P/S. The facilitators at Pasai were Mr. Kubi Rawlinngs(Eleze) and Warom Emmanuel(Ngele) and Angar were Draleru Phoebe(Alube) and Opini David (Omua). There were 10 participants (1f&9m) at Pasai and 11 participants (2f&9m) at Angar. There was a male volunteer (Kumakech Godfred) from Kango making the number more by one. -The other training was conducted at Odoria P/S for teachers from Nyang, Ezoo and the host. There were 10 participants; Odoria=4, Ezoo=3, Nyang=3 (3female &7male). the facilitators were Ruku Annet (Luku) & Edema Jackson (omua) and coordinated by Bikadho Patrick Othuma (NDNGOF).

Capacity building for Directors/Head teachers



A TOT was organized for the 7 project school head teachers and 1 Director of the year award winner. The 3 days Training of Trainers workshop took place at Comfort guest house-Zombo Town Council to equip the school Heads with management skills, problem solving techniques and motivation strategies to improve school performance and increase pupil's enrolment and retention. In attendance were the 8 head teachers and 2 volunteers (altogether 8 male and 2 female Head Teachers).

The ToT was facilitated by Mr. JALAR SILVIO (the District Inspector of schools) and the co-facilitator was Mr. TOM ORWODHI, retired head teacher who doubles as secretary for Social services at the District Local Government of Zombo. The team combined and shared experience that should enable those with success stories to share with those who have not registered much success yet. This is all in effort to accomplish the key principle of the project to impart good skills and knowledge to other schools in the community.

Directors/Head Teachers Multiplier Training

The 8 head teachers were obliged to conduct the same training they received to the other schools through an outreach program. The 3 days training at 4 separate venues at Zombo upper and A Ray of Hope schools attended by 10 teachers at each venue totaling to 20. At Zombo upper the training was facilitated by Awekonimungu Peggy (Mathurumbe) and Wanican Joel (Patek Paduk) and at A Ray of Hope by Kumakech Alfred Zombo upper and Agwokothu James (Zombo lower).



The other 3 days training at 2 separate venues were at Jubilant Canaan and Golden Nursery and primary schools in Zombo town council. The schools that participated were; Patek Paduk, Jubilant Canaan, Mathurumbe, and Golden Nursery and Primary school. There were 20 participants from 2 different venues. The training at Jubilant Canaan was facilitated by Sunday Lydia (Zombo upper) and Ongiertho Charles (Acamukech). While the facilitators at Golden school were Okwonga Kennedy (Mathurumbe) and Jared (Jubilant Canaan). At Jubilant Canaan of the 10 participants 5 were male and 5 female respectively. While at Golden 7 were male and 3 females.

Exposure visits for award winning teachers and head teachers



Exposure visits for 10 award winning teachers and 8 head teachers to 2 selected best performing schools was organized for the 10 award winning teachers, 1 Director of the year and 7 head teachers of the selected project schools. The teachers and directors visited St. Kizito Ediofe orphans P/S and Arua Public primary schools both in Arua city. The group was accompanied by 3 staff of NDNGOF in the capacity of project coordinator, M&E officer and

Finance and Logistic Assistant. The teachers confessed that the exposure visit enabled them to see in practice what they learned in the PLC Training workshop. Each Teacher/ Director came up with individual plan of action to implement the lessons learned during the exposure visit. Indeed a lot of improvement was registered in the project schools as attested to by the District Education Officer.



Advocacy meeting with SMC Nomination Bodies.

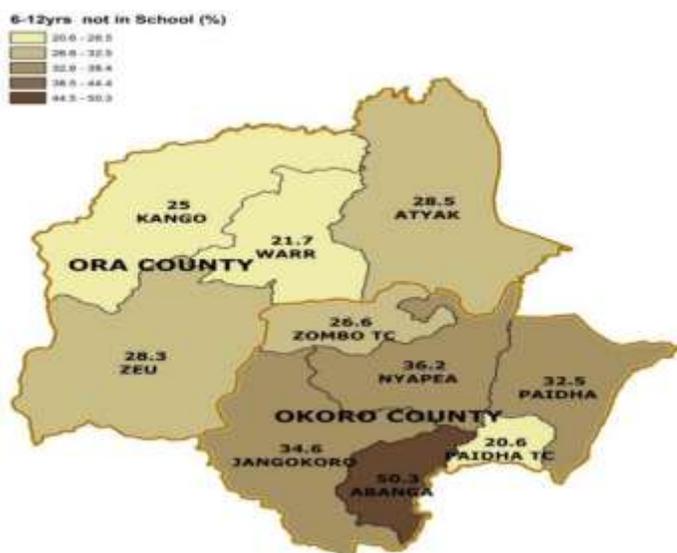


Advocacy meeting with Foundation bodies, District, Local council and Sub- County stakeholders was organized shortly after review of the project with the aim of urging the SMC nominating bodies to begin sending nominee who can ably turn around situations at schools. It was found out earlier on and confirmed during the meeting that the foundation bodies play key role in deciding who comes on the SMC and therefore the need to build consensus on competence of persons that should be nominated to the SMCs of the schools.

The meeting was organized for all SMC nomination bodies like Foundation, District education committee, Local council 3, Sub- County chiefs, Local council 2, Chairpersons PTA, DCDO and DEO among others. In attendance were 4 foundation body, 3 L.C.3, chairpersons, 3. LC2 chairpersons, 7 PTA chairperson, 3 district education committee members, 2 DEO, 1 CAO, 1 DCDO, 7 H/T, 3 Sub- County chiefs. = 37. (9females & 28males). The meeting was facilitated by E.D NDNGOF and coordinated by the project coordinator and Monitoring and evaluation officer. The meeting-built consensus on how the different stakeholders should play their roles effectively so as to improve education outcomes from the various schools.



Sensitization Meeting on the Need for Education Ordinance



NDNGOF engaged key stakeholders of the District on the need for a District ordinance on Education. According to Statistical Abstract for Zombo District published by UBOS 2017, the percentage of children (age 6-12) who are out of Primary Schools is **30.43 %** (National is 13%) representing more than 27,250 pupils who should be in primary school (in addition to the 63,590 enrolled before COVID19 lock down. The worst hit sub county is **Abanga with 50.3%** of the children at home. Moreover, only **14% of youths aged 13-18 years** are attending secondary school in Zombo District. (The question that begs is **“Where are the 86%?”**). It’s very certain that enrolment dropped further as a result of the

two years of closure of schools because of COVID19. This meeting resulted in a time plan for development of the Zombo District Local Government Education Ordinance 2023 which we hope will be achieved within the year 2023. By May 2023, the Bill for ordinance was already introduced in Council and copies of the Bill already published in the Newspaper and public places within the District.

Training of CBOS/Groups to support education



The 7 selected CBOs/Groups who were earlier on selected were trained in IGA with the purpose of equipping them with relevant entrepreneurial skill to initiate income generating activities that may support education outcome in the schools of their communities. It was however realized that most of the groups were not focused and many members bent on receiving the money without commitments to the schools agenda. The management of the AKS project resolved to form new groups comprising SMC/PTA/Mama & Baba clubs

because these are already people voluntarily helping the school to mobilize parents and other stakeholders to support school programmes and other school development initiatives.

This drive gave rise to formation of **AKS Wacopu Groups** formed in each and every project school of both 2022 and the lot of 2023. The group members are composed of SMC/PTAs and Mama & Baba Clubs within the project schools. These groups are thoroughly trained in group dynamics and are also trained in entrepreneurial skills so as to manage income generating projects in schools and also perhaps to initiate school feeding programmes to ensure children do not study on empty stomach which situation drive out many children from school especially the upper classes.



Challenges that affected AKS Project

- The project activities started late by March 2022 due to delayed funding as well as delay of partner organization to hand over the new schools in which to start intervention. Remaining activities were rolled over to 2023.
- The selection process of the beneficiary schools and teachers also delayed and when the list was submitted NDNGOF took over immediately. However, NDNGOF was able to squeeze the little time to implement activities in year one of the project.
- Delay in training of Kindergarten teachers due to indisposition of the training institution as the key leaders were on a long holiday in Europe. With further communication between NDNGOF and the training center, a training was arranged and executed in early 2023
- CBOs work/IGAs being delayed due to the dry spell as all the 7 selected groups have chosen crop related agricultural ventures. However, most of the groups have prepared their fields only waiting for the first rainy season in early 2023.

Way Forward

- Plans are underway to start the project activities early enough in 2023. This however, is dependent on how fast the partner organizations submit early enough the list of selected schools and teachers to enable NDNGOF to start off in time.
- Training for SMC/PTA/head teachers and teachers in 2023 are envisaged to be conducted in first term to allow the project impact to be measured within the same year. Other activities such as PLC Training & multiplication and exposure visits will be expedited.
- Selection for Kindergarten teachers will be done in first term so that their training is also conducted timely and, in any case, not later than second term. This also depend on availability of the training facility with Njuba Kindergarten in Mpigi District.

CIVIL SOCIETY IN UGANDA SUPPORT PROGRAMME (CUSP)



Between 2019 and 2021, Nebbi District NGO Forum received capacity strengthening support from GIZ under the Civil Society in Uganda Support Programme (CUSP) and with that support NDNGOF was able to review and develop a number of its internal control systems policies and notably the forum developed its strategic plan 2022-2026. Nebbi District NGO Forum is currently lobbying with GIZ to receive further support from CUSP II in the area of “a more conducive operational environment for CSOs, including improved compliance of CSOs with the legal and regulatory requirements”. The Forum envisage activities to support its member

base with activities such as: Legal compliance workshops with CSOs to empower them to comply; Implementing Legal Compliance Audit/Clinics of Member Organizations (supporting them to comply); Dialogue meetings with District NGO Monitoring Committees; Develop Legal compliance tools/checklist to enable CSOs measure their level of compliance; Radio Talk-shows for sensitization of masses on civil liberties; etc.



Registration of new CSOs for membership



A total of **05** CSOs applied for membership during the year 2022. However, there had been remarkable decline in the number of CSOs intending to register. By the time of AGM in August 2022, there were only 37 fully paid-up members eligible to attend AGM. Many of the members had defaulted and thereby not eligible to be on the register of members. There is need to make more drive to support membership recruitment and support as envisaged in the original plan for creation of the forum. The Project Officer

in charge should draw specific programme for the visit of MOs at their offices to remind them on their registration status with the Forum.

Successful AGM

In august 2022, Nebbi District NGO Forum held its elective AGM where the new Board members were ushered in. The General Assembly was organized through the newly adopted policy documents that included the revised Constitution as well as Board Manual. The newly elected Board were formally sworn in and inducted in October 2022. The Board was able to conduct its first Board meeting in November 2022. However, as the Board was inducted, it received news of new government policy and laws that are likely to affect operations of the new members especially the CBOs which according to the law are not expected to be members of NGOs by virtue of NGOs being incorporated as Companies limited guarantee. Such issues may require amendment that will be proposed in the AGM of 2023.



Participation in DNMC Meetings.



NDNGOF participated in all DNMC quarterly meetings in the year 2022. NDNGOF which is a member of the DNMC (representing the organizations) acted as a coordination center for mobilization of the other CSOs to participate in the DNMC quarterly Meetings throughout the year. The Forum has a valid MoU with the District and is a critical partner with the District in matters of compliance requirements with national laws for Civil Society. NDNGOF is currently striving to look for support

Documentation

NDNGOF compiled the Annual Narrative Report for the year 2022 with many learning points for sharing with other CSOs for improved planning and programming for improvement of service delivery to the community. Many success stories registered but also gaps identified that would form great opportunities for future projects to address community needs.

COLLABORATION/LINKAGES

Collaboration with DNMC



Nebbi District NGO Forum is a member of the District NGO Monitoring Committee representing the Non-Governmental Organizations. The forum helps in mobilizing the CSOs (both members and non-members) for purpose of information sharing and collective action especially in areas of ensuring members compliance with the laws of the land governing CSOs operations. A lot is yet to be done especially in activation of the Sub County NGO Monitoring Committees. Many of the members of NDNGOF are CBOs and they are required to be monitored at that level. However, there still exist a lot of gaps to make the process smooth and effective so as not to get them on the wrong side of the law.

Collaboration with other Partners

Nebbi District NGO Forum works in partnership with other CSOs. The AKS Project in Zombo is being implemented in conjunction with Life Concern (LICO) from Zombo as well as CEFORD headquartered in Arua. NDNGOF is also a member of NANEP that is working closely on issues of Oil and gas in the Albertine graben. NDNGOF is a member of the NANEP operation in the Albertine graben (northern and western Uganda).

Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF).

NDNGOF is a core member of UNNGOF and participate in a number of activities. In 2022, NDNGOF was requested by the District Chairman of Nebbi District Local government to lobby support for induction training of Nebbi District Council Members. NDNGOF lobbied UNNGOF for this purpose and the latter sourced out facilitators who ably inducted not only Nebbi district Council but also Zombo District council under the same arrangement. Besides, UNNGOF through its regional hub partner WECISNET also organized a training for CBOs under its programme of Philanthropy for development organized a training for CBOs in west Nile. NDNGOF was honored to host the training in Nebbi which training benefited many of our local CSO members. The training was closed by the District Chairperson, Hon Orombi Emmanuel at AFARD Conference Hall.





UNNGOF has been very instrumental in supporting NDNNGOF to comply with legal requirements and through conducting compliance audit exercise on its members. Nebbi District NGO Forum was a beneficiary of two such support visits which enabled the forum to smoothly transition from the old state when it used to operate with two sets of constitutions and upgraded to the use of the Memorandum and articles of association which is recommended under the company's act. This transition was adopted during the AGM that was held in August 2022.

Membership to DENIVA

NDNNGOF is a member of DENIVA and is has participated in all meetings and events organized by DENIVA. NDNNGOF is on the mailing list of the latter and receives information on training opportunities as well as funding opportunities which the forum also shares with its members. Nebbi NGO Forum has copies of application forms for any members of the CSOs who which to receive QuAM Certification which is exclusively done by the DENIVA. DENIVA Currently has regional based Inspectors who conduct QuAM in its behalf and this is an opportunity the CSOs in the greater Nebbi can exploit through NDNNGOF.



Participation in the Regional LGBC Meetings - CSBAG

Nebbi District NGO Forum is a member of the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG). Every year CSBAG participate in the Local Government Budget Consultation processes and is always given a spot for presenting a position paper. In 2022, Nebbi district NGO forum under the auspices of CSBAG, as in previous years, also participated in making presentation on *Measures for improving service Delivery- Experiences from the Civil Society* to the LGBC meeting for consideration of 2023/2024 LG Budgets. This was at the LGBC Conference that took place at Hotel *Le Confidentiele* in Arua. The position paper is used to present alternative policy options with evidence from the localities to be adopted by the Local Governments.



OAG Training on Citizens Feedback Platform (CFP)



Following the Office of the Auditor General's development of a Web based Citizen's Feedback Platform (CFP), the office has embarked on a nationwide testing and pilot phase in which it trained trainers and collected feedback from her key stakeholders. The training of trainers Workshop for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in order to build capacity, to test and utilize the Citizen's Feedback Platform and hence facilitate

citizens to demand for transparency, effective accountability and report apparent abuse of public resources, which to foster enhanced service delivery was then organized and Nebbi District NGO Forum was contacted to mobilize CSO participants from the greater Nebbi Districts of Nebbi Zombo and Pakwach.

The Citizens Feedback training was meant to test the platform and train members how to provide instant feedback that can be handy in tracking the government budgets and services to community. It provides opportunity for citizens and government to hold public officers accountable for resources committed to them. The training workshop was held physically on Tuesday, 06th September 2022, at Level 2, Conference Hall, Audit House with two participants each from the selected 60 CSOs who comprised 120 participants (each organization nominated 2 representatives (mostly, the Head of the organization and one technical member of Staff).



West Nile CBO Training



With support from UNNGOF in conjunction with West Nile Civil Society Network (WECISNET), the Nebbi district NGO Forum coordinated and hosted a CBOs Training for several CBOs operating in West Nile in January 2022. The District authorities including the CAO and District Chairperson were invited and participated in the training and played key role in opening and closing of the training respectively during the event. The District Authority were very appreciative of the programme and this enhanced the role played by the Forum in CSO work. NDNGOF ED used the opportunity to engage the UNNGOF staff and followed up on request for UNNGOF to induct the District

Council. This was later fulfilled as not only Nebbi but also Zombo District Council was also considered for the induction training for the District councils.

Collaboration with Action AID

NDNGOF has been collaborating with Action aid Uganda Nebbi office very closely. Action Aid happens to be the Forum's first partner over 20 years ago in a funding collaboration which started way back in 2003. Over the years NDNGOF worked with Action Aid in projects on governance, Health, Education, gender etc. In 2022, NDNGOF participated in Action Aid organized Participatory Reflection and Review Processes (PRRP) meeting. This was an annual engagement on how AAIU has been doing its work and evaluate on the approaches and methodologies. The overall objective of the PRRPs is to improve the quality of programming, monitoring and evaluation and learning agenda, covering both programmatic and institutional commitments and informed by the 3Rs-Rights, Redistribution and Resilience and also to undertake a planning process that will inform actions for 2023 and acts as a budget circle.



Action Aid also participated in the Annual General Assembly of the Forum and was accorded a slot for remark by the close of the Assembly in which the representative gave relevant tips inputs on governance and capacity building of the members of the assembly.

Collaboration with member organizations/Vijana Corps

Vijana Corps in partnership with ActionAid under the Strategic Partnership Agreement II facilitated three groups of young people in Pakwach, Nebbi and Zombo after a training in Gender responsive Public Service Delivery to conduct community scorecards on health, Education and access to Basic services such as water and sanitary facilities.



The young people used the process to assess a priority public service. The Community Scorecard was used as an instrument to elicit social and public accountability and increases the responsiveness of service providers, as well as foster community empowerment. The process was used to inform community members especially young women about available services and their entitlements and to solicit their opinions about the accessibility and quality of these services. After the young people had generated scorecards, they held discussions with the service providers. The scorecard process was used to strengthen the social contract between the communities and government at district levels through supply-side and demand-side accountability measures with the ultimate aim

of increasing services for the targeted sectors. The overall objective of the Community Scorecards was to provide evidence to inform policy and practice changes necessary to improve the availability and utilization of service delivery in the selected districts by young women. Nebbi District NGO Forum was involved in nominating the CSOs from its membership to participate in the events and also participated in the climactic Youth Parliament debate organized by Action Aid for the youths of greater Nebbi. The ED of NDNNGOF was also given opportunity to address the youth and the CSOs who participated in the presence of the District Officials from the greater Nebbi Region.



Conclusion



NDNNGOF had a busy year in 2022. Key highlight of the year is the arrival of the new funding partner (Cooperaid – Switzerland). This partner enabled the Forum to recruit and pay up to 10 staff. This new partnership which fosters the work of Forum especial its mission to work for and with the member organization came to reality. The implementation of the AKS project in partnership with LICO and CEFORD is a commendable journey that should be replicated among all partners that work together for the good of the communities we are serving. Over the one year already the project has registered a number of success stories. The year 2023 should be used to galvanize the achievements and used as springboard for moving forward and sustaining local efforts for development of our communities.

AKS - STORIES OF CHANGE

Case story1: Sunday Lydia, Award winning teacher from Zombo Upper Primary School.

Madam Sunday Lydia is a female teacher from Zombo upper primary school aged thirty-six (36) and is a trained teacher (Diploma holder).



Ever since she joined teaching, she was only teaching infant classes, she could not even try to go teach upper classes due to fear and lack of proper teaching approaches to handle stubborn grown-up children, till she attended PLC training organized by NDNGO Forum and the exposure visit at St. Kizito and Arua Public primary school that gave her experience and skills in handling such for example through team work especially in scheming and lesson planning that gave her the opportunity to interface with the teachers, teaching upper primary and more so the team teaching from which she was able to learn how to handle upper classes and now she is able to teach upper classes without any problem. From the exposure visit she was able to learn that good hand writing of a child matters a lot in the performance of a child, which she used not to mind about before however learnt the need for good handwriting during exposure visit which she considers now seriously.

The main challenges faced by madam Sunday have been lack of cooperation among them as teachers and even with the school management, they used to do things (teaching, and other school activities) in isolation without consulting each other, no team spirit among them as teachers, limited motivation from the management, poor teaching and problem-solving approaches

Benefits from Project Intervention.

Under Alochi Ku Somu project, Madam Sunday Lidia being one of the award winning teachers was supported in the training given to the teachers, (attended PLC training and exposure visit) which aided her with the teaching methodologies which focuses on children being actively involved in the learning processes that is child centered methodology and also doing things jointly like joint teaching , joint assessment, managerial capability and skills in handling; fellow teachers, children and the community at large which she lacked before the intervention of the Nebbi NGO Forum through ALOCHI KU SOMU project with the support from COOPERAID.



Through the PLC training and exposure visit Madam Sunday acquired cooperation and motivational skills, problem solving skills, she was able to know her roles and responsibilities as a teacher, the roles of the child, importance of team working like team teaching and cooperation, and the roles of the parents and the Community in helping their children to attend classes

Madam Sunday excitedly narrates that these skills she acquired, has helped her in handling several class and management activities of the school (in cases of delegation), fast of all the training has shaped her life in terms of management (being a responsible and organized teacher), she applied the skills in mobilization of fellow teachers to join PLC group, able to know the benefit of team work and cooperation, delegation of fellow teachers within her power and authority, the training has also improved her communication and coordination skills with other school management body (SMCs/PTA) including the entire community. However, all these managerial skills applied has greatly improved her relationship with other teachers and eventually improved performance as reflected in getting a pupil in grade one after a long period of time without getting any pupil in grade one which is a great achievement to them as teachers of Zombo upper Primary school and all these are as a result of intervention of NDNNGOF through trainings funded by COPERAID



Madam Sunday believes that with all these achievements they will work hard together as teachers, with other school management board including the community to make Zombo Upper a leading school in Zombo District. However, she greatly appreciates the support rendered to her and Zombo upper primary school by Nebbi NGO Forum with help from COOPERAID under the Alochi Ku Somu project.

Case study: Ongiertho Charles, Head teacher from Acamukech Primary School.

Ongiertho Charles is a male Head teacher of Achamukech currently aged thirty-seven (37) and is



untrained Head teacher (Senior four leaver) currently heading a community school called Acamukech primary though not qualified as a teacher.

Ever since the community school (Acamukech primary school) opened, he has been heading the school with limited management skills since he is not a professional teacher. This made him to work with or without pay but for the love of the school and home children that made him remain persistent in struggling with the little resources (grass thatched small houses as the classrooms).

The main challenges faced by Mr Ongiertho Charles have been the low enrolment rate of children due to the Negative attitude of both the parents and the children towards education, little or limited management skills, poor structures that discouraged the children, limited cooperation from some of the community members, lack of commitment on the side of teachers that resulted into serious absenteeism of both the teachers and the children.

Benefits from Project Intervention.

Under Alochi Ku Somo project, Mr. Ongiertho Charles was supported through trainings of Directors/Head teachers, SMC/PTA and attended PLC training which aided his managerial capability and skills in handling; his teachers, children and the community at large which he lacked before the intervention of the Nebbi NGO Forum through ALOCHI KU SOMU project with the support from COOPER AID.



Through these several trainings Mr. Ongiertho acquired motivational skills, problem solving skills, he was able to know his roles and responsibilities as the Head teacher, the roles of the SMCs/PTA, roles of the Community in managing the school.

Mr Ongiertho narrates that these management skills acquired, has helped him in handling several management activities of the school, fast of all the training has shaped his life in terms of management(being a responsible and organized heartache), applied in mobilization of the community carrying out some of the school structural activities like construction of the classrooms, able to know the benefit of delegation in management and is able to apply it at the school, the training has also improved his coordination skills with other school management body (SMCs/PTA) and also the entire community. However all these managerial skills applied has greatly improved the school rate of enrollment from **126 to 260** at the beginning of the term and currently **300** pupils, due to the increased enrollment primary seven class was introduced with nine (9) as continuing pupils and thirteen(13) joined the primary seven (P7) from the neighboring schools giving the total of **twenty two (22)** pupils in his primary seven (P7) and lastly due to the training he was able to convince parents to support feeding program for upper classes which is a great achievement in his life as the Head teacher of the Community school.

Mr Ongiertho believes that with all these achievements the community school (Acumakech) will become a role model school in the Zombo District. He greatly appreciates the support rendered to him and Acamukech community primary school by Nebbi NGO Forum with help from COOPERAID under the Alochii Ku Somu project.

Case study: Kumakech Alfred, Head teacher Zombo Upper Primary School.

Kumakech Alfred is a male Headteacher of Zombo Upper Primary School aged thirty-seven (48) and graduate trained Headteacher



Ever since Mr Kumakech came to Zombo Upper Primary school (Government Aided) and even for long time before the problem has been congestion due to large number of pupil couple with poor performance and for long time there has been no pupil in grade one, lack of cooperation amongst staff, poor relationship between the teachers and management, poor relationship between the school and the school governing body (SMC & PTA). This made him to work under unfriendly environment with low teacher motivation

The main challenges faced by Mr Kumakech have been high dropout rate of children due to the Negative attitude of both the parents and the children towards education, little or limited management skills, poor structures that discouraged the children, limited cooperation from some of the community members, lack of commitment on the side of teachers that resulted into serious absenteeism of both the teachers and the children.

Benefits from Project Intervention.

Under Alochi Ku Somo project, Mr Kumakech Alfred was supported through trainings of Directors/Headteachers, SMC/PTA and attended PLC training which aided his managerial capability and skills in handling; his teachers, children and the community at large which has been a problem before the intervention of the Nebbi NGO Forum through ALOCHI KU SOMU project with the support from COOPERAID.



Through these several trainings Mr Kumakech Alfred acquired motivational skills, problem solving skills, he is now able to clearly differentiate between his roles and responsibilities as the Headteacher and the roles of the SMCs/PTA, roles of the Community in managing the school and develop in himself habit of team work.

Mr Kumakech Alfred commented that these management skills acquired through training organized by NDNGOF with help from COOPERAID, has helped him in handling several management activities of the school, fast of all

the training has shaped his mobilization skills which he, applied in mobilization of the community to carrying out some of the school structural activities like construction of the classrooms, able to know the benefit of delegation in management and is able to apply it at the school, the training has also improved his coordination skills with other school management body (SMCs/PTA) and also the entire community. The overall impact of these training has been reflected in the performance and reduced dropout rate and increased enrollment. This year the school was able to get one **(1) pupil in grade one** which was not there for several years, enrollment increased from **1434 in 202 to 1576** pupil enrolled this year. Mr Kumakech Alfred believes that with all these achievements Zombo Upper Primary School under his leadership will continue to implement all what it takes to achieve what NDNGOF and COOPERAID is aiming at that Improved performance and learning environment which the overall objective of Alochi Ku Somu (AKS) Project

Case study: Utimkisa Luke SMC member Jubilant Canaan Primary School.

Mr. Utimkisa Luke is a male member to the SMC of Julant Canaan School aged thirty-seven (36) and graduate trained teacher



Ever since Mr. Luke became member SMC of Jubilant Canaan Primary school (a private school) before intervention of AKS project for almost two (2) years there has been no SMC meeting conducted apart from the AGM when they were elected and even for long time before they came in the office there is no evidence of active SMC in terms minutes record. The Directors does every role which SMCs were supposed to do this made them inactive SMCs

The main challenges faced by SMCs members have been too much interference by the Board of Directors (the proprietors or the owners of the school) in management issues which led to mistrust between the Directors of the school and the SMCs members even with head teachers and teachers hence demotivation of both SMC, PTA and

teachers which has negatively impact on the teacher's performance and consequently affected the pupil's performance for long time.

Benefits from Project Intervention.

Under Alochi Ku Somo project, Mr. Utimkisa was supported by NDNGOF with support from COOPERAID through training of SMC/PTA and attended IGA training which aided him in knowing the roles and responsibilities of the SMCs/PTAs and also IGA knowledge. The knowledge acquired helped him to relate well with the teachers, head teacher, children and the community at large which has been a problem before the intervention of the Nebbi NGO Forum through ALOCHI KU SOMU project with the support from COOPERAID. Most importantly the impact of the SMC/PTA training has been that now so far 3 SMC meetings conducted and the relationship between the SMC/PTA and the Directors greatly improved since there is now no

interference in their roles and they are able to perform their roles and responsibilities effectively. The overall result of these training is reflected in the performance of pupil that is from 2 in grade one before AKS intervention to 5 in grade one after AKS intervention, increased motivation among teachers and even among community in support of school.



Through these several trainings Mr. Luke acquired motivational skills, problem solving skills, he is now able to clearly differentiate between his roles and responsibilities as the Head teacher and the roles of the SMCs/PTA, roles of the Community in managing the school and develop in himself habit of team work, the training has also improved his coordination skills with other school management body (SMCs/PTA) and also the entire community. The overall impact of these training has been reflected in the performance of pupil at the end of year 2022 where the school registered 51 candidates in primary 7 final exams and got 5 pupils in grade one, 40 in grade two, 3 in grade three, 2 in grade four and only 1 failure. and reduced dropout rate and increased enrollment from **334 in 2022 to 373 this year.**

Mr. Luke strongly believes that with all this knowledge the school will do much better in future.

Case study: **Okwonga Kenedy Mathurumbe Primary School.**

Mr. Okwonga Kenedy is a male award-winning teacher of Mathurumbe Primary School aged thirty-seven (30) and grade III trained teacher



From the time Mr Okwong Kenedy became a teacher of Mathurumber Primary school there has been no IGA activities conducted in Mathurumbe before intervention of AKS project. Okwonga through AKS happened to be one of the award-winning teachers who attended PLC training and also attended IGA training on behalf of the headteacher.

Mr. Kenedy said from IGA training and exposure visit at St. Kizito Primary school Ediofe, he was able to learn a lot where he was able to observed the piggery project of Primary Seven (4) which was very attractive.

The main challenges faced by Mathurumbe teachers and even management has been lacking of exposure and the school being in

a small developing town of Zombo gave those teachers no opportunities of interfacing with other developed schools where they can learn a lot and make comparison.

Benefits from Project Intervention.

Under Alochi Ku Somo project, Mr. Kenedy was supported by NDNGOF with support from COOPERAID through training of IGA and attended exposure visit which exposed him to learn that even the pupil can be used to support school through a very simple and at less cost IGA and more so with the IGA training he attended gave him more knowledge. Mr. Kenedy said knowledge acquired helped motivated him to start a bee hive project with the pupil at Mathurumbe which he hopes will succeed since the idea is being supported by both pupil and school. Also the intervention has led to increased enrollment in Mathurumber from **514 in 2022 to 615** pupil enrolled this year 2023.



Mr Kennedy gave assurance that the bee project at Mathurumbe Primary School under his leadership will succeed and he thanked NDNGOF and COOPERAID for helping the school and promised to work towards achieving the aim of AKS that is

Improved performance and learning environment which the overall objective of Alochi Ku Somu (AKS) Project