

**NATIONAL WOMEN ASSOCIATION FOR
SOCIAL AND EDUCATION ADVANCEMENT
[NWASEA]**

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

PREPARED BY NWASEA SECRETARIAT

FEBRUARY 2017

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ABBREVIATIONS \ ACCRONYMS

NWASEA	National Women Association for Social and Education Advancement
EDF	European Development Fund
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Deficiency Virus – Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
MO	Member Organisation
LC	Local Council
PEAP	Poverty Eradication Action Plan
PMA	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
ICTs	Information Communication Technology
PWD	People with Disability
MCTS	Mass Communication Technology Sector
FAL	Functional Adult Literacy
IIZ/DVV	Germany Adult Education association
DDHS	District Director of Health Services

THE CHAIRPERSON’S REMARKS

Last year, NWASEA began a project on ‘increasing the participation of local communities in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development projects at the sub/county level. This was in conjunction with the CIVIL SOCEITY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME with funding from the 9th EDF 2014/2015

Today, having carried out other programmes geared towards community development in the Districts of Iganga, Bugiri , and Mayuge NWASEA has learnt that our mission of ‘Improving the social economic status of rural communities in Uganda through promotion of health, education and human rights for national development, Is still relevant, and has to be achieved.

NWASEA exists to promote the self determination of local communities especially women through the exchange of skills and experiences, information sharing and networking.

This annual report shows how we lived to that purpose during 2016. We have continued to promote the issues of human rights and fundamental freedoms especially in the area of Government policy analysis and advocacy.

We have gone a step further and invited a team of specialists in rural development to work with us to develop a strategic investment plan for the next 10 years.

The Board of Directors thanks the staff of NWASEA for their tireless efforts in sustaining the mission of .NWASEA. We thank the donors who have trusted in us and have continued to partner with us. We look forward to a richer collaboration in the years to come.

Betty Kasoro Kitakufe

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

‘Every organization is the product of how its members and staff think and interact.’ On a number of occasions many individuals and organizations have wondered how we manage to do so much with such a small size of staff. The answer lies in opening up and working with others. Since its inception NWASEA has made networking, collaboration and coalition’s central to its strategic plans. We believe in working with others to produce quality work and therefore, we try to tap the relevant human resources around us to accomplish our planned activities.

The organization activities have been demand driven. What the communities express as their need for empowerment is the path that NWASEA usually follows. These people’s voices have been the driving force behind our strategic thinking in the fulfillment of our mission and vision. Of promoting the participation of community groups in national development processes. The stories members of these communities have confirmed to NWASEA are that the future of rural people’s development lies in their own hands. This will definitely be through participation in planning implementation, monitoring and evaluation of community projects.

We salute all those who have contributed to our success both in form of human resource And financially. We pray that we shall continue working together to fulfill our vision of building a society that is well informed and gender sensitive, where women and men’s status and achievements are well documented and valued, and their capacities fully utilized.

We call upon all those responsible for the well being of humanity to prioritize the issue of rural development for a better world

Nantale Anne
Director

INTRODUCTION

This is a progress report of the 2016 work plan, indicating the strides that have taken in implementing what NWASEA set out to do at the beginning of the year. Because of the concern and importance that NWASEA continues to place on the issue of impact of its work, this report is based mainly on the results. Set out and the indicators that were developed to monitor the effect of the programmes and in particular how the stakeholders benefit. Before the discussion of the results however, a review of the operating environment in which NGOs in Uganda were operating and a review of NWASEA's major strategies during the year are discussed. At the end of the report, there is a section on the challenges that have been faced so far. The four major result area which NWASEA set out to achieve are outlined as follows

- 1.1 (i) MO's skills and knowledge in reading, writing and numeracy and household income improved
- (ii) Members knowledge and skills in design and implementation of poverty reduction programmes improved in 5 sub-counties of Iganga District.
- (iii) 20 home based care givers to people affected and infected with HIV/AIDS trained and monitored in one sub-county of Bugiri district.
- (iv) Community participation in development planning increased in 3 sub-counties of Iganga district

Support Programmes Include

- (a) Research and documentation
- (b) Resource mobilization
- (c) Gender and HIV/AIDS as cross cutting issues

THE 2016 OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

The work of NWASEA and the NGO sector during the year is being reviewed in the context of an operating environment citing some of the major social, economic and political events that had a positive or negative effect bearing on NGO work.

POLITICAL

The political system in Uganda reveals a maturing system at the local government level, and amore open political environment at the national level. The Government is composed of broad-based political groupings brought together under the movement system. There is a constitution which was drawn after a fairly public consultation process. Since 1996, there have been constant and regular elections of the president, members of parliament and local councils.

At the local level Uganda has a decentralized system of Governance chosen by the people. The main feature of decentralization has been the increased financial and

political empowerment and autonomy of the two local governments of L.C.V at the district and LC 3 at the sub-county level together with other lower administrative units.

This choice is crucial opportunity for the NGO sector to address poverty reduction in society and to further utilize the space provided at the lower levels for widened intervention. Is, what it dos and should not do.

Implementation of decentralized programmes has resulted into three major positive political sector objectives, these are:-

- Decision making on all matters of local significance is decentralized to local Governments – this has brought services nearer to many people and has enabled them to know what Government.
- Districts are mandated to formulate policies and develop by laws and implement their own development plans. This has mandated local government to formulate, approve, execute and control their own budgets.
- The fair degree of local autonomy and popular consent on majority of delivered services is increasing the confidence of average Ugandans in the political system and the way they relate to it.

2.2 The Social Economic sector

The PEAP (Uganda poverty eradication action plan) which is the Uganda Poverty Eradication framework has guided the formulation of government policy on poverty reduction since 1997. Under this plan is Uganda is being transformed into a modern economy in which people in all sectors can participate in economic growth. This implies a number of conditions.

- The economy requires structural transformation including the modernization of Agriculture, the development of industries, which build on the demand and supply linkages from agriculture and continued institutional development in the legal and financial sector.
- Economic growth must be sustainable, high quality and broad based.
- The non-material aspects of poverty must be addressed; participatory studies have shown that insecurity, illness, isolation and dis-empowerment are as important to the poor as low incomes.

PEAP is established on 4 major pillars

- Ensuring good governance and security
- Creating a framework for economic growth and transformation
- Directly increasing the ability of the poor to raise income

- Directly increasing the quality the quality of the life of the poor.

The country has a national gender policy that promotes gender responsive development. However, men still control and own most of the wealth, property and other household assets. The rural women still form the core of the most marginalized people in Uganda. And although the quest for deeper understanding of gender relations and analysis is on, the capacity gap in this area poses immediate challenges to the NGO sector .Effective mainstreaming of development concerns and issues of the traditionally excluded sections of the population like PWDs, women, orphans and people living with HIV\AIDS is an area of concern that need serious rethinking and address.

2.3 TECHNOLOGICAL

The liberalization of the communication sector has resulted into improved and increased utilization of information and communication technologies (ICTS) like e-mail, internet, mobile phones and computers. This is inline with the global communication highway to open up and increase the amount and quality of information accessible to developing countries. Access to radio and television has been boosted tremendously by the establishment of private fm radio stations at local level in almost all districts.

The government has been at the fore front of initiatives to integrate information and communication technologies (ICTS) into rural development through multipurpose community tele- centre model, an example being that located at Buwama town (MCTS) are designed to offer public telephone, fax, photocopy and internet services to rural users

3.0 A review of NWASEA’s strategies

Literacy and adult education programme had the following strategies; NWASEA works with community based groups who are its members most of them committed, resourceful and dependable. A research on women literacy and development was conducted to determine the level of participation of women in FAL classes as determinant for social change. Another strategy was to develop follow-up, readers in English to help learner continue to practice reading skills

CHALLENGES FACED

FAL programme has always been under funded to the extent where the organization hardly maintains 35 FAL classes. Lack of instructor incentives has made FAL difficult programme where commitment and voluntarism is minimal.

Result Area 1: Members skills in reading, writing , numeracy and income generation improved Skills and knowledge in Adult education and income generation have been a major component of the 2015/2016 work plan. The strategies for pursuing this have been training workshops and providing professional advisory services. There has also been information packages developed for these instructors attending the workshops and follow-up readers, materials, developed and distributed to 10 Fal classes in Nabitende

sub-county 14 Fal classes in Bulange sub-county and 11 Fal classes in Bulamagi sub-county

Result Area 2: Member’s knowledge and skills in the design of gender sensitive poverty Elimination and planning improved.

One of the most heavily entrenched social tradition in Uganda and in Africa as a whole is patriarchy In 2003 NWASEA carried out a gender study which recommended that a conscious effort should be made to integrate gender equity concerns in NWASEA’s entire partners/members. Gender issues therefore are central to NWASEA’s work plan. As a result NWASEA changed its strategy from organizing separate workshops for gender training to mainstreaming gender in all programmes such that all programme activities reflect and address the gender concerns. The NWASEA 2015 study revealed gross gender discrepancies in access to information, gender inequalities in the health sector which are rooted in women’s lack of rights, powerlessness and unequal access to employment, ownership of resources, decision making and education. Legislation against marital rape would enhance women’s control over their bodies and sexuality and therefore, their productivity.

As a result of NWASEA’s engendering processes, members are increasingly becoming gender aware and this is reflected in the active participation of both men and women, in development activities such as in political, social and economic growth. Approximately 60 groups have incorporated gender concerns in their values and as a cross cutting issue in all programmes.

The following FAL classes were in progress [an example]

Sub county	Name of class	Instructor	No of learners		Remarks
			Male	Female	
Nabitende	Bawuna bwire Adult class	Naigaga fatina	13	26	Committed class meet twice a week
Makuutu	Kyebaja toboona FAL	Magoma Dan	21	40	Female dominated class
Waibuga	Twena twegaite FAL	Gorreti kwagala	7	13	Include HIV in their classes
Nawandala	Mwidhe tusome FAL	Sarah aleseki	9	23	Sanitation and hygiene are emphasized in this class

Result 3 CAPACITY BUILDING AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

NWASEA applied, competed and won a contract to undertake a project entitled “increasing community Participation in development planning from the civil society capacity building programme funded by the 9th European Development Fund. Sub-counties selected for this project included Nabitende, Makuutu and Waibuga, Iganga District.

The objectives of the project are as follows:-

- To introduce to community members the concept of participatory planning in the long term
- To facilitate learning and analyzing the most pressing problems affecting the community
- Map out possible suggestions/solutions to those problems
- To impart skills in designing an action plan in line with the proposed solutions identified
- To introduce a participatory monitoring tool through use of SWOT analysis

METHODOLOGIES EMPLOYED DURING THE TRAINING

1. Participatory technological development approach (PTD)
2. Brain storming
3. Lecture method
4. Group discussions
5. Plenary presentations
6. Sharing experiences and networking

MANAGEMENT

NWASEA HIRED CONSULTANTS to undertake a baseline survey. Facilitators were also employed from the district planning unit to impart skills and knowledge in participatory planning to 3 sub-counties.

Among the target group were community based groups, parish development committee members and local leaders. LC IIIs and sub-county chiefs were also involved in the training and support to the program.

Why Participatory Planning?

It was made clear to participants that participatory planning is an option because all stakeholders come together to discuss the most pressing problems within their community in order to find lasting solutions. It also promotes the following:-

- Active and collective involvement in decision making of their development agenda.
- Agree on the effective utilization of the locally available resources.

- To develop consensus on important issues without neglecting anybody.
- To put into consideration the interest of the marginalized community members such as PWDs, women, youth, vulnerable groups and orphaned children

The first year of contract was completed successfully and NWASEA will continue with this program into the issuing year 2017.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. 450 community members trained in participatory planning monitoring and evaluation.
2. 8 Community action plans prepared.
3. 250 Tee-shirts as an advocacy tool distributed.
4. 500 posters and brochures distributed.
5. 1 Baseline survey report prepared.
6. Makuutu sub-county community members started on digging their feeder roads.
7. Waibuga water and sanitation project had an end of year competing and prizes were given to the winners- [this was a community initiative] NWASEA presided over the function.

RESULT AREA 4

Adolescent reproductive health, sharing of information on teenage sexuality and HIV/Aids knowledge enhanced

This result area is informed by NWASEA's conviction that information is not only important for improving the understanding of social reality but can also provide knowledge for more effective action especially in policy making processes. NWASEA particularly perceives that the youth when well informed about their reproductive roles and responsibilities can change behavior such that they can participate fully in the development of our country

It is against the above background that NWASEA initiated the above programme area

Introduction:

An initiative with the aim of raising the reproductive health [RH] profile in Uganda is in action. There is increasing concern about Uganda's poor and stagnant reproductive health indicators over the past 10 years despite significant investments in the health sector and considerable progress in improving service delivery in economic growth, in poverty reduction and in health sector reforms. Government, donors, NGOs and other R.H stakeholders are being called upon to join a coalition committed to addressing the

underlying causes of poor reproductive health outcomes by taking positive coordinated action across the country as a matter of priority.

There has been a high level of policy commitment by government and the ministry of health to address reproductive health concerns and improve service delivery through the poverty eradication action plan [PEAP]

The National health policy, the health sector strategic plan [HSSP] and the reproductive health 5 year strategic plan [RHSP]. Translating these policies into action and results on the ground, however, faced a number of challenges. Uganda demographic health survey [UDHS] data from 2015 shows that little progress has been achieved between 2015-2016 and there were still a number of gaps that needed to be filled including the following:-

- Progressive policies and programmes on –going programme on safe motherhood and maternal mortality, but continued high maternal and infant mortality rates are on the rise
- Positive policies and on-going programmes on safe motherhood and maternal mortality, but continued high maternal and infant mortality rates are on the rise
- Positive policies and programmes on HIV/AIDS and STD awareness and prevention with positive results but indicators show that significant proportion of young people are still not practicing safe sex
- Progressive policies in place on RH, indicators as a means to poverty alleviation, yet overall RH indicators continue to remain poor
- Positive policies and programmes on HIV/Ads and STD awareness and prevention with positive results but indicators that significant proportion of young people are not practicing safer sex
- Inconsistent implementation of policies by different development partners and poor coordination of efforts and central and operational levels
- Messages given out by public figures that conflict with national policies and development objectives.

It is in the light of the above critical situation that NWASEA was prompted to initiate a project on “enhancement of adolescent sexual reproductive health in Nankoma sub-county of Bugiri District.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To provide STD management to 2015 female and male aged 15-25 years living in Nankoma sub-county for a period of 2 years

2. To provide counseling services on adolescent sexual reproductive health to 600 male and 11500 female aged 15-25 in the project area
3. To form linkages with other stakeholders like ISIS-wicce for purposes of preparing a documentary, testimonials and results

CHALLENGES

50% of the targeted youth used the facility 250, male and female youth accessed STI management and counseling, formation of linkages with other stakeholders like Naguru teenage centre was minimal.

- Since the project began in the second quarter of the year so far, not much has been achieved
- Funding for the project has been minimum, making the project progress to slow down

Women Land Rights;

NWASEA influenced protection and enforcement of land rights of the poor and vulnerable through Legal empowerment and addressing women land rights issues. Despite women's critical role and contribution to agriculture, rural development, and food security, women across Uganda are still discriminated against in terms of their access to, and ownership of and ownership of land, but studies have shown women's ability to access land and to claim, use and defend rights to land and other natural resources is weakened by their status within the house hold and community, as well as discriminatory customary and statutory laws. NWASEA has over the past few years increased its activities around women's land rights, by ensuring.

Adonai Junior School;

WAY FORWARD

Resource mobilization in progress and continues

The NWASEA INFORMATION UNIT

A total of 682 people used the unit between January to December 2016 as follows:-

Month	Number	People / Category
January	65	Student from universities Tertiary Institutions, researchers, academicians, women group members.
February	53	Women leaders, Advocates, students, child rights, local leaders
March	69	Local people, scientists, students
April	75	Students from Universities, local CSOs, researchers, academicians
May	51	Researchers , scientists women leaders
June	68	Human rights activists, NGOs, CBOs, women groups
July	46	Academicians, students from universities and tertiary institutions

August	56	Students, academicians, local leaders, development workers
Sept	63	University researcher students, academicians local people
Oct	65	Academicians, human rights activists , students
Nov	57	Local community, leaders, students, NGOs
Dec	14	CSOs, local leaders

Out of the 682 people who used the resource unit 312 [42%] were from NWASEA members. The remaining 370 [58] were either from Government civil society servants, institutions or universities and tertiary institutions. Most of them doing research. This indicates that the resource unit is mainly used by more NWASEA non members given that they are probably nearer to where it is located. Compared to 2016 where there was a big increase in the use of the information unit given that in 2015 a total of 485 users were registered, 197 more people used the resource center.

A general analysis of the information unit users indicates that the majority of the users requested for information on policy documents. Manuals on poverty analysis and HIV/Aids. 30% users requested for information on women issues particularly on reproductive health, economic empowerment and gender. 25% requested for education and welfare. Surprisingly issues of environment, human rights, corruption did not attract May requests. However, requests for newspaper cuttings were many. On serious checking many of these were on new crops on the market like medicinal plants such as moringa and Alvera to mention but a few.

FORA\ SEMINARS\ MEETINGS ON SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Since fora are a useful strategy in advocacy and networking in that they are a source of critical information and also generate a consensus and recommendations.

A conscious effort is made to equip the unit with materials according to the needs that have been expressed by the members and other stakeholders. In 2005 a number of books were acquired mainly in subjects like facilitation techniques, community empowerment, human rights HIV\AIDS, capacity building, training and communications skills.

CHALLENGES FOR NWASEA AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE CORSE OF THE YEAR

The availability of funding still remains one of NWASEA’S most crucial challenges this also applies to some sister NGO/CBOs. NWASEA staff members attended some fund raising workshops in the past conducted by DENIVA and one in Nairobi at regional level. Results of these workshops seem to suggest that NGO have some way to go in developing independent fund raising capacity. We lack hard technical skills for accessing funds and they may also have to re-define their roles.

With Government there is a now receptive climate for partnership with voluntary sector organizations, government support for community development foundations and other

sector cooperation. A case in point is the ‘civil society capacity building project’ funded to NGOs through ministry of finance.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Management of NWASEA programmes is largely carried out by the Board and the secretariat is responsible to the demands and changing circumstances of the respective stakeholders and the enabling environment. The Board principally concerns itself with the governance issues viz avis constant reflection of the mission and vision of NWASEA putting in place relevant policies, monitoring of NWASEA’s programmes and how the operating environment influences and are influenced by them. The board also advises the secretariat on the management of resources and generally making sure that NWASEA constituency and stakeholders are facilitated according to plan.

The management of the secretariat continued to offer its technical expertise and advice to the board, and to implement board decisions.

CONCLUSION

It was a busy year; a lot was accomplished on behalf of the board and the secretariat. I would like to thank all members of NWASEA for the commitment shown during the year. Also for upholding and defending the mission and vision of the organization. I thank the board for their outspoken role and coordination of the programmes. I would like to pay tribute to the secretariat staffs who have worked tirelessly often times without salary and up against dead-lines. Lastly but not least I would like to thank our donors namely as follows

The European Union- through ministry of finance and the Civil Society Capacity building programme.

IIZ\DVV-German Adult Education

Global fund for human rights

Uphold-Uganda-through the DDHS-Bugiri District

Appendix 1

NWASEA Secretariat as at 30th December 2016

1. Nantale Anne	Executive Director
2 .Mugulusi Harriet	Project coordinator [CSCBP]
3 .Baliraine David	Accountant [CSCBP]
4 Kalema Elizabeth	Field Officer/ Documentation
5. Hussein Ali	Driver
6. Mary Abbo	Office attendant

NWASEA Board of Directors as at 30th December 2016

1. Betty Kitakufe	Chairperson
2. Kiwanuka Florence	General secretary
3. Bagye Hadija	Treasurer
4. Nalongo Catherine	Member
5 .Baleke Florence	Member
6 .Tenywa Cyprian	Member
7 .Kange Suleiman	Member