



NEBBI DISTRICT NGO FORUM (NDNGOF) ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Developed by:
NDNGOF
Secretariat
P.O Box 105-Nebbi

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List of Abbreviations

AAIU	ActionAid International Uganda
AG	Annual General Assembly
CDOs	Community Development Officers
CSCBP	Civil Society Capacity Building Programme
CSOPNU	Civil Society Organizations for Peace in Northern Uganda
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DEO	District Education Officer
ERMP	Education Resource Monitoring Programme
GCE	Global Campaign for Education
LG	Local Government
LLG	Lower Local Government
MOs	Member Organizations
M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NDNGOF	Nebbi District NGO Forum
NDNSP	National District Network Support Programme
NDLG	Nebbi District NGO Forum
TGSA	The Good Samaritan Action Ministry
PSI	Population Service International
UPE	Uganda Primary Education
UMCP	Uganda Malaria Community Partnership
UNATO	Uganda National Teachers Union
QUAM	Quality Assurance Mechanism
AGA	Annual General Assembly
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
DEO	District Education Officer
EFA	Education for All
ERM	Education Resource Monitoring
MOs	Member Organizations
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
NGOs	Non governmental Organizations
RDC	Resident District Commissioner
DISO	District Internal Security Organization
SMC	School Management Committee
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
FENU	Federation for Education NGOs in Uganda
UCRNN	Uganda Child Rights NGO Network
GR	GRADE
CEFORD	Community Empowerment for Rural Development
UNNGOF	Uganda National NGO Forum
MACCO	West Nile Anti corruption coalition

Acknowledgements

NDNGOF would like to acknowledge the contribution of various stakeholders for their contribution that enabled the Forum to realize the achievements recorded in this annual report. Tribute goes to our donors/funders for 2008, Actionaid International Uganda, DANIDA and European Union Civil Society Capacity Building Programme.

NDNGOF extends its gratitude to Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF), National District Network Support Programme Secretariat, West Nile Anti-corruption Coalition-MACCO for their support.

Our thanks also go to Nebbi District Local Government, RDC's office, DISO's office, the Board, resource monitors and the member organizations (MOs), whose support has enabled the Forum be able to record such an achievement.

We therefore, call upon all stakeholders to continue with their generous support exhibited in 2008 as we usher in 2009 with a new strategic direction.

Thank you

Rupiny Ronnie Robert
Coordinator

INTRODUCTION

NDNGOF BACKGROUND

The need for establishing a platform for CSOs/NGOs to hasten civil society operation was felt as early as 1995. In 1998/99 an attempt was made to form a CSO platform but it did not take off. Again in 2001, eight committed CSOs revamped the CSOs platform initiative. A total of 33 followed immediately. In mid 2001, CSOs were sensitized on the need for an NGO Forum. At this time, a constitution was already formulated by the elected Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly. On June 30th 2001, the first inaugural assembly was held and 80 organizations attended. This assembly constituted the NDNGOF.

NDNGOF is registered with Nebbi District Local Government and in the process of registration with the Registrar of Companies. NDNGOF is in the final process of being registered with the National NGO Board.

NDNGOF CONTACT DETAILS

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Over the years, NDNNGOF gained affiliations to/being supported by supporters/partners as;

- Uganda National NGO Forum
- Actionaid International Uganda
- DANIDA-NDNSP
- European Union-Civil Society Capacity Building Programme
- West Nile Anti corruption Coalition-MACCO
- Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD)

The Forum has over the years been involved with institutions/coalitions/organizations such as;

- Civil Society Organizations for Peace in Northern Uganda CSOPNU
- Uganda Network of AIDS Service Organizations (UNASO)
- Network of AIDS Service Organizations in Nebbi (NASON)

VISION, MISSION, GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND VALUES

The **VISION** of the Forum is *a well-coordinated and strong civil society organization in Nebbi District.*

The **MISSION** of the Forum is to *provide a platform for CSOs operating in Nebbi District 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 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 see's 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 objective.

- 4) To improve networking and linkage among its Member Organizations and between CSOs and development partners.
- 5) To adequately, timely and reliably share information among its Member Organizations to effectively mobilize and utilize their resources to achieve their objective.
- 6) To do anything or activity that is legal to further the objective of the Forum.

Values

The Forum believes in;

- ✓ Transparency
- ✓ Collective action and responsibilities
- ✓ Mutual trust
- ✓ Fair dealings
- ✓ Equity and gender parity

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Back ground:

- ✓ Education. In Nebbi District the overall literacy level is rated at 53%, which is lower than the national average of 68%. The 53% translates as 30% females and 70% men. The challenge of retention of especially the girl child is an issue of concern. Drop out rate is 5.1% with 56.2% and 43.8% girls and boys respectively. The situation is worse between P4-P7 where the drop out rate for girls stand at 65.4% and 79% respectively, that is nearly 80% of the girls enrolled in P1 donot complete their cycle of education despite the higher ratio of female to male in the district population (52:48), factors like poor infrastructural facilities, misuse of resources, poor parental support among others have contributed to the drop out rate.
- ✓ Poverty. The appalling state of human right situation in Nebbi District is seen in the human development index of the district which stands at 0.399 as compared to the entire northern Uganda which stands at 0.418 and that of Uganda at 0.488, while Human poverty index of Nebbi District stands at 43.4, this puts Nebbi as the 6th poorest and 8th with the lowest human development index in Uganda respectively.
- ✓ Limited capacity of CSOs. In Nebbi District the few NGOs available like AFARD, UAPDC, World Vision, Uplift, CEFORD, and CARITAS are stronger interms of capacity than the majority of the CBOs who number over 125, they still lack capacity in

- fundraising, keeping proper books of accounts, developing plans and policies and knowledge of key policy documents..
- √ Low level of networking and support
- √ Limited information sharing among CSOs and with other stakeholders like local government.

Nebbi District NGO Forum intervened as a result of these key issues based on the following objectives and activities;

Objective 1: To improve the institutional capacity of the Forum and its member organizations to effectively mobilize and utilize their resources to achieve their objective.

Under this objective the Forum carried out several activities and achieved the followings;

Activity 1: Capacity Building/Trainings of MOs

Achievements

1. 3 (Three) MOs were trained in Leadership and good governance. They included Mungulonyu group in Nebbi Town council, EWIEPID-Erussi sub county, and Jupala community in Kucwiny sub county.
2. NDNGOF developed Strategic Plans for 2 (Two) MOs notably CUWEDE & The Good Samaritan Action Ministry.
3. NDNGOF held Policy Dissemination workshop for MOs (Disseminating Constitution, Local Government Act, NAADS, Police Act, and LGDP 2). The MOs that attended among others included:-Nyapea Safe Motherhood, FOCUS, KWOA, Wamiyurwa group, PACAIP, DAFAM, PAACASO, ASED, Banana mixed farm, Can-Kudupokwa group, Kubbi community group, Kebulolelo, Padyere APDC, Andibo women group, Talk and work ,STOGA, Kapoda, Awongo community, Lageru Hill, PHA Role Model, Apalala, PACEGO, Omoyo women group and SOPHA.
4. Training in Proposal development conducted by CEFORD. MOs that benefited included Nyapea Safe motherhood, CUWEDE, DAFAM, PAACASO, The Good Samaritan Action Ministry, and PACAIP. The MOs from their respective sub counties are expected to train other MOs in their area of operation, this to be done in 2009.
5. Policy Research and Analysis training was also conducted for MOs. MOs that benefited among others include:-Padyere Community and Focus in Zeu, Jupala community, Retired Teachers Association, Nyarakwacha Kpe Ton Farmers, and Padyere Archdeaconry (PAPDC) in Kucwiny, Obiya Youth Association and Utimkisa women in Jang-Okoro, AFARD and Nebbi Honey Beekeepers Association in Nebbi,

Pacego and Mungu dwong Agroforestry in Panyango, World vision in Panyimur.

6. With support from MACCO, the Forum trained over 25 Health Management Committee's Members of Health Centers from the sub counties of Jang-Okoro, Wadilai, Panyimur and Paidha.

Activity 2: Governance

Achievements

1. 1 (One) General Assembly was held in 2008. One new Board member (Female Representative-Padyere County) in the names of Alipara Jenina (works with CARITAS-Nebbi) was elected to fill one vacant post.
2. 4 (Four) Board meetings held and 1 (One), Extraordinary Board meeting.

Equipment Purchase

At the secretariat a generator was purchased to help ease work, when there is no power.

Challenges

1. Overwhelming workload on the secretariat staffs and competing engagements, as a result the secretariat staffs were not able to implement all planned activities, coupled with late disbursement of funds from donors, this had an effect on programme implementation.
2. Fundraising still remains a challenge for the organization amidst the high expectations from MOs, as well as sustaining the programmes.
3. Inadequate equipment at the secretariat.

a) Motorcycle

At the moment the secretariat has only one running motorcycle that has begun to constantly break down, and the cost of repairing is becoming exceedingly high. It cannot therefore manage the rigorous long distance field implementation and monitoring.

b) Computers

The Forum has 2 computers. One is almost getting outdated/old and needs replacement. The other one needs constant servicing.

5. Office Rent/Space

Paying rent has been a challenge for NDNGOF. Much as since 2002, donors have been willing to pay for rent, at times there is delay in remittance of funds, this has left NDNGOF in many occasions at an awkward situation and in the mercy of landlords. This has at times affected operation of the organization.

6. Subscription fee

Some MOs haven't responded positively towards payment of subscription and this remains a challenge.

7. Expectations of MOs

Meeting expectations of MOs still remains a challenge. All MOs have expectations at times different from each other and therefore meeting all expectations of MOs (which remains NDNGOF wish) and remaining relevant in the competing world of CSOs in Uganda is quite a hurdle.

Recommendation/wayforward

1. There is need to fundraise and recruit more staffs and volunteers, as well as strengthening Forum structures in particular sub county NGO Forum's.
2. Need to develop a fundraising strategy, develop skills and mentor Board, staffs and MOs in fundraising.
3. There is need to purchase a vehicle for the Forum as well as purchase more motorcycles, computers
4. Need to build own Forum office/space or purchase a building for an office, especially for sustainability purposes.
5. Need to develop a strategy/policy for collecting subscription funds from MOs.
6. Need to carry out thorough needs assessment of MOs so that all the needs of MOs are adequately planned for and realized.

Objective 2: To enable CSOs harness their collective strength to Advocate and Lobby government and development partners for pro-poor policies and programmes.

Under this objective the Forum undertook several advocacy initiatives and achieved the followings;

Activity 1: Education Resource Monitoring Programme (ERMP)

Overall objective

Ensure the right of learners to quality relevant education for sustainable development in line with the EFA goals and the MDGs on Education.

Specific Objectives/Purpose

1. Ensure efficient allocation and utilization of the Education resources

2. Improved enrolments, retention, completion and transition of the education cycle.
3. Improved performance and learning of the pupils

The Monitoring Programme

With support from Actionaid International Uganda, The Forum Piloted this programme in 5 Pilot sub counties of Panyimur, Erussi, Kango, Atyak and Nyapea. Two Pilot sub counties of Panyimur and Atyak were picked in 2008, while Kango, Erussi and Nyapea were already on board having started the programme in 2006.

Training of Resource monitors

The new sub counties that scaled up the programme in 2008 proceeded with training in resource monitoring. In all 10 Monitors were trained. Immediately after the training, a baseline survey was carried out and actual monitoring started.

Purchase and distribution of Bicycles

It should be noted that under this programme brand new road master bicycles were purchased and distributed to resource monitors, who are members of the Forum;-PAACASO- (Panyimur sub county) 1, PACAIP- (Panyimur) 2, WangKadu Fishing Enterprise (Panyimur) 1, Angiermach Women Group (Atyak) 3, Nyadima Women group-1 Mungu Dit group (Atyak) 1, CUEWEDE (Erussi) 2, DAFAM (Erussi) 1, Amvuru Bee Keepers (Atyak) 1.

Activities conducted by Resource Monitors

1. Mobilized and sensitize stakeholders on education resources.
2. Encouraged and sensitized teachers, head teachers, SMC to participate in school planning and budgeting sessions.
3. Data collection at primary schools, Analysis and packaging.
4. Documentation of Education resource issues.
5. Monitoring and evaluation of the education resource programs.
6. In partnership with the Forum, the monitors held dialogue meetings with sub county and district local government for increased resource allocation to education.

Achievements/Results of ERMP

a) Kango sub county

- 1) Sub County supplied 30 desks to 3 schools. 10 desks were supplied to Nyang primary school, 10 desks for Omua, 10 to Eleze. This followed a report of the monitoring programme where the issue of limited desks in schools featured as a common problem.
- 2) In a bid to promote environmental conservation in school, the sub county supplied schools with seedlings. The schools that benefited included Lyanga, Angar, Omua and Cope Centre that got 300 seedlings.
- 3) Teachers of Mvuranyi primary school who were not regularly attending schools were transferred to other schools outside the sub county by the district education department.
- 4) 3 stance latrine was constructed by the sub county at Omua Primary School.
- 5) One spring protected at War.

b) Erussi sub county

- 1) 4 (four) temporary staff house being raised in Luga and Nyipir Primary school.
- 2) The District has filled the gaps of limited or no female teachers in some primary schools in the sub county by recruiting at least one female teacher in most schools in the sub county although not all schools have got that.....
- 3) Supply of furniture and road opening by the sub county. 46 desks were supplied to Ugalo primary school since the school had limited desk for pupils. Community roads were opened from Owilo to Ramogi Didi via Oriwu Acwera primary school.
- 4) Performance/Results of some schools have also improved towards a positive trend. Ramogi Didi primary school has improved in performance and got the only historic 1 first grade in the District Mock. A phenomenon which has never occurred in the school since its formation.
- 5) Schools like Penji Primary School, and Nyipir Primary now participate in co-curriculum activities e.g. drama.
- 6) Erussi Primary School, Penji Primary School, Nyipir Primary School, Abongu Primary School and Orio acwera Primary School head teachers were transferred because of mismanagement. The resultant effect-improved performance, enrolment, teacher's attendance in school has also improved.

- 7) Head teachers' commitment to their work has improved noted by regular attendance of teachers who are oriented to work
- 8) The Sub county Local Government supplied 5,000 tree seedlings to 10 schools as an effort to conserve the school environment following the storm disaster in Amvuru Primary School, in Erussi Sub county.
- 9). Four (4) stances (Improved) pit latrine in Owilo Primary School was constructed by the sub county and Pacaka Primary School semi-permanent, 4 stances.
- 10) The feeder road to Borr Primary School that was difficult to access was regraded.
- 11) Three (3) dilapidated class room structures in Amvuru Primary School were renovated.
- 12) In Ogalo Primary School, a classroom block with 2 classrooms and a Head teacher's office was constructed by the district under SFG programme
- 13) SMC's in four schools that were not trained have now been trained by the area Inspector of schools following reports by Resource monitors.

c) Nyapea sub county

- 1) The district constructed latrine/stances at Zombu Lower.
- 2) The Head teacher of Zombu Upper who was irregular at school after being summoned by the DEO is now quite regular at school.
- 3) The Sub county provided 500 tree seedlings to Zombu Lower Primary School following dialogue meeting held with Nebbi District NGO Forum.
- d) Mitapila Primary School established a school banana plantation project aimed at raising development funds for the school.
- 4) The sub county organized 3 village meetings in the Parishes aimed at sensitizing parents on their roles to a successful child's education.

Other notable achievements from Education Resource Monitoring Programme

1. Recruitment as well as Posting of 66 GR 111 female teachers to rural schools by the District. (Initially most female teachers were concentrated in urban/town schools, the Forum contributed towards pointing out this vice).

One of the head teachers had this to say when we followed up on the programme at his school:

"In 2006, Education Resource monitors led by Orwothwun David approached the school. They talked about the programme, documented the challenges, regularly monitored the school and worked closely with the school authorities. With this information, they lobbied parents, community, sub county and district education office for support). In 2008, 3 (Three) more teachers were posted to the school, 1 (one) being a senior woman teacher, the school had never had a female teacher. This brought the total number of teachers to 6 (six). Enrolment has also increased steadily. In 2005, we had 131 pupils, 2006-160, 2007-230 and 2008-265. In January 2007, the sub county supplied 46 desks and 300 fruits seedling in 2008. However the high point for the school was in April 2008, when the school got one classroom block of 2 (two) classes, with an office for the headmaster and a store, constructed by the district education department.

However, the school still has challenges for instance the need for permanent pit latrines of 5 stances, sustainable enrolment/drop out rates and more classroom blocks. The school is greatly indebted and grateful to the monitoring programme of Nebbi District NGO Forum and ActionAid for this support".

**Okwairwoth Peter; the Deputy Headmaster of Ogalo Primary School-
OGALO PRIMARY SCHOOL-OWEKO PARISH-ERUSSI SUBCOUNTY**



Ogalo Primary School located in Erussi Sub county. In the background is the complete one classroom block of 2 (two) classes with an office for the headmaster and a store constructed by the district education department due to effort by Education Resource Monitors.



Ogalu Primary School located in Erussi Sub county. In the picture are desk supplied by the sub county local government due to effort by Education Resource Monitors.

“This school is a catholic founded school, which was founded in the late 1980’s. It has been a community school till 1999 when the government upgraded it into a grade 3 school. However, given its location deep in the village of Ramogi, Padolo parish, Erussi sub-county, the pupils, teachers and community members have been taking that advantage of the remoteness and were not taking education seriously hence making the school’s performance so alarming! Even there was no proper route coming to the school and the school was almost a neglected institution in the sub-county! However, with the inception of mass monitoring in the sub-county, the fate of the school was exposed hence a my transfer to the school, from Omoyo P/S where I was a deputy headteacher. The monitors continuously engaged with the sub-county and a new community road was opened in 2008 passing through the school and linking two sister schools of (Oriwo Acwera p/s and Owilo p/s). Through the continued collaboration, the pupils and teachers’ attendance has improved since on many occasions, the monitors have visited, I witnessed change in attendance and arrival, where at around 6:30 am, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pupils will have arrived at the school compared to the past arrival of 8:30 am. Most teachers including myself arrive at 7:30-8:00 am compared to the past where cases of teacher’s absentism were high. It is even remarkable that, within a short while that I have been in the school, I have witnesses great improvement in pupils’ performance. For instance, in the recently released P.7 mock results, one of the pupil named Oyirwoth Charles was able to obtain a first grade with aggregated 12. Something very remarkable and new in the history of the school ever since P.7 started sitting in 2001, either in pre-mock, mock or PLE. This is therefore accredited to the work of the education monitors, school administration together with

other stakeholders especially the sub-county who are working tirelessly to see this reality on the ground”.

**Mr. Ongieragiu Alex, the Headmaster Ramogi Primary School
RAMOGI DIDI PRIMARY SCHOOL-PADOLO PARISH-ERUSSI SUB COUNTY**

Activity 2: Poverty Resource Monitoring Programme (PRMP)

With support from European Union-Civil Society Capacity Building Programme, the Forum implemented poverty resource monitoring in 4 pilot sub counties of Wadilai, Zeu, Kucwiny and Panyango.

The Monitoring programme focused on UPE, Health services and Agriculture-NADDS.

Purchase and distribution of Bicycles

It should be noted that under this programme brand new road master bicycles were also purchased and distributed to resource monitors of especially one sub county who hadn't yet received i.e. The Good Samaritan Action Ministry (TGSA)-(Wadilai sub county) 3 in number. Others had received theirs 2007.

Achievements/Results

a) Wadilai Sub County

Governance/Transparency

1) Community involvement in planning process has improved as well as monitoring. There is now detailed breakdown in expenditure by the sub county especially in presenting accountability feedback to stakeholders; initially they would give a block figure to the displeasure of the citizens who would not understand.

2) Community have access to information at the sub county Information is not hidden. Initially it was not easy/possible accessing information especially on accountabilities.

Education

1) Transparency and Accountability of UPE funds have tremendously improved. Most if not all schools have displayed accountability. Initially accountability statements were not displayed or in place. Head teachers would spend without raising vouchers.

- 2) Sanitary facilities in schools and landing sites have improved, due to routine cleaning. (Regular washing of toilets).
- c) Storage of desks in schools have improved. (Initially they would not lock).
- 3) SMC and PTA initially didn't know their roles however due to the monitoring programme they were trained and their relationship with head teachers and others better.

Health

- 1) Ragem Health Center was involved in distribution of expired drugs i.e. Homa Pack. Due to the efforts and work of Resource Monitors, they were able to rescue these expired drugs in 3 big boxes. The expired drugs were sent to health sub-district to be destroyed.

Case of-Theft-and re-imburement

1. A Parish Chief was charging 2000 shs on a short birth certificate (which is free and for children) instead of issuing long birth certificate to students which is sold at 2000 shs (In essence he was selling a fake certificate and swindling money) He had sold 193 copies. The monitors discovered, reported him to the sub county. He was forced to reimburse the funds by the sub county to the students.

b) Kucwiny sub county

Education

- 1) Accountability by Head Teachers has improved. Initially there was mismanagement of funds. Following transfer of Head Teachers accountability has improved.
- 2) Teachers performance has improved. Initially no lesson plan, cases of drunkardness was high, though it has subsided, absenteeism, late coming was frequent. Attitude has also changed, teachers are punctual.
- 3) Enrolment has improved. In Aringa Primary School, initially they were 520 pupils, now there are 600 pupils.
- 4) Parental support to education improved. PTA contribution, initially parents would not pay PTA now they pay. Parents now visit schools. Scholastic materials provided.
- 5) Sub county renovated 2 classroom block each in Othwol, and Jupala under LGDP 11, following dialogue meeting with Nebbi District NGO Forum and Monitors.
- 6) Staffs houses have been constructed by parents, one is permanent and the other one is semi-permanent, all in Jupala.

In Kucwiny Primary school 2 Staffs houses is being constructed by community/parents, all due to efforts of resource monitoring.

Health centre

1) Mismanagement of Kikobe HC by the Incharge.

Initially there was mismanagement of the Health centre by the In-charge. He would mismanage funds, and come drunk to the Health Centre. However after the intervention by resource monitors, he was disciplined, and the responsibility of running the health centre was shifted/reallocated to the deputy. This greatly solved the situation and services improved.

2) Padwot Mi-Dyere HC 11.

The In-charge would hide information on funds disbursed, even the staffs/workers would not know anything to do with funds disbursed or how it is used at the health centre, but as per now there is open accountability, it is exposed and put on the wall/notice board. Even vouchers are filed properly. In a nutshell there is transparency.

Agriculture

1) Monitoring programme has ensured community facilitators of NAADS to do there work.

Community facilitators are supposed to monitor groups and ensure NAADS programmes are implemented, and look at issues of capacity building trainings to NAADS group and report to Sub county Farmers Forum. This was not done, goats were given without training and some would die. After the intervention of resource monitors, their services improved drastically.

c) Panyango Sub County

Education

1) Staff houses constructed in Payila and Pangieth Primary School by the sub county under LGDP 11.

2) Accountability has improved by head teachers. Initially funds spent without attachments, and receipts, and no accountability presented to any person. are now able to put supporting documents and even display these on the board.

3) Community involvement in monitoring education resource has improved by parents. Initially parents/community were not bothered.

4) Improved usage of learning aids, initially not being used in Payila and Pangieth and Andibo. Pupils now use them.

5) Supply of 30 desk in Owiny Primary School and 11 in Payila Primary School by the sub county as a result of the monitoring programme.

Roads

- 1) Community access roads have been maintained by community in Andibo.

Health

- 1) Compliance to Health service delivery Policy.

Initially staffs in Health centre of Pokwero, Nyaregi and Pacego were not putting on uniforms and this made it so difficult for the citizenry to know the workers in health centres, and there was fear of being treated or taken advantage of by un-qualified person. However due to the monitoring programme, uniforms are now being worn.

- 2) Improvement in services.

Initially health workers would come late and this affected delivery of services to the people in need. The monitoring programme ensured that health workers started coming early and on time. The Health centres included Alwi Health centre and Pakia Health Centre. (An arrival book was also introduced for health workers/staffs to sign once they arrive, this was intended to control late coming and getting the perpetrators.

- 3) Commitment and pledge by the sub county to construct a placenta at Pakia Health centre. This has been the biggest challenge facing the health centre. This was promised to be fitted in FY 2009/2010, plan and budget. This is a commendable initiative by the sub county, resource monitors and the Forum and should be applauded, much as it is too early to celebrate and praise, but it should be noted it's a step in the right direction.

Water

- 1) Spring water protected at Pangieth by the community.

d) ZEU Sub county

Agriculture-NAADS

- 1) Sub county NAADS accountability now open to the public/Easily accessible. Accountability before monitoring was difficult to access by all stakeholders including area politicians. (In-charge NAADS at the sub county would say who ever is a Politician or community should not talk about NAADS), It's now displayed and easy to access.

Education

- 1) Latrines constructed in Zeu P.S by sub county (4 stances for girls), Ndrinyi also 4 stances-VIP, Ogalo local pit latrine by sub county.
- 2) Staffs houses constructed by community at Zale Primary School, temporary houses in Zeu Primary school and Arri Primary School.
- 3) There is now display of accountability in most schools in Zeu Sub County. Before the monitoring programme they were rarely displayed.
- 4) Monitoring is also being conducted by stakeholders (Sub county)
- 5) Teacher teaching using lesson plan and scheme of work
- 6) Community involvement in monitoring has improved.

Health

- 1) Because of this programme local support staffs (askari, cleaners and vaccinators) are being paid by the sub county and their services have improved.
- 2) There is now continuous monitoring by the sub county.

Challenges (Poverty Resource Monitoring Progrmme)

1. Training of monitors was carried out around June 2007 due to delay in funding, actual monitoring and data collection hence started extremely late as the monitors had to first conduct baseline survey.
2. Logistical challenges hence unable to fulfill all the needs of resource monitors. (Resource monitors need camera's (still and digital) for on spot capture of an event/scenario.
3. Unfulfilled commitments for unclear reasons by Lower Local Governments and Higher Local Governments as a result of advocacy initiatives undertaken.
3. Culture still plays negative role in the education of pupils, especially girls. Parents still don't value the importance of education and therefore it takes time to change their attitude.
4. Delay by resource monitors to collect information/generate, analyze and report resource monitoring progress on time.
5. Accessing information from some Lower Local Governments (Sub counties), has been a challenge for resource monitors. Authorities demand all sorts of letters from LC V/CAO/RDC. While some monitors are able to avail information/letters the authorities, especially from CAO, they are reluctant to divulge information.
6. There is still evidence of misuse of resources especially by Head teachers of some Primary Schools in the district; this affects the quality of learning in those schools. Notable schools include Nyadima Primary School in Atyak sub county and Nyakiro Primary School in Panyimur Sub county where the former headmaster refused to hand over office and relocated with un-accounted for funds raised from

parents. While in Kango Primary School, Learning materials/aids and text books were being eaten up by termites.

7. Sustaining the good initiatives/achievements realized from Education and Poverty Resource Monitoring Programme, this is a big challenge for the Forum.

8. Regional and National linkages especially on advocacy issues being pointed out/realized, much as the Forum is affiliated to regional and national organizations, more effort still needs to be done to foster the closeness in relationship especially on aspect of advocacy information sharing, networking, learning's as well as capacity building opportunities to strengthen the Forum in its endeavors.

Recommendation

1. The District should institute the District Law Committee that is mandated with the responsibility of guiding ordinance formulation, so that bye laws on education can be passed as well as ordinance's developed and approved. There will however be need to popularize the bye-law and ordinance's.

2. The district as well as other CSOs need to popularize the Education Act.

3. Resource monitors need to be thoroughly trained in analyzing information/data as well as report generation so that it can be easily consumed by the stakeholders/public.

4. There is need for sub county and district authorities to be flexible in providing information to the citizenry once demanded for, so long as the people are able to identify themselves ably/satisfactory. Much as there is now the Access to Information Act, which is quite a positive step, there is need to popularize it, use it to determine how friendly and easy it is to the local citizenry. The President proposed initiative of "ebimeza" is good. It will help a great deal in transparency and accountability. However CSOs need to closely be involved.

5. There is need to train school head teachers and accounting officers in schools in financial management and book keeping.

6. Join regional and national organizations and networks to foster, learning's, networking, and information sharing. Notable organizations/networks include Uganda Debt Network, Uganda Child Rights NGO Network-(UCRNN), FAWE and FENU.

Activity 3: Global Campaign for Education (GCE)

In partnership with Actionaid International Uganda, Nebbi District Local Government (NDLG), CEFORD-Nebbi, Red cross-Nebbi Branch, and UNATU-Nebbi, the Forum was involved in the GCE 2008 under the theme “**Quality Education to End Exclusion**”

Activities of GCE 2008

1. Three (3) County Rallies

These were held at Jonam county, Panyimur sub county, Dei Primary School. In Okoro county at Atyak sub county, Nyadima Primary School and in Padyere county at Kucwiny sub county, Aringa Primary School.

Purpose of the Rallies

The rallies offered opportunities to politicians and the citizens to interact, put forward issues affecting education status in their own locality as well as other emerging concerns for decision makers to address.

Participants at the Rallies

The RDC-Betty Adima, LC V Chairman-Hon Wapokra John Pascal, Secretary for Social Service-Hon Yoacel Joseph, Secretary for Finance-Hon Orieda Richard, Chairperson Social Service Committee-Hon Abedu Sam, Chairperson Finance Committee-Hon Jackline Kumakech, LC V Representatives from respective sub counties notably Hon Idah, Hon Doreen, LC 111 Chairpersons of Panyimur, Atyak and Kucwiny Sub counties, and the CAO represented by Clerk to Council Festo Thugitho, NDNGOF Board Chairman-William Anyolitho as well as members of the coalition/CSOs.

2. District Dialogue Meeting

This was a one day meeting to reflect on the three (3) county rallies held, distill and filter the issues arising from the rallies and forge a way forward.

Participants at the District Dialogue meeting

The RDC-Betty Adima, LC V Chairman-Hon Wapokra John Pascal, Secretary for Social Service-Hon Yoacel Joseph, Chairperson Social Service Committee-Hon Abedu Sam, Chairperson Finance Committee-Hon Jackline Kumakech, Representatives of LC 111 Chairpersons of Panyimur, Atyak and Kucwiny Sub counties and members of the civil society fraternity.

Achievements/Results

1) Increased enrolment

In Nyadima Primary School, Atyak Sub County and Aringa Primary School, Kucwiny Sub County, the GCE led to increased enrolment. In Nyadima Primary school before GCE there were 79 Pupils, after GCE 251 Pupils.

2) Teachers Posted

New Teachers were also posted to the schools by the District Local Government/DEO.

In Nyadima before GCE there were 2 Teachers, after GCE 4 Teachers.

3) New SMC

In Nyadima before GCE, SMC and PTA were almost non existent/not functioning to expectations (They were not playing their roles). After GCE a new SMC and PTA were put in place.

- ✓ Above all pledges and commitments were made by the Local Government/District Leaders to improve education standards in the three schools (Refer to GCE Report 2008 for details).

Challenges (GCE 2008)

1) Follow up on commitments

Due to competing engagements, and lack of funds, It was not possible to travel to the field to conduct evaluation of GCE as well as bring all the stakeholders (District Officials) together to reflect on their commitments.

2) Proper handover by the old SMC in Nyadima Primary School. (This hasn't yet been effected by the Headmaster), This has not been helped by the fact that, the headmaster has become so unreliable and rare at the school.

3) Sustaining the achievements so far realized/recorded. -E.g. Among others, ensuring enrolment in Nyadima and Aringa Primary School stands as it is even after the GCE Campaign.

4) Sharing the GCE Report 2008 with all the stakeholders (Board, RDC's office, and District Officials) was a big challenge, the fact that it become increasingly difficult for all coalition members to meet, discuss and give the go ahead for publication of public consumption/sharing, the Forum couldn't rush on its own and share with the stakeholders. However the situation as it is now, can warrant sharing with stakeholders.

Recommendation

- 1) Evaluation of GCE 2008 needs to be carried out.
- 2) The Headmaster of Nyadima Primary School needs to be seriously reprimanded by the DEO/Education Department.
- 3) The district needs to fulfill its commitment and pledges

Activity 4: Advocacy Dialogue meetings on Education

The Forum held 2 Dialogue meetings on increased resource allocation to Education as well as tackling issues arising from Education Resource Monitoring in 2 (two) Pilot sub counties of Panyimur, Kucwiny and Atyak.

Achievements

The output of the meeting was that stakeholders (Sub county local government, religious and cultural leaders committed themselves to improving education standards in their respective sub counties). Forum to carry out follow up in 2009.

Notable commitments

- a) The LC 3 Office of Panyimur sub county to follow up on non accountability/misuse of PTA funds by the former headmaster of Nyakiro Primary School who has relocated to another school in Panyango Sub County.
- b) Stakeholders committed to tackling other issues e.g. cases of drop out, discos, video showing during school hours, and teachers drunkard ness.

Activity 5: Holding Radio Talk shows

Achievements

The Forum held 5 Radio Talk shows (Radio Paidha) on Education. (The focus were issues arising from Education Resource Monitoring Programme)

Challenge

1. Getting community feedback on Radio Talk shows held.

Activity 6: Production of 5 Community Notice Board

Achievements

With support from AAIU and CSCBP, the Forum made 5 community notice boards; this is intended for display of information at sub county level, Issues arising from Poverty and Education Resource Monitoring and other information will be displayed.

Challenge

1. Transporting the notice board. These were not initially budgeted for and thus made it completely difficult to transport the notice board. A solution therefore needs to be realized.
2. The fragility of the notice board is also worrying. A case in point is the one transported to Wadilai that developed a crack upon delivery.

Activity 7: Production of Newsletter

Achievements

Production of a simple newsletter on issues of Education Resource Monitoring Programme.

Challenge

1. Limited funds to produce in large quantity.

Activity 8: Holding Education Forum

Achievements

The Forum held Education Forum, A Forum to share information and discuss pertinent issues affecting education standards in the district. This time round Community Development Officers (CDOs) from the 19 sub counties and town councils participated, they shared information on sub county support to education as well as generated an action plan to tackle education challenges in the district by all stakeholders.

Activity 9: Popularizing Monitoring of government programmes, through mass media-DJ Mention

Achievements

The Forum ran a radio programme-DJ Mention in both English and the local language popularizing and encouraging the citizens to get involved in monitoring and evaluating government programmes.

Activity 10: Holding Forum Theater on Human rights & Good Governance

Achievements

The Forum held 5 Forum Theater's at Kucwiny, Panyango, Wadilai, Erussi, and Zeu sub counties. It focused on human rights awareness and good governance.

Activity 11: Production of T-Shirts

Achievements

Over 100 T-Shirts were printed to popularize Poverty Resource Monitoring Programme targeting decision makers and the citizenry. The T-Shirts added tempo to the Forum advocacy.

The theme of shirts were "Dikiri I yik mi tic, Lubu man ngiyu I tic pa gavmente cako kudi" (Translated as "Participating in planning, monitoring and evaluation of government programme starts with you").

Objective 3: To improve networking and linkage among its Member Organizations and between CSOs and Development partners

Activity 1: Holding Thematic meetings

Achievements

The Forum held thematic meetings in Education, Health and Agriculture, CSOs were able to deliberate on pertinent issues affecting the sectors. Advocacy issues were developed and are planned to be tabled to key stakeholders.

Challenges

1. Sharing the thematic meeting report with various stakeholders.
2. Resources to bring together a few representatives of MOs so as to engage constructively with the key stakeholders with issues that arose from thematic meeting report.

Recommendations

1. Improving documentation/report generation and dissemination at the secretariat of NDNGOF as well as purchase of equipments, laptops and computers at the office and hiring people/individuals to generate reports, or else recruiting more staffs (Programme Officer charged with Research, Training and documentation).
2. The Local Government needs to move swiftly on issues that arose from thematic meeting, most notable was drugs meant for health centers and hospitals find there way in private clinics e.g. coatem, and the widespread allegation of witchcraft and sabotage at Nebbi hospital.

Activity 2: Linkage of MOs

Achievements

In 2008 the Forum was able to link some MOs for support (capacity building support).

1. West Nile Anti corruption coalition-MACCO

The Good Samaritan Action Ministry in Wadilai sub county, PACAIP-Panyimur, Agiermach Women Group-Atyak sub county, LIFE CONCERN-Paidha, DAFAM-Erussi sub county , PRUDEPMA-Pakwach benefited from capacity building support of West Nile Anticorruption Coalition based in Arua. The support ranged from; Resource monitoring, Advocacy and lobbying, Strategic Leadership Training, Participating in events-Anti corruption week.

2. Uganda Malaria Communities Partnership (UMCP)

The Forum got engaged in the launch of the programme in 2008 in Nebbi.

The project intends to reduce malaria related mortality/morbidity in West Nile

UMCP intends to work through CSOs especially CBOs. They will support CBOs interms of building their capacity and providing grants/funds towards malaria control. Calls for proposal/applications is scheduled for 2009. Most likely NDNGOF will be involved in the selection process.

A visit was also conducted by the Management Team based in Arua around November 2008. CBOs visited included;-CUWEDE-Erussi, TGSAM-Wadilai, PACAIP-Panyimur, PACASO-Panyimur, NSCCA-Nyapea, PAYAD-Parombo and ASED-Nebbi.

3. Population Service International (PSI)

Focused on social marketing and health related activities.

MOs that were able to get engaged preliminary included TGSA-Wadilai, PACAIP-Panyimur, ASED-Nebbi, and CUWEDE-Erussi. MOs willing to work with PSI will roll out their initiatives in 2009.

4. Care International in Uganda-Arua

The Forum in collaboration with Care Arua and other CSOs in Nebbi were contacted by Care Arua and gave their input in developing the proposal. The MOs that got involved were;-CUWEDE-Erussi and TGSAM-Wadilai. MOs will benefit as Associates and benefit from capacity building opportunities. Feedback is expected in 2009.

Challenges

1. Linking credible organizations. It was a big challenge for the Forum in 2008, to link organizations whose credibility, leadership and systems in place are wanting.
2. Limited capacity of MOs. Because of the limited capacity of MOs, not all were able to benefit from opportunities realized due to efforts by NDNGOF.

Recommendation

1. Apart from capacity building support by the Forum, the MOs need to internally strengthen their own capacity. There is need for regular meeting of MOs executives and their members and this needs to be documented, regular elections of executive as well as effort in getting skilled, knowledgeable and competent people on the executive is paramount.

Activity 3: Linkage with West Nile Anticorruption Coalition (MACCO)

Achievements

Around April 2008 the Forum became a member of West Nile Anti-corruption Coalition-MACCO, having greatly contributed immensely to the creation of the Organizations. MACCO is Regional based organization composing of members through out West Nile region. The Forum Chairman is a Board member.

Activity 4: Linkage & support with CEFORD under NDNSP

Achievements

CEFORD support continued through 2008. Under the National District Network Support Programme (NDNSP) supported by DANIDA, CEFORD become the Process Facilitator. In 2008 the Forum achieved the following under CEFORD support;

1. Training the Accounts Assistant in Accounting packages as well as installing the accounting packages.
2. Training of Board, Staff and MOs in Proposal development (MOs that benefited included-PACASO & PACAIP in Panyimur, DAFAM & CUWEDE in Erussi, TGSA in Wadilai, Nyapea Safe Motherhood & Child Care Association in Nyapea.
3. Support in developing the Strategic Plan of the Forum (2009-2012).

Other support envisaged include:-Board training/orientation and communication training/support.

It should also be noted that the Coordinator of the Forum in 2008 become a member of the Governance Council of CEFORD, representing beneficiaries of CEFORD in West Nile Region.

Activity 4: Exposure visit

Achievements

The Forum undertook an exposure visit to Apac NGO Link Forum. Members that went included: - The Treasurer-Canowok Lily Susan, Board female representative for Okoro Harriet Fuacan, the Coordinator Rupiny Ronnie and the Programme Officer Moses Ogamdhogwa.

The trio visited Apac NGO Link Forum, the Eco-Society centre and Apac Anti-Corruption Coalition.

Learning's

Apac NGO Link Forum

1. There is a membership Strategy in place.
2. Very cordial relationship/bond with some district councilors/officials, documents are easily accessible and delivered by the said officials, there is no hassle in requesting/looking for information, as a result the Forum is not in limbo, and they are abreast with the goings at the district, this has improved there advocacy agenda.
3. The Forum has also created a very close relationship with the media, there is a specific journalist with New Vision in Kampala,

always responsive to the calls by the Forum, and he does his work with no monetary gain/benefit. The Forum has also benefited so much from Rupiny news paper; series of articles have been published on the works of the Organization.

4. MOs in Apac are responsive to payment of subscription. The Forum has 62 MOs and all had paid there subscription by December 2008.

TAAC-The Apac Anti-corruption Coalition

1. The Organization is now prosecuting cases of corruption and embezzlement. Due to its work several officers have been transferred and reprimanded, while others are being investigated.

E-Society Centre

1. A one stop information centre at the heart of the district headquarters, linking 3 sub counties of Aduku, Akokoro and Aye to the centre via information technology (computer-Internet). Information regarding all sectors can be accessed from the centre and sub counties. It's aimed at improving social service delivery and community participation through ICT.

Activity 5: Holding dialogue meetings

Achievements

The Forum held 1(One) District dialogue meeting attended by MOs and Local government officials. It was aimed at improving the relationship between the two partners.

1 (One) other dialogue meeting was held for CSOs from Jonam County at Pakwach, it was also aimed at sensitizing CSOs and lower local government officials on their roles and responsibilities as well as discussing challenges facing them and to seek for solutions, so as to improve the relationship.

2 (Two) other dialogue meetings were held in Erussi and Wadilai sub counties aimed at improving relationship between CSOs and Lower Local Governments. In the two sub counties the CSOs raised issues for redress by the stakeholders.

As a result of the dialogue meetings;

1. Relationship between CSOs and Higher & Lower Local Governments has improved.

2. CSOs and the Forum continue to be incorporated as part of district committees where they are effectively engaging. In 2008, CSOs become part of district water and sanitation committee as well as a committee member of the district 2 year development project/programme-The 9th EDF Support to Decentralization (The project focuses on education, participatory planning and governance).

Challenge

1. Limited funds to hold constant/quarterly meetings with the district.

Recommendation

1. The district and sub county local governments need to budget for regular meetings with CSOs so that the relationship between the two parties is greatly enhanced.

2. Need for Focal office and Focal Point Officer In-charge of CSOs. This will enable easy information sharing, engagement and networking with local government.

Activity 6: Participating in Budget conferences

Achievements

The Forum was able to attend the district budget conference and some sub counties budget conferences especially of Panyango and Paidha sub counties. Others were attended by MOs in their respective sub counties.

The Forum as well as other MOs were able to make their contribution in the budget conferences.

Activity 7: Attending Council & Committee meetings

Achievements

The Forum was able to attend 3 district council meetings, 1 district committee meeting of social service and finance, and 1 Sub county Council Meetings at Kucwiny

Objective 4: To adequately, timely and reliably share Information among its Member Organizations to effectively mobilize and utilize their resources to achieve their objective.

Under this objective the following were the activities;

Activity 1: Holding Annual Information sharing meeting

Achievements

The Forum organized a meeting that brought together several MOs to share their plans and budgets, with the current government policy CSOs are ideally supposed to share their plans and budgets for integration into the district plans and budgets.

Challenge

1. Because of limited funds not all MOs were invited; however there was a representation of MOs.
2. Some MOs that came seemed unprepared or else didn't take the exercise seriously, and could not leave behind (Interms of document) any concrete data/information regarding their annual plans and budgets, and funds received.

Activity 2: Report Sharing Information with Stakeholders

Achievements

Since the beginning of 2008, the Forum has been sharing quarterly reports with stakeholders notably:-RDC's office, Community Development, and District Planning Unit.

Activity 3: Purchase of Text materials

Achievements

The Forum purchased/bought policy documents (Constitution, Local Government Act, Penal code, Leadership Act etc), these are available at the secretariat for MOs reading.

Activity 4: Internet

Achievements

The Secretariat has internet in place that can be accessed by MOs. As of 2008 a number of MOs had accessed information on the internet, though the response is not so good.

CONCLUSION

The year 2008 was remarkable for the Forum. Despite the many challenges, the organization scored very highly in certain programme implementation notably education and poverty resource monitoring where a lot was achieved. The year also marked the successful closure of the 2 (two) year European Union-Civil Society Capacity Building Programme.

In 2008 MOs also benefited interms of capacity support with the organizations that linked and networked with the Forum. We believe 2009 will be the year for the MOs to increasingly enjoy the fruits of linkage.

Despite the current funding bottlenecks, ("fingers crossed") we are positive and hopeful that with the right moves, a new Strategic plan/direction that we have envisaged, a break through will be realized for the organization.

Annex 1: List of Staffs and Board Members of NDNNGOF-2008

BOARD

S/N	NAME	POSITION AT NDNNGOF	ORGANISATION
1.	Anyolitho William	Chairman	LIFE CONCERN-(LICO) Paidha
2.	Ungwech Flavia	Vice Chairperson	NDAFE-Nebbi
3.	Canowok Lily Susan	Treasurer	Staff Welfare Association Paidha Town Council
4.	Alipara Jenina	Member	CARITAS-Nebbi
5.	Orwothwun David	Member	DAFAM-Erussi
6.	Fuacan Harriet	Member	Nyapea Safe Motherhood & Child Care Association-Nyapea
7.	Ocama Charles	Member	Ukoro Archdeaconry Planning & Development Committee (UAPDC)-Atyak
8.	Celsius Ocamgiu	Member	PRUDEPMA-Pakwach
9.	Lucy Oker	Member	PACEGO-Panyango

STAFFS AT SECRETARIAT

S/N	NAME	TITLE
1.	Rupiny Ronnie Robert	Coordinator
2.	Ogamdhogwa Moses	Programme Officer
3.	Ayirwoth Edna	Accounts Assistant
4.	Acirocan Charity	Administrative Assistant

2008 IN PICTURES



(Left) Capacity Building Training of MOs. Mungu Lonyo Elderly group.- Nebbi



(UP) Thematic meeting of CSOs. Teachers Resource Center - Nebbi

(Right) Poverty Resource Monitoring-(Monitoring Health Services in Zeu sub county)



(Left) Budget conference 2008 at Rajja Deluxe-Nebbi. The Chairman NGO Forum William Anyolitho making his contribution.



(UP) District Dialogue Meeting-CSOs & Local Government held at Rock Royale-Nebbi. In the background the District Community Development Officer Mr. Amule Julius making his presentation.

(Right) Forum Theatre organized by Nebbi District NGO Forum, staged by Nebbi Cultural Troupe on Human rights and governance at Kucwiny Sub county





(Left) Board members inspecting new community notice board, at the Forum secretariat to be placed at sub county level. (From left to right Ocama Charles, Harriet Fuacan and David Orwothwun)



LC V Chairman-John Pascal Wapokra making his remarks and commitment.



The RDC-Nebbi Ms Betty Adima making her remarks at the GCE Rally-Nyadima-Atyak sub county. April 2008



Banner displaying successful closure of European Union-Civil Society Capacity Building Programme 2006-2008. The donors funded NGO Forum for 2 years.