

NEBBI DISTRICT NGO FORUM

ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT

ON HUMAN RIGHTS BASED PROJECT



WITH FUNDING SUPPORT FROM IDF

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INTRODUCTION.

This two year project is aimed at enhancing the capacity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and the wider citizenry in Nebbi District to hold government accountable for human right violation. The project looks at civil society organisations (CSOs) as pivotal in supplementing the government effort to promote human rights of the citizens by holding the perpetrators accountable. While the government focuses on the supply side of intervention on human right issues through putting structures and personnel in place who are in one way or the other are charged with the responsibility of promoting citizen rights, this project intends to focus on the demand side where the community and the wider citizenry are at the centre stage of demanding for right based service delivery from the local authorities.

This project is implemented under the objectives of;

- To build capacity of CSOs in Nebbi District and the wider citizenry to participate in promotion and observance of human rights.
- To Undertaking civic education aimed at creating awareness on citizen rights and equipping CSOs with skills to undertake human right monitoring, reporting and documentation in 2 pilot sub counties of Panyimur and Paidha.
- To create linkages with human right actors in Nebbi District so as to create synergy in promoting human rights

To implement each of the above objectives a number of strategies have been undertaken. This included mentoring and capacity building trainings of civil society organizations in human rights based approach, Human rights monitoring, reporting and documentation, mentoring CSOs in advocacy and lobbying and in Harmonized participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Civic education was conducted through Radio programmes and production of IEC materials. CSOs were also trained and mentored to conduct and document human rights violations. Ultimately a vibrant citizenry would be created to demand for promotion and protection of human rights. The mentoring and capacity trainings will enable CSOs to engage in policy dialogue with Sub County and district officials for friendlier policies that give priority to community civic rights.

The project targets 134 civil society organizations in Nebbi District.

In terms of coverage, the project covers cover 2 sub counties of Panyimur and Paidha, and it is envisaged to be implemented in a 2 (two) year, (24 months) period.

The total budget for the project is **81,594,000** (Eighty One million, Five Hundred Ninety Four thousand shillings only)

High lights on Project Implementation

Ablly activities implemented during the year, key achievements and strategic interventions.

Key activities	Key achievements	Strategic engagements.
Mentoring and back stopping support to community monitors.	Back stopping support conducted and effective monitoring and data collection enhanced. 12 functional CBOs are actively engaged in human rights activities.	Organization development (ODI) to strengthen the capacity of these groups to done much
Conducted human rights monitoring and documentation in 2 pilot sub counties of Panyimur and Paidha.	Information gathering and documentation on key advocacy issues and progress of the project ascertained. Issues from the reports	Strengthening monitoring and linkages with institutions that promote and protect Human rights.

	formed part of the district engagements.	
4 Radio talk shows on issues arising from monitoring.	Key human rights messages from the monitoring programmes were disseminated to the wider public	Enhancing community radio programmes.
2 bi annual dialogue meeting on human rights in the district	Review of the project, emphasis on key activities conducted, notably achievements and challenges encountered in the course of implementation.	Enhancing quarterly interfaces and reviews at District levels to enhance result.
Holding 4 Quarterly human rights clinic (feedback) meeting at sub county.	These meetings were conducted and this provided strategies and planning for implementation.	Bringing together more community members for more involvement and participation in the project.
Exposure/learning visit for the secretariat and member organization.	Improved learning and implementation.	More staff and management to be involved in the visits so as to improve implementation.

2.2 Summary of progress achieved during the quarter (Outputs) of activities

Objectives	Activity	Progress to date	Quarter Targets	Quarter Actual	Comments/ Remarks
Objective 1:					
To Building capacity of CSOs in Nebbi district and the wider citizenry to participate in the promotion and observance of human rights.	Mentoring and back stopping support to community monitors	Routine visit to monitors to ensure that they are executing their duties.	Continuous	Community monitors were able to present human rights violation issues to the sub county stakeholders.	Community monitors have internalized the concept of human rights and their participation in the project has become valuable as they are reporting cases of violation to authorities.
	Conducted continuous human rights monitoring in the two piloted sub counties	Monitoring issues identified and compiled in to a report and progress reviewed.	continuous	Issues identified were tabled before the sub county and district stakeholders for redress.	There is still a challenge in fulfilling the tasks and commitments of stakeholders causing delay in achieving results.
Objective 2:					
Undertaking civic education, aimed at creating awareness on citizen rights	Conducted Radio talk show on Radio Maria.	4 Radio talk show held to discuss the human rights situation in the two piloted sub counties	4 Radio talk show held	The Radio has enabled many community members to continue reporting cases of abuse to community monitors.	Community are still reluctant to report cases of abuse within the household or home stead due to interpersonal relations
	Conducted quarterly human rights feedback meeting at the sub county	4 meetings held to review the human rights project at sub county and impact created.	4 meetings held.	Report shared with sub county stakeholders and area of improvement discussed.	Meetings were planned in both sub counties of Panyimur and Paidha to review the project, mainly focusing on activities implemented and impact created.
Objective 3:					
To create linkages with human rights actors in the district	Conducted a bi-annual human rights dialogue	One meeting held to share the report on the human	2 meeting held.	Advocacy issues shared with sub county and	Meetings held at the district and attended by a wide range of participants.

so as to create synergy in promoting human rights.	meeting at the district.	rights situation in the two sub counties.		district stakeholders for redress.	
	Conducting exposure visit.	One exposure visit conducted to Masindi NGO forum.	1 exposure/learning visit conducted. participants were, the Chairman, Coordinator, and 2 Programme Staff,	Lesson learnt to be in- cooperated in the course of implementation	There were a lot of areas learnt. This learning will enhance the effectiveness at programming in the organization.

VISIBLE CHANGES.

Empowered community able to meet their obligations and demand for their rights.

Mr. Droma Charles 47 a former nursing aid with Nebbi district local government after listening to one of the Radio talk shows organized by Nebbi district NGO forum under the programme resumed follow up of his case where he was forcefully retrenched from his duty in the District as a support staff.(forceful retirement). As a result, his lawyer M/S OYARMOI & CO Advocates won the case and the plaintiff is to be paid 13,000,000 by the Nebbi local government.

Health service delivery: Case study of Utheke Health centre 11

Utheke Health center 2 in Paidha Sub County like many other health centers in the District is faced with a number of challenges amongst which are inadequate staffing and lack of drugs. With one staff, communities expected efficient service delivery of services and drugs administration. However, this was not the ideal and it was made worse by the Incharge who had opted to stay home in Nyapea and commutes to the station which is over 47 kilometers away. This has affected his arrival and regularity and the time of work. community radio empowered the local community where they protested against his actions hence following a meeting which was organized by Nebbi NGO Forum which was attended by 47 participants and the sub county stakeholders (LC3 Chairman, Sub county Chief and area councilors, the officer was transferred away from the health centre and a 2 new Incharge and another staff were brought in.



Participants reacting in meeting with the community in Utheke Health Center 2

Results.

- A new Incharge and a new Staff have has been posted in the health centre and the former was relieved off his dirty.
- Patients attracted to health unit has enormously increased, between 30 to 50 are treated daily compared to 10 patients before the intervention.
- Improved relationship between the new staffs and the community of Utheke parish.

Case 2: Charges in Pakadha Health Centre 3

Pakadha is in Paidha Sub County is one of the private not for profit Health Units that levy charges on patients. From the month of June the charges had risen up to 7500 from 5500 shillings and staff could work at their won convenient time. This promoted concerns by community members who reported the case to community monitors who have been engaged in monitoring service delivery in schools and Health Centers under the Human rights project being implemented by Nebbi NGO Forum with funding support from Independent Development Fund (IDF). A meeting was held at the sub county with stakeholders of all health centers in the sub county which resolved for a meeting to be held at the health Unit. As such

community monitors organized community meetings together with Health Unit Management Committee (HUMC) management of the health centers which resolved that

- Start payment for attending maternity shall be 600 and any subsequent attendance shall be 400.
- Basic pay for delivery in the health unit shall be 5500= from 7500 Uganda shillings.
- Time of work and rest to be clearly written on the notice board for public to view
- The health unit shall have one person (public relation officer) to explain to the patients issues in the health unit. This is because most members of the community are illiterate.

As such, public relation officer has been instituted and notice boards have been instated in every ward and the sign post indicating working hours as well has been put in place.



(left) Notice on the reduced Charges on the wall at reception (Right) Cashier acting as the PRO as well



(Left) Pakadha health Centre (Right) Working hour Schedule (Newly attached below) made known to public

case study iii, boro health unit II.

Charges by police to transport culprits to the police cell

Following the complaint by the community monitors where the whole sub county did not have cells, it has made the police to charge complainants to transport offenders to the police post where they would be put on remand in the cell which is contrary to the police act and the laws of Uganda. This was a burden to the community since not all people could afford paying for the police officers to transport the accused. As such, people could not report cases

to police and also the few cases that are reported to the police were left without being arrested since there was no cell to keep them in custody as they wait the process.

This has led to the continuous increase in the number of human rights violations especially assault, domestic violence and defilement cases.

Therefore, in a meeting with the District Police Commander (DPC) and other District stakeholders, the case was reported to the DPC who committed to erecting a police cell that could help the people to avoid the transport cost.

The DPC relocated one structure at the district and taken to the sub county. However, delivery was done without bolts and screws for fixing it together. After a period of one Month and with the continuous crimes, there was an urgent need for the cell to be put in place as fast as possible. Thus community monitors together with the community mobilized resources and purchased the items for the final work that made the cell to be fixed together and it is now in use. Similarly, they are in the process of buying cement for the flooring the house. -



DPC Nebbi Mr.Wabwira
the police post
at the Meeting on 24th /Nov.2010.



complainant under the building



sign post of

Improved rapport between the district stakeholders and the sub county with CSOs. E.g stakeholders are slowing fulfilling their commitments made during interface and fed meeting E.g. Stake holders committed to tackling other issues e.g. Disco, video showing during school hours, Having ground breaking of contracts awarded and commissioning as a solution to cab the rampant cases of shoddy work by contractors, as we report. Sub county of Panyimur has written to all video and disco owners who operate near schools to regular their activities and ensure that school going children are stopped from accessing them.

Implementation constraints

6. Lesson learnt and best practices

- Project implementation in politically active period always present challenges that are beyond the achievement of results of any intervention. This is because, the period is normally commercialized with a lot of financial benefit expectation from communities.
- When empowered, community is at a better front to in demanding and advocating for their rights and entitlements.

Challenges

1. Unfilled commitments for unclear reasons by the lower local government and higher local government as a result of advocacy and lobbying initiatives undertaken. This affected the realization of the goals of the project within the district.
2. Commercialization of participation especially during the election period, especially the campaigns where, people expected high payment even for attending sensitization meetings. This as a result affected the smooth project implementation since there was no budget line to cover expenses of that nature.

Similarly, political leaders were not readily available for the meetings since they were busy engaged in political campaigns and rallies.

3. Human rights desk have been formed at the sub counties but their non functionality remains a matter of concern. This is because in most cases the district and the sub county stakeholders of the two sub counties have staffs that are in acting positions. This affected the affected the implementation of decision agreed upon from the different meetings at both the sub county and the District.
4. Misrepresentation of the programme by community and some perpetrators that depict monitors and NGO forum as a fault finding entity that follows people instead. This affected open reporting of cases especially of capital offence that are human right ion nature. this affected the quality of the monitoring issues reported by the community monitors
5. Community apathy continues to be a big challenge to implementation. Communities fear to report sensitive issues like sexual violations, assault, murder which as a result limits the project to miss such issues.

Implementation challenges.

1. The power blackout in Nebbi and the entire West Nile region presented a big challenge to the organization. Since the region uses Thermal power the breakage of the Generator has affected the report generation hence resulting into late reporting. This has been made worse by no provision for fuel provided for generator usage under the project. The organization had to continue producing reports from the commercialized internet café which charged high cost despite the irregularities.
2. Election fever. The entire quarter was marred with an election fever that spread within the Fourth Quarter of the year 2010. This has affected mobilization and holding meetings since policy makers who are part of the project (Local Council) were busy in the campaigns and the community was busy in rallies at different times.

Recommendations

- ❖ The local government and the sub counties need to move swiftly on issues raised in the meetings (dialogue, feedback, thematic), most notably was, revitalization and functionality of human rights at Sub County and district.
- ❖ The sub counties should quarterly allocate budgets for meetings with CSOs so that they can find avenues for free engagement.
- ❖ There is need for continuous follow-up and patience on commitments made by the different stakeholders to ensure that they are fulfilled.
- ❖ There is need to fund raise and recruit more volunteers in sub counties so that advocacy and lobbying issues are not missed.

- ❖ Need for refresh meeting with human rights monitors so as to further build their capacity to participate in the promotion of human rights.