



NEBBI DISTRICT NGO FORUM

(NDNGOF)

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR ADVOCACY NETWORK

(SPAN)

Produced by;

The secretariat

Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF)

Email: nebbingof@yahoo.com

About Nebbi District NGO Forum (NDNGOF)

Nebbi District NGO FORUM (NDNGOF) is a platform for civil society organizations (CSOs) in Nebbi District with a purpose of strengthening and guiding the operations of CSOs for better and qualitative service delivery to the community through networking, accessing and sharing resources and advocating for equitable development.

The Forum was formed in 2001 as an affiliate of the Uganda National NGO Forum and it is registered with Nebbi District Local Government (NDLG).Uganda national NGO Board(No.S.5914/799) , West Nile corruption coalition, Northern Albertine network on environment and petroleum, At present, NDNGOF has a membership of 83 Organizations spread throughout the districts of Nebbi. The members are derived from CBOs and NGOs who have so far registered with the Forum.

The Forum stands for transparency, collective actions and responsibilities, mutual respect, fair dealings, equity and gender parity and active participation.

MISION, GOAL & OBJECTIVES

VISION: The Vision for the forum is a well coordinated and strong civil society organization in Nebbi and Zombo district

MISSION: To provide a Platform for CSOs operating in Nebbi District to increasingly participate in development processes and contributes to policy dialogue through advocacy, networking and information sharing.

GOAL

The goal of NDNGOF is to develop civil society into an institution able to participate as an effective partner in the conception, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, legislation and any other aspects of development practices and processes in the district

OBJECTIVES:

1. To increase mobilization of, and networking among member organizations (MOs).
2. To promote policy dialogue and advocacy with government, donors and other development stakeholders in formulating pro poor policies and poverty reduction program.
3. To share information and good practices in order to contribute more effectively to the development process in the district.
4. To build capacity of MOs to engage in policy processes more effectively at all levels.
5. To promote good governance and human rights
6. To carry out other activities that is legal to further the objectives of the forum.

About SPAN.

Support program for advocacy network aims at strengthening the capacity of CSOs at sub national with the aim developing an eco-system of civil society actors who are able to link, learn and work together in the bid to hold their leaders accountable, it has four interlinked components namely:1) district level CSOs leadership capacity

enhancement,2) developing local advocacy hubs,3) learning, networking and accountability for results and developing evidence networks to produce advocacy contents. The activities under each of the component have been categorized and are delivered through the district networks, regional advocacy networks and the SPAN secretariat.

SPAN Objectives.

- To build a sub national citizen –led advocacy eco-system for greater transparency, accountability and quality service delivery in Uganda.

SPAN Structure.

SPAN operational structure was anchored on the 3 basis organs of;

1. District Networks.(DNs)
2. Regional advocacy networks (RANs).
3. SPAN secretariat which is the administrative and coordinating Unit based at the National NGO Forum.

Structure of the report

This report provides summary of NDNNGOFs work, strides recorded and challenges encountered during the year 2012. The report has been compiled from information and analysis adopted from reports and field visits

NDNGOF –LANDMARK TO DATE

Leadership enhancement/QuAM,

under the SPAN program, Nebbi district NGO forum with 2 other members organizations (Accelerated Agency for Rural development (AFARD) and CARITAS-Nebbi were able to embrace QUaMing and were awarded certification by NGO board and has continues to encourage and popular QUaMing to Member organizations, board meetings have also been regularly conducted to show direction to the organization and during the annual general meeting conducted, a new female board was elected to replace the old treasurer. These initiatives have helped the forum to significantly enhanced organizational legitimacy



Sir, Rose Orach, the chairperson, Nebbi district QuAM committee, handing over QuAM certificate to the chairman, Nebbi district NGO forum, Mr. Onege P jenero during one of the board meeting

Improved networking between district networks

Through the hub established under SPAN project, there has been improved linkages and networking between district networks, information sharing has been enhanced from national to regional, district to member organizations especially sharing of case studies, strides arising from advocacy, proposals, this has increased resources in the organization, where Nebbi district NGO forum over the

period of 6 months, received 187M shillings in projects, The information about these projects were shared.

Copy of a successive proposal submitted to manedilon ya jamin and the university of leeds, - England, it is a three years project aimed at expanding opportunities for multi-stakeholders engagement in the Uganda oil being region.

Joint advocacy enhanced

During the implementing of the SPAN program, Uganda National NGO Forum through the Support Program for Advocacy Networks (SPAN) infrastructure undertook to monitor the implementation of the National Development Plan in 51 districts. Monitoring was carried out within seven sectors of the NDP and these include; Agriculture, Markets and Cooperatives, Transport Sector, Labour and Skills development; Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation and Justice Law Order Sector. This took place at four different levels; households, community, sub county and district levels. It covered 1020 enumeration areas, 20,400 households, 306 focus group discussions and 357 key informants. The sample was selected with guidance from Uganda Bureau of Statistics.

Nebbi district NGO forum conducted the monitoring in 12 sub counties of pakwach, pakwach Town council, panyango, panyimur, wadelai, Akworo, Erussi, Kucwiny, Nebbi, Nebbi Town council, nyaravur and parombo in Nebbi district. Volunteers (MOs) in partnership with area LCs compiled the names of house hold in each Enumeration area sampled, this joint advocacy link on national level work through the Hubs was a milestone for networks and Nebbi district NGO forum, "DNs all over uganda speaking the same voice' the reports form a basis for engagement on issues identified across regions.



Nebbi district councils, head of departments, representatives of CSOs and volunteer during the dissemination meeting of the CSOs-led monitoring of NDP report.

Information Communication Technology(ICT)

Access to information by MOs from the DN.this was made possible during the implementation of the support programme for advocacy network programme

MOs were able to access;

- Information on donors/call for proposals for possible fundraising for their respective organizations
- Newspaper reading (New Vision and Monitor)
- Accessing information from DN internet

Information on Registration and Membership with the Forum, Sub County, District Local Government, National NGO Board & Registrar of Company.

Support from volunteers. (Students)

During the period, the forum received a volunteer for Makerere University; the volunteer came in at time when Nebbi district NGO forum was facing shortage of staffs to implement the different undertaking, working with the student help to reduce on the work load in terms of documentation (report writing), field work, sharing and learning this propelled the board to recommend support from students

Mentorship

As a result of SPAN programme, Nebbi district NGO forum was blessed with a mentor who served both as a guide and inspirator especially during the assessment of the national development plan (NDP) not only for the secretariat but also the members organizations, this initiative helped to build the capacity of the secretariat in facilitation and interactions, all these added value to the organization and its members



Ms Sarah, a mentor helping the Member Organisations to analyse

the NDP assessment booklet

Improved Coordination

Working relationship with Local Government is quite cordial. With SPAN programme, Policy dialogues and coordination meetings were held. The main endeavors were to explore avenues for partnership between CSOs and Nebbi District Local Government for increased effectiveness of development efforts to the utmost benefits of the poor. As a result of improved relationship, NDNNGOF and other CSOs are highly recognized by Local Government. As such the Forum is a member of the District OVC Committee, District Disaster Management Committee, District HIV/AIDS Committee and District Water & Sanitation Committee. Overall NDNNGOF credibility has improved drastically.



Mos of nebbi district NGO forum under going a training on documentation

and reporting

Area of strength

Nebbi district NGO forum over the years has developed in to bigger institution, this has been attributed to the following . Voluntarism increasing among Mos, Governance structure in place. The forum have a functional board, Increased membership of MOs/CSOs.(134), Legal recognition (by district, and the national NGO board), Well established Secretariat, CSOs directory exist, Constitution and operational guideline are in place, MOs participation in

government programmes. (Monitoring government programmes-UPE, NUSAF, NAADs, Health services) and Donor interest and support.

Lesson learnt

- A generic capacity building initiative under the programme through the needs assessment and research is sensible for CSOs to effectively engage in policy related advocacy at District and sub county levels. Many organizations that have benefited from the programme have become better in terms of documentation.
- Advocacy initiatives done collectively carries that added pressure on stakeholders than done in individual organizations.
- .
- Policy changes takes time and requires sustained effort from all stakeholders for policy to have impact on the local community. Therefore, there is need for patience and commitment to achieve change.
- Community participation, involvement and empowerment are vital for the creation of a critical mass of reformers to demand and advocate for quality social services.
- Strategic linkages and networking with other DNs, Mos, key stakeholders and media is critical for the promotion and advocating for better services. In other words, Collaboration in any project intervention is very lucrative that it can enhance the performance and implementation of activities.
- 4. Evidence based reporting is paramount.