

ADVOCACY FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF GBV LAWS AND POLICIES IN UGANDA

Project Brochure



Who We Are

An indigenous voluntary, non-governmental women organisation that has been in existence for over 30 years. Action for Development (ACFODE) **envision**s a just society where gender equality is a reality. The organisation's **mission** is to empower women and influence legislation and policy or gender equality in Uganda.



About the Project

ACFODE in partnership with **TROCAIRE** is implementing a project ***Advocacy for the Effective Implementation of GBV Policies and Laws in Uganda***. The main national policies for focus are the **Domestic Violence Act (DVA, 2010)** and the **Gender Based Violence (GBV) Policy** and its **Action Plan (2016)**. The **long term outcome** for this project is **women in target communities free from violence and its associated risks**.

The program **intermediate outcome** is **women and men advocating at national and local level for appropriate resourcing and implementation of GBV laws and policies**.

Duration

The project will be implemented for a period of 5 years (2017-2021).

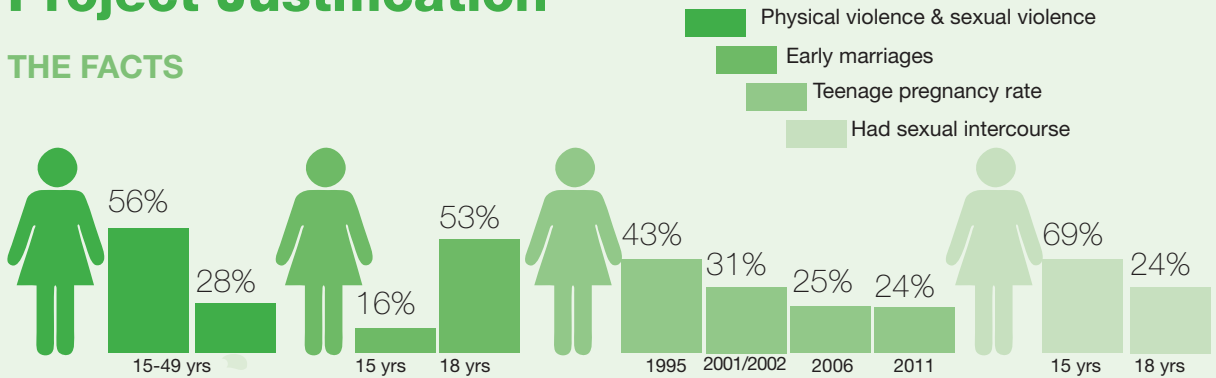
Districts of Focus

The project is being implemented in Kitgum, Omoro, Lamwo, Kaberamaido and Katakwi districts (Acholi and Teso regions)



Project Justification

THE FACTS



Gender Based Violence (GBV) in all its forms remains a serious problem in Uganda. The 2011 Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS, 2011) indicates that 56% of women of the age range 15-49 years have experienced physical violence at least once since age 15. 28% of women aged 15-49 have experienced sexual violence at least once in their life time. Young women and girls' rights are violated through early marriages, where by 16% of women are married by age 15 and 53% by the age of 18. The average Ugandan girl gets married at the age of 17 years. The teenage pregnancy rate according to the UDHS has progressively declined from 43% 1995; 31% 2001/2002; 25% 2006 to 24% 2011. Women's age for sexual debut is 16.7 years compared to men at 18 years. The UDHS 2011 further reveals that 24% of the girls have had sexual intercourse by the age of 15 and 69% by the age of 18.

In 2010, the Government of Uganda enacted the Domestic Violence Act and its guidelines. Since it's enactment the enforcement has remained a big challenge. Further more, the Government passed the GBV policy and its action plan in 2016 to strengthen implementation of the Domestic Violence Act and this is yet to be rolled out. Experience from enactment of the DV Act has shown that the Government is slow to implementing the GBV laws and policies. There is minimal mainstreaming of the GBV policy strategies into development plans of the different duty bearers. This has greatly impacted on implementation. There is also need to do a lot of work around popularizing the policies

and mainstreaming strategies into stakeholder plans and budgets both at national and local levels.

At national level, the line ministries have not supported relevant departments to roll out the policies and laws. The GBV policy guidelines have not been disseminated to all the relevant stakeholders. The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGS LD) has also not issued simplified guidelines to support integration in the already existing plans.

The responsible duty bearers at local level have got limited knowledge on the policy strategies. Considering that the duty bearers are also part of the social cultural norms and beliefs that promote VAW, they have negative attitudes towards implementing the GBV policy strategies. The community men and women are not aware of the existing GBV policies and laws as well as their rights and responsibilities. There is general acceptance of GBV and no drive to hold the government to account for any gaps identified. Further, the community men and women lack effective advocacy skills.

Immediate Project Outcomes

- 1.1.1 Women and men in target communities have knowledge on existing GBV policies and frameworks
- 1.3.1 Women, men and religious leaders in target communities have information on GBV policies to lobby and advocate for communities that are free of violence and its associated risks
- 1.3.2 Women, men and religious leaders have a strategy to guide them while engaging in advocacy for communities that are free of violence and its associated risks
- 1.3.3 Men and women in target communities have knowledge and skills for advocacy

Strategies

How We Plan To Do It



Research &
Documentation



Capacity Building



Community
Mobilisation



Partnerships and
Linkages



Strategic
Engagements

Project Interventions and Activities

A. A. Men, women & religious leaders have a change in attitude, behaviours, & practices related to GBV and its linkages with HIV

- Simplify, translate and disseminate the GBV Policy and the DV Act
- Conduct trainings for 180 community women leaders on the GBV Policy, its action plan, and DV Act in Kitgum, Omoro, Lamwo, Kaberamaido and Katakwi districts

B. Women, men and religious leaders advocating at National and Local levels for appropriate resourcing and implementation of GBV Laws and systems

- Conduct research on implementation of the DV Act and GBV Policy in Kitgum, Omoro, Lamwo, Kaberamaido and Katakwi districts
- Disseminate the study findings on GBV policy and laws implementation to the GBV advocacy groups at local level
- Conduct 2 regional TOT workshops for the GBV Advocacy groups on GBV policies and laws
- Organize strategic engagements with key stakeholders at regional level on the effective implementation of the GBV Policy
- Organize strategic engagements with influential stakeholders at national level including the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOs), MGSLD, and Parliamentary Committee on Gender, about the effective implementation of GBV laws and policies.
During the strategic meetings, position papers and policy briefs will be shared.
- Commemorate the International Women's Day and 16 days of Activism Against GBV
- Conduct support visits/mentor partner organisations to document progress and best practices in GBV advocacy work in the target communities
- Conduct training for 2 regional GBV advocacy groups in Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation as an advocacy approach for the DV act.
- Conduct advocacy skills workshops for 180 women leaders from the target communities to lobby and advocate for implementation of the GBV policies

Project Target

- A. A total of 1500 women and 750 men in target communities, including women, men, youths, persons with disability (PWD), and persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHV)
- B. Civil society organisations both at national and regional level (Acholi and Teso regions)
- C. Key stakeholders (MGLSD, JLOs, Parliamentary Committee on Gender)



For More Information Contact

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