



2024

Annual Report



***“Looking back at our journey of growth,
resilience, and impactful action”***

Message from the Executive Director



As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the remarkable progress we have made together. This year, Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF) has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to creating transformative change in our communities.

Through projects like the **AKS Project**, we have strengthened the capacity of school leadership, empowered communities to prioritize education, and supplied essential learning materials. Our advocacy efforts influenced policy, including supporting the District Chairperson to submit to the Office of Attorney General the recently approved District Education Ordinance. We remain committed to ensuring that every child has access to quality education and a nurturing learning environment.

With the **SCEPA Project**, we amplified citizen voices, particularly among youth, women, and marginalized groups, ensuring their active participation in decision-making processes. Our efforts to build bridges between citizens and government have bolstered accountability, reduced corruption, and driven impactful governance reforms.

Through the **PAFORM Project**, we initiated action to tackle deforestation and forest resource conflicts, advocating for sustainable practices while promoting community empowerment. From community sensitization to stakeholder dialogues, our work has laid the foundation for a future where conservation and livelihoods coexist harmoniously.

Our partnerships with organizations like **GIZ, UNNGOF, Chapter Four Uganda, CSBAG**, and others have enhanced our impact, whether through capacity-building initiatives, policy advocacy, or compliance support for civil society organizations. Participation in high-profile events such as the **National T2R Summit** and the **Sub-Saharan Africa CSO Conference on CFT** has amplified our voice on national and regional platforms, showcasing NDNGOF as a vital contributor to meaningful discourse and action.

As we celebrate these achievements, we remain aware of the challenges that lie ahead. Addressing them will require renewed collaboration, innovation, and determination. I call upon all our stakeholders to continue supporting our work—be it through partnerships, resource mobilization, or active participation in our programs. Together, we can build a society that is inclusive, equitable, and just.

To our dedicated staff, partners, and the communities we serve, thank you for your trust, support, and collaboration. Your contributions are the cornerstone of our success. Let us continue to work hand in hand to turn our shared vision into a reality.

Thank you and Warm regards – **OFOYRWOTH RONALD**

Mission and Vision

About Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF)

Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF) with a current membership of over 130 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 NDNNGOF

1. Capacity building of Member Organizations (MOs).
2. Carrying out lobbying and advocacy with MOs
3. CSO Coordination and Networking with MOs and other Organizations
4. Information sharing with MOs and other stakeholders
5. Research, documentation and information dissemination
6. Implementation of pro-people projects 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
- Environmental Conservation and Management
- Education, training and Research
- Agriculture and livelihood
- Appropriate Technology
- Health, Water and Sanitation
- Women, youth, disabled and the elderly, etc.

Highlights of activities – Key Achievements and Impact

NDNGOF was engaged in various activities that included coordination CSOs, policy lobbying and advocacy especially working with the District NGO Monitoring Committee (DNMC), participating in District and Lower Local Governments Budget processes as well as implementation of Project activities especially the AKS Project in Zombo District which had entered into its year 2 phase.

PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED

The AKS Project is a 3 year consortium project (2022-2024) worth UGX 4,189,367,895 (approx. 1,050,000 Euros) being implemented by NDNGOF in conjunction with Life Concern (LICO) and CEFORD. The Consortium is directed by a steering Committee that 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 2024, the project rolled out into yet another 4 sub-counties of Abanga, Jangokoro, Padea and Paidha Town Councils. NDNGOF is responsible for implementation of outcome of “improved learning and school governance.” The outcome is dependent on objective that focuses on trainings and activities for teacher teams, directors and school bodies (SMC/PTA).



NDNGOF received funds from COOPERAID – Switzerland the sum of UGX 525,765,174 (Five hundred twenty-five million seven hundred sixty five thousand, one hundred seventy-four shillings only) in 2023; and received another batch of UGX 448,921, 149 (Four hundred forty eight million, nine hundred twenty-one thousand, one hundred forty nine shillings only) in 2024 to expand the project in the 4 new sub counties mentioned above in year three of the project. On a positive note, the funders of AKS Project have been please with the results of the project and have earmarked and approved another batch 4,500,000,000 (approx. 1,125,000 Euros) for AKS phase II (2025-2027).

Highlights of activities implemented during 2024 under AKS Project;

- Meeting District authorities and key education stakeholders to gain project support
- ToT for SMC/PTAs on their roles and responsibilities and how to support the school projects
- SMC/PTA conducted multiplication training for other SMCs/PTAs of other schools
- Project Implementation Partners conducted several Steering committee meetings
- We conducted PLC ToT for Award winning teachers and head teachers of Project schools
- Head teachers’ training in Leadership & management and refresher training

- Joint groups' formation ("WACOPU" GROUPS) from SMCs, PTAs and Mama/Baba clubs
- Training of CBOs on Income Generating Activities-IGA selection, planning and management
- Routine support visits & mentorship visits to Teachers, Head Teachers/SMCs/PTAs, CBOs
- Exchange visit to Awarded Teachers and Head Teachers to best performing schools in Arua.
- Support to the District council toward formulation of the District Education ordinance 2023
- Training of Kindergarten of Nursery and Lower primary school by consultants – APCO
- Training for Head teachers games & Sports teachers in Sports for Development (S4D)
- Kindergarten teachers conducted multiplication trainings to fellow teachers
- Income Generating Activities (IGA) refresher training for CBOs /WACHOPU Groups
- Provision of seed capital to 7 CBOs to initiate school based IGAs in project schools
- Advocacy meeting with District Authorities and SMCs nomination bodies
- Conducted two Performance review meetings with key project stakeholders
- Termly follow-up meetings with teachers, SMCs, PTAs, CBOs and other stakeholders
- Community Mobilization through Radio Talk shows and educational Film-show outreaches

KEY ACHIVEMENTS OF ALOCHI KU SOMU (AKS) IN ZOMBO DISTRICT

PLC Training of Trainers for Award Teachers



Figure 2 DIRECTORS, TEACHERS, LC III CHAIRPERSONS DURING PLC TRAINING AT COUNTRY COTTAGES Hotel in Paidha

PLC (Professional Learning Community), is a group of educators who work together to improve their teaching practices and student outcomes. PLCs are a form of teacher professional development that can take place within a school or across a district. PLCs are collaborative and interactive, and they typically meet regularly to share ideas, analyze student outcomes, and develop solutions. Some common features of PLCs include shared goals (working towards a common goal that aligns with the school or

district's initiatives), Data analysis (use of data to analyse, develop, and evaluate solutions), regular meetings (meeting regularly to support continuous growth), shared norms and values (creating shared norms and values to help the team focus on students), Reflective dialogue (implementing reflective dialogue, sharing of experiences, and best



Figure 1 Mr. Collins Nakedi, CEO Hifadhi Africa and his team conducted the initial PLC ToT in Paidha

practices. Some big ideas of PLCs include Ensuring students learn, Building a culture of collaboration, and Focusing on student outcomes.

The PLC (TOT) was organized for award winning teachers and multiplication trainings conducted. 100 teachers were trained each year. By 2024, over 300 teachers were trained (through TOT and multiplication). The TOT and multiplication covered over 90 schools both government and private over the last three years. The initial TOT was conducted by Hifadhi Africa Organization (HAO) from Kenya. Many of the teachers who attended the PLC trainings voluntarily and through award winning have been promoted as acting head teachers in different primary schools in Zombo District. Formation of PLC clubs have been done in all project schools and formation of PLC clubs at sub counties and district level is still ongoing.



Figure 3 The District Inspector of School - Zombo Mr Jalar Silvio Conducting PLC ToT after being trained by Hifadhi Africa Organization – hired by NDNDOF

Networks of stakeholders to monitor and support schools



Figure 4 Mvugu Upper PS Wachapu Group having discussion on key areas of improvement and action planning

The project created a network of stakeholders for support, monitoring, advocacy and resource mobilization and small grants for CBOs for school interaction. 7 CBOs were assessed and engaged in a 2024 to create change in the award-winning schools. These were added to the 14 CBOs that were trained and supported in 2023 bringing the total to 21 CBOs who were engaged to create change in the award-winning school. By 2024, 21 Wacopu groups (CBOs) engaged, trained, registered and supported with small grants of UGX 3.5 million each. A total of 105 Wacopu group members were trained on IGA concepts and initiated school feeding programs and other IGAs.

Exposure visit for Teachers and Head Teachers

Exposure visits for the award winning teachers and head teachers of project schools were organized. In 2024, the last batch of 10 award winning teachers and 1 director award winners plus 7 head teachers of project schools (18 in total) visited the best performing schools in the neighbouring district of Arua. By 2024, 30 award winning teachers, 3 Head Teachers/Directors of the year and 21 Head Teachers of project schools (54 participants) were taken for academic benchmarking visits to the best performing schools at ST. Kizito Primary school (private) and Arua public Primary school (government Aided) both schools in Arua city. Most of the head teachers and teachers are already putting into practice the lesson learnt to improve performance in their schools.



Figure 5 Teachers from Arua Public Primary School sharing experience with teachers from Zombo

Sports for Development (S4D) Training for teachers

Sports for Development (S4D) approach involves intentional use of sports and physical activity to attain specific social development objectives, in this case to reinforce teaching and learning for pupils. In 2019 UNICEF INNOCENTI; (<http://www.unicef.org/about>) launched the first global literature review on S4D-Getting into the Game-which found that sport can be a positive factor in four key areas of children's lives: **Education, social inclusion, child protection** and **empowerment**. Therefore,



Figure 6 The D.E.O Zombo looks on as teachers undertake Group Exercise

participating in sports is part of the school curriculum and children who do so grow up to become more physically fit. They become more outgoing and communicative and are more competitive and stronger. Their confidence increases and they are more open to meeting new people and different situations. This will instil in children a sense that hardworking is a virtue from an early age leading to academic success.



Specifically, the training in S4D aims at using sport and play activities that teach the children important life skills and support them in their all-round development including: Cognitive – For example, the children increase their vocabulary and get an understanding of numbers and quantities in simple games; Physical – For example, the children practice balancing in skill-based games; Emotional – For example,

through play, the children learn to deal with frustration and to recognise and express emotions; Social – For example, by settling disputes and making friends

NDNGOF organized S4D Training for the Games and sports teachers both male and female with their head teachers for the 21 project schools. 42 games and sports teachers plus 21 head teachers plus 3 district sports officer were trained in S4D techniques, The training was conducted by APPCO. All 21 schools and 3 District education officials were given sports kit. Today the Schools continue to organize sporting activities mostly during competition while other teachers are applying sports in daily teaching and learning.

PAFORM PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: Funded By GIZ – CUSP II

Nebbi District NGO Forum has partnered with GIZ to implement the Participatory Forest Resource Management (PAFORM) Project within the greater Nebbi districts (Nebbi, Pakwach, and Zombo), with aim of addressing deforestation and forest resource conflicts by promoting a participatory approach to forest conservation, sustainability, and community empowerment. PAFORM seeks to advocate for pro-community forest policies through research and stakeholder engagement, fostering sustainable forest management practices that benefit all stakeholders. The project's overall objective is to enhance the protection and sustainable utilization of forest resources in the Greater Nebbi districts, with the specific objective of improving engagement and dialogue among government agencies, private sector entities, and forest-dependent communities on the sustainable management of central and local forest reserves. By end of 2024, NDNNGOF together with GIZ engaged the services of a consultant to conduct the research. NDNNGOF recruited 6 research assistants who conducted the research and produced the finding which was validated by the key stake-holders of the 3 districts of greater Nebbi including the Resident District Commissioners, Chief Administrative Officers, District Chairpersons, District Forest Officers, officials from National Forestry Authority, residents from the forest dependent communities, etc.



Figure 7 R-L: The ED, NDNNGOF, RDC Zombo, Pakwach & Nebbi Respectively during Research Validation Meeting at GAF, Nebbi

There are several activities of the project that is going to spill over in 2025 including: Community sensitization and awareness campaign of effective forest resource management; Training of affected communities on rights/advocacy concept to engage with their duty bearers & policy makers; Community meetings to draft petitions to duty bearers/policy makers to address their rights to forests; District based dialogues to compel duty bearers & Policy makers to commit to address community forest access rights; Engaging media groups and artists for production of a song with video for advocating for effective forest resource utilization and collaborative forest management; and Setting up social media team on various platforms like *TikTok*, *WhatsApp* & *YouTube*, etc.



Figure 8L-R: District Forest Officers, Nebbi, Pakwach & Zombo respectively during research validation

Engaging media groups and artists for production of a song with video for advocating for effective forest resource utilization and collaborative forest management; and Setting up social media team on various platforms like *TikTok*, *WhatsApp* & *YouTube*, etc.

SCEPA PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: Funded by UNNGOF



Figure 9 SCEPA Project Inception Meeting with 14 Regional Partners convened by UNNGOF

The Strengthening Citizen Engagement and Public Accountability (SCEPA) Project is a collaborative initiative between the Uganda National NGO Forum and the Royal Danish Embassy. The four-year endeavor

seeks to cultivate an informed and active citizenry capable of effectively holding public officials accountable. By fostering robust communication channels between civil society and government, SCEPA aims to create an environment where citizens' voices are heard, and their needs addressed. SCEPA aims to ensure enhanced citizen voice in decision-making processes and action to detest corruption and hold their leaders and public institutions accountable.

The project's overall goal is to contribute towards an organized and engaged citizenry actively holding public institutions accountable. The project has three specific inter-related outcomes:

1. Youth, women and other marginalized groups empowered and organized to meaningfully shape outcomes of decision-making processes
2. Strengthened engagement between state and non-state actors on legal and policy and institutional frameworks to advance civic engagements
3. Strong, healthy and well-coordinated CSOs able to influence governance and accountability processes

The project will employ a twin strategy of fostering demand for accountability, that is the ways in which poor people exercise voice and influence as well as strengthening the supply side of accountability to foster responsiveness of state institutions and duty bearers to the demands of citizens.



Figure 10 Some of the SCEPA Partners after the inception Meeting in Kampala

CSO Partnership and Collaboration

Participation in Annual Accountability Event

Vijana Corps is a member of NDNGOF. In 2024 NDNGOF participated in Vijana Corps' Annual Accountability Event is a pivotal moment for us to showcase remarkable work and achievements from the past year. Our focus was on storytelling, as we believe that narratives have the power to convey the profound impact we've had on the communities we serve in East Africa. The inaugural Annual Accountability Event that was a momentous occasion, and we would be honored to participate.

Chapter Four Uganda

I received a call from Chapter Four - Uganda (a civic rights organization in Uganda) on the support they intend to give to members of CSO especially in compliance with government laws regulating CSOs operations. The exercise is also an opportunity to map out and strengthen compliance capability of potential and current partners for USAID in the near future.

Nebbi NGO Forum was identified for this purpose/exercise and was requested to identify four of its member organizations to receive the same support. The Team was at Nebbi NGO Forum today 12th September 2024 in the afternoon. They visited the other partners the next day. The member organizations (MOs) who participated/benefited from this event included Agency for Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), CARITAS Nebbi, Lucky Nation Foundation, Agency for Community Empowerment (AFCE) etc. is ready to participate in this engagement and if so, what time of the day would be best for the engagement.

Collaboration with CSBAG

As part of the project to build enhanced resilience of refugees and host communities in West Nile and Acholi sub-regions through a coordinated and effective anticipatory and early response to multi-hazard emergencies, CSBAG in collaboration with its Consortium partners (DCA, URCS, LWF and CEFORD) has organised two **Regional Advocacy Network Review and capacity building activities in West Nile (Arua City) and Acholi Subregion (Gulu City)**. The objective of these interventions was to strengthen advocacy efforts at the regional level towards approval of the NDPM bill. The aim was to revamp and strengthen the regional voice in championing advocacy for a responsive legal framework on disaster management in the country. NDNGOF Participated in both the regional and Nation workshops and shared peculiar refugee situation the greater Nebbi which issues have not yet been recognized by government and yet they affect service delivery enormously and fuel community conflict.

Develop CSO Position Paper for the LG Budget Consultations FY 2024/2025



Figure 11ED, NDNGOF Presenting CSO Position Paper at LGBC Workshop in September 2024 at Hotel L'e Confidentiele, Arua City.

NDNGOF participated in the development and preparation of the Budget process for the Local Government Budget Consultative Workshops from **18th September to 6th October 2024**. The Local Government Budget Consultative Workshops brought together all local government leadership to interface with the Ministry of Finance and other key Ministries, Departments, and Agencies together with Civil Society Organizations spearheaded by CSBAG in partnership with CSOs including NDNGOF.

During these workshops, CSBAG and partners including NDNGOF presented the CSO's position paper which highlights CSO perspectives on service delivery at the local government level and areas for improvement in the next Financial Year. As has been the practice, CSBAG mobilizes its members and partners across the country to develop and present a consolidated position paper during these workshops in which NDNGOF was honored to participate.

NDNGOF was privileged to participate in the National retreat to jointly develop the CSO position paper on our local government experience on service delivery to inform the FY2024/25 budget formulation considering that our organization has a presence at the sub-national level in which CSBAG is confident we have adequate information and experience to input into the CSO consolidated position paper for submissions at the LG budget consultations processes.

Participation in the UNOC organized stakeholder engagement meeting with CSOs from Greater Nebbi

Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) requested for a meeting with CSOs from Nebbi District to keep them up to date on the progress of oil and gas industry activities in Uganda. NDNGOF was requested to mobilize the 30 CSOs representatives for the meeting which successfully took place at Pakwach District Local Government offices. The meeting will take place on 25th April 2024 in Pakwach.

OAG Workshops

Following the submission of the Auditor General's Report to Parliament for the year ended 31st December 2021, the Office seeks to enhance capacity of the stakeholders in the utilization of audit reports by improving their involvement in the oversight and accountability matters. NDNGOF was invited for a Citizen Feedback Platform (CFP) training of Trainers workshop in Kampala. This training workshop was to enhance stakeholder



Figure 12 CSOs from West Nile including staff of NDNGOF taking part in OAG CFP Training in Kampala

engagement and promote the effective utilization of audit reports for improved oversight and accountability.

In the previous years, Office of the Auditor General had developed

a Web based CFP app; the office then embarked on a nationwide testing and pilot phase for which the training of trainers was conducted and collecting feedback from her key stakeholders was done. This training of trainers Workshop for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) built the capacity, to test and utilize the Citizen's Feedback Platform and hence facilitated citizens to demand for transparency, effective accountability and report apparent abuse of public resources, which is eventually meant to foster enhanced service delivery.

UNNGOF Capacity Building Support

Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) developed an idea of **door to door compliance clinics** for its member organizations as an ideal mode to implement the activity of enhancing the legality and compliance of organizations. To be more efficient and effective, with more value for money, these doors to door clinics would took the form of a team of 3 people, 1 expert on the NGO Act, 1 staff and 1 driver visiting a region for 1 week. In that time, at least 5-10 organizations were be visited at their premises to meet with their key staff and discuss their specific gaps and needs. NDNGOF was honored to be one of the MOs visited and supported under the initiative which support was extended to the other members of NDNGOF. UNNGOF partnered with *Chapter Four Uganda* with whom we have previously worked with on similar assignments to provide the experts to facilitate these doors to door clinics. **The overall objective was to assess the compliance of sub-national civil society organizations and**



Figure 13 UNNGOF Team visits NDNGOF to deliver SCEPA Visibility Materials

build their capacity on the NGO regulatory framework specifically to sensitize sub-national organizations on the regulatory framework for NGOs; assess compliance of these sub-national organizations to NGO regulatory laws; and to build capacity of these sub-national organization and enhance their compliance to the NGO Regulatory Framework. The outcome of the clinics included an appreciation and understanding of the laws governing NGOs; Enhanced capacity for NGOs to comply to the NGO laws i.e registration and filing of returns; and a harmonized approach to addressing the current challenges with the state agencies

Human Rights Convention: By Chapter Four - Uganda

It is our honor to invite you to the 5th edition of **the Human Rights Convention - Kampala** under the theme, *“Migration and the Quest for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies”*. The Convention is a space for an honest reflection on important human rights concerns. Over 200 participants from the civil society, media, academia, government ministries, agencies and departments, and development partners attended the convention.

We were able to reflect on the state of laws, the rule of law and accountability and propose actionable and context-sensitive reforms. Reflect on the drivers and implications of migration and re-envison social, legal and political reforms to address migration related challenges; Strengthen collaboration with regulators and duty bearers for an enabling operating environment; Provide a platform for knowledge and experience sharing towards a fair, just, inclusive and developed society. The convention provided critical insights to the context of the work we do in light of the Human right situation in Uganda.

NDNGOF Participation in the National T2R summit (by CAH/DPI)



Defenders Protection Initiative (DPI) in collaboration with the Civic Advisory Hub (CAH) convened the very first national Talk to Your Regulator (T2R) summit on May 2024. The T2R Annual Summit brought together about 150 NGOs, their regulators, and other service providers creating both “open and closed” NGO-controlled – dialogue spaces, to inform, update, and engage, while simultaneously pushing back against over-regulation. The T2R Annual Summit provided a platform for measuring progress and holding the regulators accountable to the NGO sector

in line with the due enforcement of their respective regulatory obligations under the law. The summit comes after a series of regional T2R engagements that have been implemented with financial support from the European Union and the German Government implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale

Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH this year and the United Agency for International Development implemented by East-West Management Institute.

The main objective of the T2R Annual Summit is to bridge the knowledge gap on NGO regulatory obligation, while at the same time rekindling the legitimacy of the sector in Uganda through broadening and deepening spaces for dialogue between NGO actors and NGO regulators on Civic Space matters. Specifically, the summit aimed at providing an open and accessible technical support by the different NGO regulators` - Teams of Experts for all NGO participants present during the event; providing an NGO-led (controlled) dialogue space, that will bring together NGO leaders, Top management Representatives of the NGO Regulatory Authorities, Donors, and a selected number of strategic and relevant private sector stakeholders (e.g. Banks, Institute of Certified Public Accountants among others) on the second day of the Summit; and to promote, improve and safeguard trust between NGOs and their regulators.

The summit outcomes included a better understanding of the compliance obligation and operation status of NGO actors/organisations; an enhanced regulatory excellence and operational efficiency in the NGO sector; an increased credibility and integrity of the non-profit sector in Uganda; an improved enabling working environment for the NGO actors; and an improved TRUST and a good working relationship between NGOs and their regulators. NDNDOF participated in several these regional and National Talk to Your Regulator (T2R) events/Summit in the year 2024. The events were a hybrid of events where a majority of CSOs attended online while NDNDOF was honored to attend physically in all the events.

Participation in Sub Saharan Africa CSO Conference on CFT



In August 2024, the Civic Advisory Hub, in collaboration with Defenders Protection Initiative, and Spaces for Change, hosted a regional Conference in Kampala Uganda, under the theme

“Together-Countering the Financing of Terrorism While Safeguarding Civic Space in Africa”. This two-day conference in which NDNDOF fully participated, brought together 140 delegates from across Sub Saharan Africa including among others: regional and national government experts and policy-makers responsible for combating the financing of terrorism and organised crime, as well as representatives of the Not -for- Profit fraternity, banking sector, international organisations and academic experts, to share

their experience and insights regarding: how TOGETHER, we can collaborate in countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) while safeguarding civic space within Africa.

The conference discussions hinged on the fact that Terrorism remains a global threat, and one key strategy to counter it is disrupting its financial networks. States and international bodies have implemented CFT measures, including stricter legal frameworks, enhanced due diligence, and de-risking strategies. However, these measures have placed significant burdens on civil society encompassing Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs) Human Rights Defenders (HRDs), humanitarian aid providers and activists, restricting their ability to operate effectively. Topics discussed at the conference included Inclusivity and Transparency in REC Frameworks for CFT; Enforcement and Accountability in Regional Security Agencies; De-risking and Financial Exclusion; and The Securitization of Civic Space: Emerging Trends, Patterns and Impact.

Inclusivity and Transparency in REC Frameworks for CFT: A major issue raised was the exclusion of CSOs from CFT dialogues by states and Regional Economic Communities (RECs). When CSOs are invited to participate, their involvement is often tokenistic. Frameworks designed by RECs focus heavily on regulatory and security measures, neglecting to address the socio-political and economic root causes of terrorism.

Civic Advisory Hub, Defenders Protection Initiative, and Spaces for Change together with the other CSOs including NDNGOF aim to continue to advocate for a balanced approach to CFT efforts that uphold civil liberties while effectively addressing security concerns. By fostering a more inclusive and context-sensitive approach to CFT, these efforts will empower CSOs in their critical role in countering terrorism financing, safeguard civic space, and uphold human rights. It is also hoped that the preliminary findings of the securitization study will help advance the dialogue on its proliferation and spark efforts to explore effective strategies for mitigating its adverse effects.

Financial Overview

Summary: Income, expenses, and funding sources.

NEBBI DISTRICT NGO FORUM FINANCIAL POSITION 2024				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURES AS AT 31/12/2024				
COOPERAID				
	INCOME	NOTE	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	Funds recieved from cooperaid	1	448,921,149	448,921,149
	Fund received from GIZ	2	37,619,300	37,619,300
	Funds received from National NGO Forum	3	7,065,000	7,065,000
	Local income contribution	4	16,200,000	12,500,000
	TOTAL		509,805,449	506,105,449
EXPENDITURES				
			AMOUNT	ACTUAL
	Cooperaid Expenses	1	448,921,149	424,146,922
	GIZ expenses	2	16,971,000	12,466,440
	National NGO Forum	3	7,065,000	6,829,500
	Local expenses	4	16,200,000	12,466,440
	TOTAL		489,157,149	455,909,302

Below are bar charts to illustrate the financial position of Nebbi District NGO Forum for 2024:

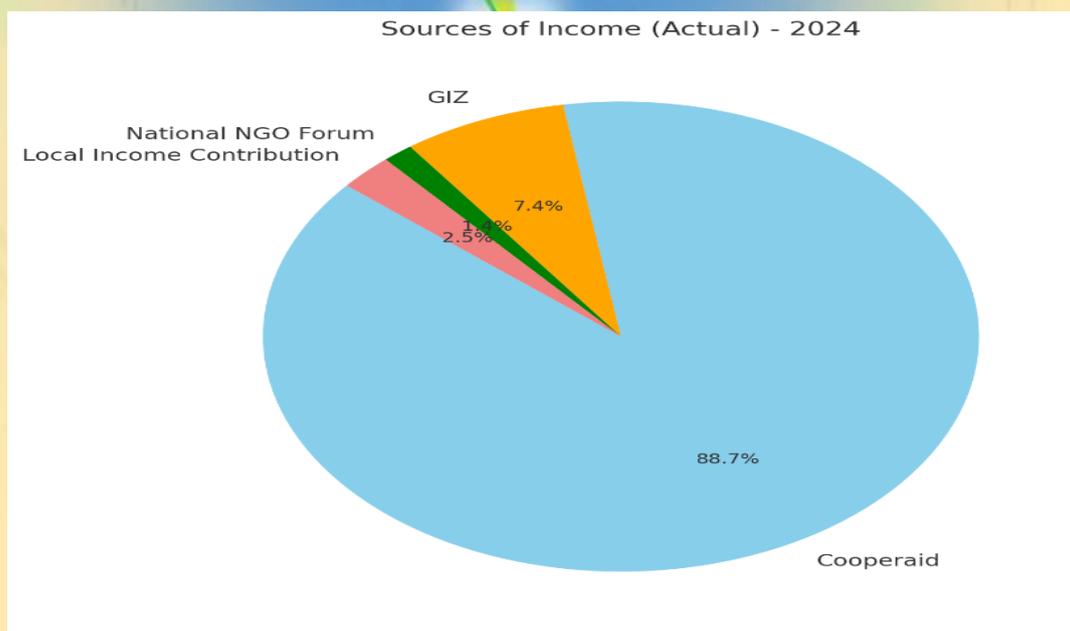
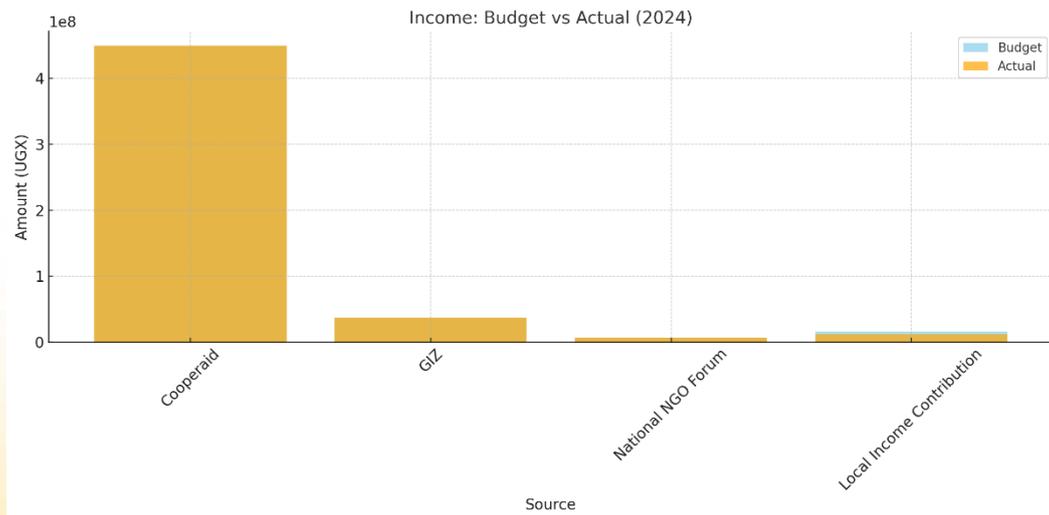
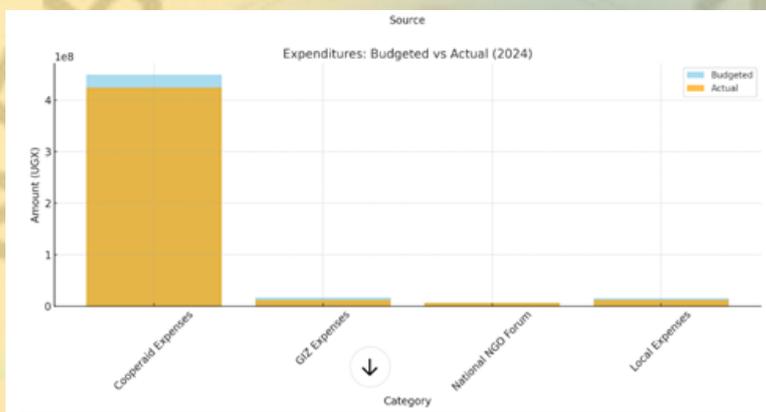


Figure 14 pie chart showing the sources of income for Nebbi District NGO Forum in 2024, based on actual income received. Each segment represents the proportion of total income contributed by each source.



1. **Income Chart:** This compares the budgeted and actual income from various sources (Cooperaid, GIZ, National NGO Forum, and local income contributions).



2. **Expenditure Chart:** This highlights the budgeted and actual expenditures across key categories (Cooperaid Expenses, GIZ Expenses, National NGO Forum, and Local Expenses).

Acknowledgments:

The Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF) expresses its heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed donors and partners for their unwavering support and commitment throughout the year 2023. Your generosity and partnership have been instrumental in driving impactful programs and achieving remarkable milestones in our mission to improve education, governance, and service delivery in the Greater Nebbi districts.

We extend our special thanks to Cooperaid, whose significant contribution of UGX 525,765,174 has been pivotal in enabling us to implement transformative initiatives. Your support has empowered us to strengthen school governance, enhance teacher capacity, and engage communities in meaningful advocacy for better education outcomes.

We also acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our local partners, who provided local income to support various aspects of the projects. Your collaboration and resourcefulness have added immense value to our programs and amplified our collective impact.

The dedication and trust of our donors have not only supported our financial stability but also inspired us to achieve more. We pledge to remain accountable and committed to the cause, ensuring that your investments lead to lasting and sustainable change.

Together, we are making a difference, and we look forward to your continued support in the years ahead.

Thank you for believing in our vision and standing with us in our journey toward a brighter future for all.

Sincerely,

NDNGOF Management

NDNGOF Plans for 2025

In 2025, the Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF) will focus on consolidating achievements, addressing pending activities from ongoing projects, and exploring new opportunities to foster equitable development, transparency, and accountability. Below are the planned activities aligned with the pending and proposed projects:

1. Strengthening Civic Engagement and Policy Advocacy (SCEPA) Project

Pending Activities:

- Finalization of community-level consultations on policy priorities.
- Expansion of the community scorecard approach to 15 additional schools and health facilities.
- Documentation and dissemination of best practices in civic engagement.

2025 Plans:

- **Policy Dialogues:** Organize quarterly dialogues with local government leaders to integrate community priorities into district plans.
- **Capacity Building:** Train 10 additional CSOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) in policy monitoring and advocacy.
- **Resource Mobilization:** Mobilize funding to support infrastructure and service delivery improvements in underserved areas.

2. Participatory Advocacy for Resources and Monitoring (PAFORM) Project

Pending Activities:

- Establishment of monitoring frameworks for newly adopted school feeding programs.
- Final evaluation of CBO-led initiatives in resource mobilization and school support.

2025 Plans:

- **CBO Empowerment:** Train and mentor 10 new CBOs in project management, resource mobilization, and accountability.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Expand networks of stakeholders to monitor and advocate for quality service delivery in 25 schools.
- **Follow-Up and Scaling:** Conduct follow-up visits to assess the impact of CBO-supported income-generating activities (IGAs) and scale successful models to additional schools.

3. AKS Project Phase 2 (Zombo)

Pending Activities:

- Formation of district-level Professional Learning Community (PLC) clubs.
- Scaling up PLC training to include 50 additional schools.
- Finalization of the S4D curriculum and distribution of teaching aids.

2025 Plans:

- **Professional Learning Communities (PLCs):**
 - Establish PLC clubs in all sub-counties and at the district level in Zombo.
 - Train 100 new teachers through Training of Trainers (TOT) and multiplication sessions.
 - Organize annual PLC conferences to showcase success stories and exchange best practices.
- **Sports for Development (S4D):**
 - Train 50 additional teachers in S4D techniques.
 - Provide sports kits to 30 new schools.
 - Develop a mentorship program for teachers integrating S4D into daily lessons.
- **Exposure Visits:**
 - Organize visits for 20 new award-winning teachers and head teachers to high-performing schools within the region.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:**
 - Develop tools to track PLC club activities and their impact on student outcomes.
 - Conduct mid-year and end-of-year evaluations to guide project adjustments.

4. Institutional Strengthening and Sustainability

- Develop a five-year strategic plan to guide NDNNGOF's growth and program expansion.
- Strengthen fundraising mechanisms through partnerships with local and international donors.
- Digitize NDNNGOF's operations, including member databases and reporting systems, for greater efficiency.

- Conduct annual training sessions for NDNNGOF member organizations in financial management and proposal writing.

5. Cross-Cutting Initiatives

- **Gender Mainstreaming:** Incorporate gender-sensitive approaches in all activities, focusing on reducing gender-based violence and promoting girls' education.
- **Youth Empowerment:** Develop programs that equip youth with skills in advocacy, entrepreneurship, and leadership.
- **Community Awareness Campaigns:** Use barazas and forum theatre to raise awareness about corruption, human rights, and entitlements.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL)

- Establish a robust MEL framework to track progress across all projects.
- Organize quarterly reflection meetings with stakeholders to share lessons learned and adjust strategies.

These plans build on NDNNGOF's successes while addressing pending activities and scaling up impactful interventions. Together with our partners and stakeholders, we are committed to creating a brighter and more equitable future for the communities we serve.

Recognition

Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF) extends its deepest appreciation to the numerous individuals, organizations, and institutions whose contributions and collaboration have been pivotal to our achievements and the formulation of this Annual Plan for 2024.

We recognize the invaluable support of our donors and funding partners, whose generosity has enabled us to implement transformative projects such as SCEPA, PAFORM, and AKS Phase 2. Your unwavering commitment to equitable development and social justice continues to inspire and empower us.

To our local government authorities in Nebbi, Zombo, and Pakwach districts, your collaborative spirit and openness to integrating community priorities into district plans have been instrumental in fostering transparency, accountability, and improved service delivery.

We also acknowledge the critical role played by our member organizations, community-based organizations (CBOs), and civil society actors who have tirelessly worked at the grassroots level to advocate for policy changes, monitor service delivery, and implement community-driven solutions. Your dedication strengthens our collective mission.

Special recognition goes to the teachers and head teachers involved in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and Sports for Development (S4D) initiatives. Your innovative approaches to education and commitment to nurturing future generations are exemplary.

We deeply appreciate the contributions of our technical partners, including Hifadhi Africa Organization (HAO) and APPCO, for their expertise and training in PLCs and S4D techniques. Additionally, we are grateful to the networks of stakeholders and the 21 CBOs engaged in resource mobilization and advocacy, whose collaborative efforts continue to drive positive change in our communities.

Finally, we extend heartfelt thanks to the individuals and organizations who invited us to their events, fostering knowledge sharing, partnerships, and mutual growth. Your hospitality and encouragement have broadened our perspectives and enriched our interventions.

As we embark on another year of service and advocacy, we celebrate the collective effort of all who have walked this journey with us. Together, we are stronger, more innovative, and better positioned to achieve sustainable development for all.

Conclusion

The year 2024 has been a remarkable journey of growth, resilience, and impactful action for the Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF). Together with our partners, stakeholders, and communities, we have continued to champion transparency, accountability, and equitable development in Nebbi, Zombo, and Pakwach districts.

Through initiatives such as the SCEPA, PAFORM, and AKS Phase 2 projects, we have empowered teachers, supported schools, and strengthened community-based organizations to address critical challenges and drive sustainable change. The establishment of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), the integration of Sports for Development (S4D) into education, and the capacity-building of CBOs underscore our commitment to innovative and inclusive approaches.

The progress made in advocating for better service delivery, enhancing policy engagement, and promoting human rights reflects the strength of our partnerships and the collective dedication of all stakeholders. While we celebrate these achievements, we remain mindful of the pending activities and challenges ahead. These will serve as focal points for our efforts in 2025 as we strive to deepen our impact and reach.

As we conclude 2024, we express our heartfelt gratitude to our donors, technical partners, government authorities, member organizations, and communities for their unwavering support and collaboration. Your contributions have been the foundation of our successes, and we look forward to building on this momentum in the coming year.

The journey towards sustainable development is continuous and requires the active participation of all. As NDNGOF, we remain steadfast in our mission to amplify the voices of the marginalized, foster accountability, and create opportunities for a brighter future. Together, let us advance the vision of a more equitable and empowered society.

For inquiries or to get involved, please contact us at:

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Let's make 2024 a year of transformative impact—together!