

# 2013

Annual Report

## Amani Initiative



*Working Together Against Teenage Pregnancy & Early Marriage*



Uganda has a very young population, with nearly half (47%) of its people under 15 years old. The choices that these young people and their parents make will affect the country's future for decades to come.

Delaying marriage and pregnancy confer major benefits to girls and may also lead to societal benefits, such as improved health of children and faster economic growth.

It is time for policymakers and people concerned with socioeconomic development to give greater priority to addressing teenage pregnancy & early marriage.”

This is a responsibility that we can only achieve if you make the decision to be part of the change.

*Believe in the change you can create!*

### Word from the Chairperson (Board of Trustees),



2013 has been an exciting, challenging and enriching year in terms of activities, funding, partnerships, and experience. This was our first year of operation as a registered NGO in Uganda of which we started with a theme, “Building Effective and Efficient Structures “. This theme was to guide us to establish an organization with an effective and efficient structure that will enable us meet our goals and objectives of fighting against teenage pregnancy & early marriage and their negative results through low cost-high impact community interventions and structures.

The 2013 Annual Work plan started on 1<sup>st</sup>/February/2013 and ended on 31<sup>st</sup>, January, 2014. During this period various activities, events, capacity building of stakeholders, projects, and partnerships were carried out. Notable of these were the Staff initiation & capacity building in

February, selection & launch of the school programs, Ama Ecora Teenage parent’s entrepreneurship project, 2013 Women Day Celebrations with the theme, “ The Gender Agenda; Gaining Momentum, the 2013 World HIV/AIDs Day with the theme, “ HIV/AIDs; Can Africa Find a Redemption”, Day of the African Child, Hear Us Out-voices that speak for thousands ( VOICES AGAINST DEFILEMENT ) project, International Day of the Girl-Child, 19 Days of Activism ( Prevention of Violence & Abuse Against youths/children ) and lastly our 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebrations on 14<sup>th</sup>/12/2013 .

Unfortunately due to limited source of funds and poor planning, there were some programs and activities in the work plan that we had to forego. Of these was the Give Me Light & Let Me See Program and official launch of the organization.

My special appreciation to the Amani Initiative administration team who worked tirelessly despite the various financial and timing challenges, friends of Amani Initiative all over the world, the Maracha District local government and the various institutions and organizations that partnered with us in the various projects and events of 2013.

***“I have a great feeling about the future; Together we can make a difference!”***

**Ochatre Nixon**



## 1.0 BUILDING EFFECTIVE & EFFICIENT STRUCTURES

### 1.1 Staff Recruitment, initiation & Capacity Building

In January of 2013 a team of 14 individuals (Tisia Prisca, Helen Apio, Alitia Elia, Amnon Jakony, Nassaza Mary Sharon, Eric Makabuti, Nabbaka Joanita, Biira Harriet, Matua Nobert, Alema Geoffrey, Ededria James William, Afimani Patrick, Drannmva Patrick, and Baruga Natal) were requested and appointed to lead the organization in the various job descriptions on a two year renewable contract depending on productivity. This team faced major challenges in terms of funding and timing which hindered their output to a large extent. Despite of this, through perseverance and determination the team managed to meet most of their expectations. The team underwent quarterly reviews to brainstorm their out puts and build their capacity in the various aspects of the organizations programs and career growth.



Figure 2; Staff capacity building session at the Kampala Office in February 2013

These activities and sessions were aimed at building the knowledge of the team about the organization, its vision and objectives and their personal responsibilities/expectations in achieving these objectives.

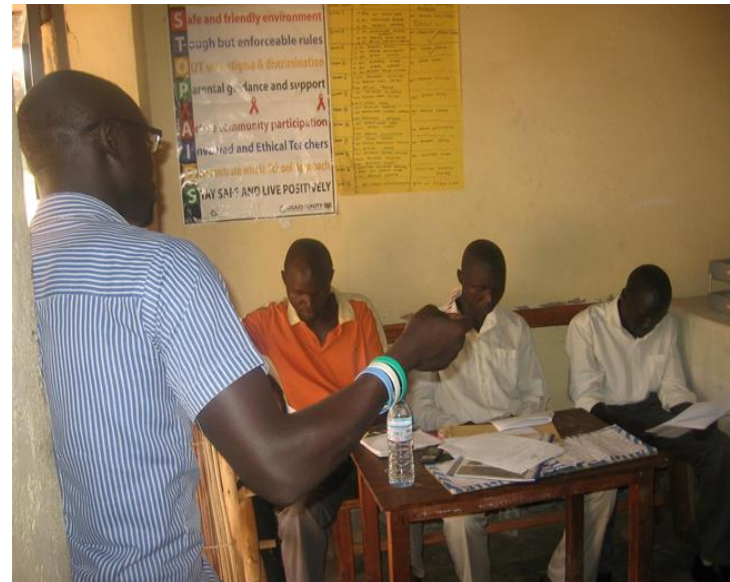


Figure 1; Staff capacity building session at the Maracha Office in February 2013

## 1.2 2013/2014 Scholar Selection and launch of School Programs.

The 2013/2014 work plan was built on the back bone of the two school programs of Our Time Is Yet To Come and Social Entrepreneurship & Leadership.

The two school programs were implemented in three secondary schools in Maracha District

(Yivu Secondary School, Kijomoro Secondary School and Kings College Namugongo) to 82 students of whom 35 (males) and 45 (females)

School	Females	Males	Total
Kijomoro SS	12	15	27
Yivu SS	19	11	30
Kings College - Maracha	14	11	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>82</b>

Table 1; Table illustrating the number of scholars for the 2013/2014 School Program

### 1.2.1 Our Time Is Yet To Come School Program.

82 students from the partner schools were sensitized under issues of sexual & reproductive health, communication skills and decision making. This was aimed to empowering their decision making in issues of deciding when to have sex or get married. The lessons included their rights as children and whom they can report to incase of sexual abuse, adolescence, HIV/AIDs, marriage, communication. Through external facilitators and their school mentors 75 students were successfully awarded certificates of completion at the end of the one year program in November.

*“Before the program I was making bad decisions which were making me decline in class, with the program I am not only becoming a better student but also helping my fellow youths in the community” Onyivu Caroline, 14 years , Kings College-Maracha*

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*Education for health is a fundamental right for every child. Health is inextricably linked to educational achievement, quality of life and economic productivity. By acquiring health-related knowledge, values, skills and practices, children can be empowered to pursue a healthy life and to work as agents of change for the health of their communities. This goal can be achieved if we have the will (WHO)’’.*

### 1.2.2 Social Entrepreneurship & Leadership Program

This program was created with the purpose of empowering young people through social entrepreneurship and leadership. The program was implemented with technical support from the Educate! short term social entrepreneurship program. Through this program, students carried out social responsibilities in communities around their school for instance cleaning of wells and slashing the overgrown grass around their schools and taking up leadership positions in their schools. The scholars were also taught under financial management and general social entrepreneurship training. By the time of the school elections for their school leaders, it was noted that the Amani Initiative scholars excelled at leadership, taking up most of the available positions.



This program has been commended by the school teachers who are implementing it as directly impacting the lives of the school children who have been part of it since its conception.

Figure 3; James (Mentor-Kijomoro SS) interacting with some of the student leaders under the Amani Initiative Social Leadership Program



Figure 4; Amani Initiative Scholars 2013/2014 (Kijomoro SS, Yivu SS, Kings College Namugongo)

## 2.0 PARTNERSHIPS

*"Give me a rod long enough and I alone can carry the world."* This is one of the principles that Amani Initiative has conceptualized its strategy of achieving its goals and vision. Through this principle, the organization aims at working with various individuals, organizations and institutions with whom we share a similar vision and mission. 2013 has seen the organization working with various strategic individuals and organizations both directly and indirectly to carryout events, projects and activities in the work plan. Through these partnerships we have been able to reach out to a bigger part of the community hence increasing our impact at a lower cost as illustrated below;

Organization/Institution	Project/Activity/Event	Period
Yivu SS, Kijomoro SS, Kings College Namugongo ( Maracha Campus ), Maracha District	Our Time Is Yet To Come	1 year
Educate !, Yivu SS, Kijomoro SS, Kings College Namugongo, Maracha District	Social Entrepreneurship & Leadership	1 year
Writing Our World, Pan African Movement ( Uganda Chapter )	2013 Women Days Celebrations	1 day
Yivu SS, Kijomoro SS, Kings College Namugongo, Maracha District	2013 Day of the African Child	7 days
Writing Our World, Pan African Movement	World AIDs Day	1 day
Writing Our World, Open Mic- Uganda, Radio Pacis, Frontline Ministries, Yumbe District, Maracha District, 15 schools, Arua CPS , Uganda Museum	Hear Us Out-voices that speak for thousands ( VOICES AGAINST DEFILEMENT )	3 months
wwsf, Miss Uganda Foundation, Peace for Children Africa, Global Shapers Community	19 Days of Activism ( Prevention of violence & Abuse against Children/Youths )	19 Days
Radio Pacis, Yivu Sub County, Golden Treasure PS, Offude Modern SS, Nyadri Urban SS	International Day of the Girl Child	1 day

Table 2; List of partner organizations/institutions for the projects/activities/events of 2013



### 3.0 EVENTS

Amani Initiative was proud to join the rest of the world in various events that have been designated by the United Nations and other multilateral organizations to recognize, celebrate and enforce efforts in the achievement of the well-being of some demanding issues affecting or related to the existence of humanity. Each of the selected events had a direct or indirect relationship to the achievement of the goals and mission of the organization.

#### 3.1 2013 Women's Day Celebration ( Theme; The Gender Agenda; Gaining Momentum )

Through partnering with Writing Our World, Pan African Movement and Yivu Secondary School in Maracha we held two events to celebrate the day on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2013. The Kampala event was carried out under the official theme; The Gender Agenda; Gaining Momentum. This involved a day out for the ladies with the males (from Amani Initiative, Writing Our World, Pan African Movement) taking turns to prepare a sumptuous meal for the over 40 invited ladies. The event was concluded with a discussion about the 2013 theme.



Figure 5; Some of the ladies being served lunch prepared by the gentlemen during the Women Day Celebrations in Kampala



Figure 6; Participants taking part in the Women Days Discussion in Kampala



In Maracha District, the students celebrated the event through a heated Debate with a Topic; Boys are responsible for the rising rates of teenage pregnancy in the community. With this topic the students discussed issues of morality, poor dressing, alcoholism, peer pressure and HIV/AIDs.



Figure 7; A senior two participant discussing her views during the debate at Yivu SS and left the facilitator summing up with final remarks

In total 62 people directly participated in our celebrations to mark the 2013 Women Day Celebrations on 8<sup>th</sup> March with lots of fun and various lessons learnt, and opinions shared both in Kampala and Maracha District.

### **3.2 World AIDs Day under the theme; HIV/AIDs; Can Africa Find Redemption?**

On 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 a group of 21 youths came together at the Pan African Movement offices in Kampala to discuss and share their opinions about the theme , ***“HIV/AIDs; Can Africa Find Redemption?”*** . We had discussants from The Pan African Movement, Writing Our World and Amani Initiative. Key issues discussed included the origin of HIV , its causes and which solutions Africa can adopt as a solution to HIV/AIDs . The team was able to learn from the discussion and also share with the participants how best Africa can use its available resources to fight against the HIV/AIDs scourge.



The problem of HIV/AIDs is one of the highest causes of death and poverty amongst Africans with a lot of resources and effort invested in fighting against it. Unfortunately most developing countries have used this opportunity to exploit European countries through seeking for donations which are used for personal purposes and developed countries have also used this opportunity to control developing countries through neo-colonialism.

This theme sought to understand how best we can use our community resources such as clan systems, family systems, religious institutions etc. It also went ahead to talk about the importance of sex education in schools

Figure 8; One of the Discussion groups during the 2013 World AIDS Day Celebration under the theme, "HIV/AIDs; Can Africa Find A Redemption?"

### 3.3 Day of the African Child ( Eliminating Harmful Practices Against Children; Our Collective Responsibility )

16<sup>th</sup> June every year is the Day of the African Child. On this day Africa and the World come together to recognize the challenges, achievements and effort still required to make the world a better place for the African Child. To mark this day we engaged our scholars from Yivu SS, Kijomoro SS and Kings College Namugongo in a week essay writing session. They were to choose a topic of their interest and write 500 words about the African Child. We also engaged our face book followers on a one week special campaign dedicated to the African Child. Within this week we shared various topics about the African child, ranging from Education, Child Labor, Child Sacrifice, Child Trafficking, Child Marriage, Child Sexual Abuse and Teenage Pregnancy. Onyiru Caroline, 14 years a Senior Two Amani Initiative Scholar of King's College Namugongo-Maracha Campus came up with the best essay titled, " African Child; Our Time Is Yet To Come" . This was dedicated to advising the African Child to resist from temptations to engage in early sex and marriage and concentrate on their education

### 3.4 Open-Mic Fusion 360 ( Silent Screams )

On 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2013, Amani Initiative joined Open-Mic Uganda for an evening of music and poetry at the Uganda Museum themed, “Silent Screams”. This event was dedicated to the thousands of innocent children who are exposed or sexually abused with no one to hear them out and help them. Through poetry, music and a video footage; the individuals who attended our event were able to learn about the prevalence of sexual abuse inflicted on to innocent children in Uganda.



The event had performances from the Under Cover Brothers, Slim Emcee, Davie Jahmantan, Winnie Apio and other inspiring poets and musicians.

### 3.5 International Day of the Girl Child under the theme , “ Innovate for Education”

On 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 Amani Initiative joined the community of West Nile through Radio Pacis to celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child under the theme, “Innovate for Education”. During a Radio talk show we invited Mr. Bon a teacher at Golden Treasure PS in Arua District and two female secondary students from Arua Public to engage the listeners under the theme, “ Innovate for Education”. We looked at the impact of teenage pregnancy & early marriage to girl’s education in the region despite the free education provided by the government. We also encouraged parents and guardians of the girl-children to uphold girl’s education in the same way they uphold the education of the boy-child and resist from marrying off their daughters at early age as a source of income. Various views of the girl-child were collected across Maracha and Arua district and played across the Radio Station for the general public to react to.





Figure 9; Some of the girls from Nyadri Urban SS in Maracha District who shared their opinions about Girl-Child Education



Figure 10; Mr. Bon (teacher Golden Treasure PS) and Lydia student at Arua Public SS during a radio talk show at Radio Pacis about Girl-Child Education

### 3.6 19 Days of Activism ( Prevention of Violence and Abuse Against Youths/Children )

From 1<sup>st</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November, 2013; Amani Initiative joined 240 organizations all over the world that registered to participate in the 19 Days of Activism organized by the World Women Summit Foundation. At the local scene, we engaged Global Shapers Community (Kampala Hub), Miss Uganda Foundation and Peace for Children Africa under the theme, “Prevention of Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Child Trafficking “

*“75% of the cases of child sexual abuse are by individuals that the child knows and trusts”;* for that reason, Amani Initiative implemented its 19 Days of Activism through encouraging individual responsibility for the protection of the child in his/her home or community not waiting for the government or civil society organization. This was through a slogan (IN RED)

**“I have a dream; The creation of a world free from violence against youths/children. My Petition; My Responsibility”**

More than 500 signatures were collected with the campaign slogan from various individuals with various statuses ranging from house maids, mechanics, police men, teachers, DPP, Miss Uganda, artists, social workers, school children, the rich and poor. This was intended to empower each and everyone’s personal responsibility in the issue of protecting children/youths from all forms of abuse.



Figure 11; Miss Uganda (2013/2014) with some of the individuals who made the decision to take the responsibility of protecting youths/children from abuse

On the 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 Amani Initiative, Miss Uganda Foundation and the Global Shapers Community (Kampala Hub) joined Peace for Children Africa for an outreach with street children in the slums of Kisenyi (Kampala). During the outreach the street children were sensitized about the impact of drugs to their lives, the influence they have on their bodies and decisions they make. The street children also had an opportunity to interact with Miss Uganda (2013/2014) Stella Nantumbwe and were also provided with lunch and clean drinking water. Through direct interaction with some of the street children we realized that most cannot report cases of abuse to the police claiming that the police does not listen or help them.





## 4.0 PROJECTS

Two key projects were carried out in 2013. These projects aimed at achieving the goals and objectives of the organization directed towards fighting against teenage pregnancy & early marriage and the impact it has to the growth and development of communities. We carried out the **Ama Ecora Teenage Parents Entrepreneurship Project** and the **Hear Us Out-voices that speak for thousands (VOICES AGAINST DEFILEMENT)** project.

### 4.1 Ama Ecora Teenage Parents Entrepreneurship Project

Teenage Pregnancy & Child Marriage usually denies the victim an opportunity to education which might lead to unemployment and poverty. As a solution to the impact of teenage pregnancy & early marriage, Amani Initiative engaged the LC One of Anyavu village (Yivu Sub-County) Maracha to identify teenage parents for a one year entrepreneurship project. This project was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013 with 4 week entrepreneurship training at Yivu Abea Church of Uganda. Topics covered included marketing, opportunity identification, business planning and financial management.



Figure 12; Some of the teenage parents during an entrepreneurship training session in March



Under the leadership of Matua Nobert (Social Enterprise Manager) 15 teenage parents were mentored to start up personal businesses with funds coming from the organization at a 1.7 % interest.

#### **4.2 Hear Us Out-voices that speak for thousands ( VOICES AGAINST DEFILEMENT ) project**

*“Thousands of innocent of innocent boys and girls are defiled in Uganda with most of the cases never reported to the police or solved”* Defilement is one of the highest causes of teenage pregnancy & early marriages amongst teenage girls in Uganda, it also leads to psychological trauma, spread of HIV/AIDs, and death to the victims. The Uganda Penal Code clearly provides for the treatment of a defilement case but the cases continue to be solved out of court and at times forcing the victim to marry their defiler.

Hear Us Out-voices that speak for thousands (VOICES AGAINST DEFILEMENT) project was a 90 Day project starting 1<sup>st</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 dedicated to the pertinent issue of defilement in Uganda. With a key objective of sensitizing communities about what the law says about defilement, and empowering young people to stand up against defilement; the project was carried out in 6 districts, 16 schools, and two radio talk shows with more than 2700 individuals directly taking part. School children in the 15 schools (4 primary, 11 secondary) were sensitized about the facts of defilement and encouraged to stand up against defilement through poetry.



Figure 13; Sylvia taking students of Faith High School (Mukono) through prevalence about the statistics of Defilement in Uganda



Figure 14; Mr. Bon at Golden Treasure PS during the project

Through these school sessions students and pupils tried to open up about the vice of defilement, they were encouraged to report such cases to someone they trust. The participants were also sensitized about the Post Exposure Prophylaxis (treatment provided to victims of rape/defilement incase abused by an individual suspected to be with HIV/AIDs within 72 hours of the incidence)



School	District	No. of Participants
Golden Treasure PS	Arua	86
Kireka Grammar PS	Mukono	65
Lodonga PS	Yumbe	63
Atatur PS	Kumi	50
Trinity College Nabbingo	Wakiso	27
Nsambya SS	Kampala	64
Rubaga Girls SS	Kampala	33
Hilton High School	Mukono	26
Faith High School	Mukono	120
St. Augustine College	Wakiso	154
St. Clare Girls SS	Yumbe	152
St. Catherine	Wakiso	57
Nyadri Urban SS	Maracha	33
Offude Modern SS	Maracha	33
Kijomoro SS	Maracha	16
Kings College Namugongo	Maracha	11
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>990</b>

Table 3; School, District & Number of students who directly took part in the project against defilement



A photograph of a radio broadcast studio. Two men are seated at a desk, both wearing large headphones and speaking into professional microphones. The man in the foreground is wearing a light-colored shirt and is looking down at a laptop. The man in the background is wearing a white shirt and is looking towards the camera. The desk is cluttered with various items, including a laptop, a mouse, and some papers. The background is a plain wall with a patterned curtain.

Hear Us Out-voices that speak for thousands (VOICES AGAINST DEFILEMENT) also directly engaged 47 street children in Kampala under the Frontline ministries of Calvary Chapel whereby issues about abuse of children as child prostitutes or lured into homosexuality were discussed.

Through Taibot of Radio Pacis, the project got a tremendous boost to reach out to a larger public around West Nile region, areas of Madi, Southern Sudan and parts of Eastern Congo neighboring Uganda. Two radio talk shows were organized on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2013 and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 dedicated to the cause of the project. Respected members of the Community from the Catholic Parish of Arua, the Child and Family Protection officer in charge of Arua Central Police Station and a member of Amani Initiative (West Nile Region) directly engaged the general public under the project.



## 5.0 2013 Tumaini Awards

### 5.1 Amani Initiative wins the 2013 Tumaini Awards

First launched in 2011, Tumaini Awards is organized by six child based organizations (ANPPCAN-Uganda, Child Fund Uganda, Compassion International, Save the Children in Uganda, UCRNN, World Vision Uganda and UNICEF). The Awards are aimed at recognizing individuals and organizations making significant contributions towards improving livelihoods of children in Uganda. The 2013 Award theme was, “Eliminating Harmful Social and Cultural Practices Affecting Children; Our Collective Responsibility.”

Amani Initiative was recognized under the Health Category during a colorful event on 14th June, 2013 at Hotel Africana with the Chief Justice of Uganda, Benjamin Odoki as the Guest of Honor. Amani Initiative was among the more than 100 nominees’ across the country whose works were profiled in the New Vision prior to the awards.

The organization was recognized for its effort in the fight against teenage pregnancy & early marriage in Maracha District under its Our Time Is Yet To Come Campaign at Yivu SS, Kijomoro SS and Kings College Namugongo (Maracha Campus). The organization’s virtual media campaign under its face book page also created massive awareness about the prevalence and impact of teenage pregnancy, early marriage and other forms of sexual abuse to children especially in the rural communities of developing countries. In addition to that, the organization’s commitment in providing 15 teenage parents with a new lease to life through social entrepreneurship training, establishing a fund scheme from which each of the parents can start up a personal business and also engaging them in family planning clinics was also part of the recognition under the 2013 Tumaini Awards.



## 6.0 Financial Statements & Accountability

Amani Initiative	
Revenue & Expenses' Account	
For the Period/ 1/02/2013-1/02/2014	
<b>Revenue</b>	
<b>Revenue From Public Support</b>	
Friends, Relatives & Well wishers	490,000.00
Member's Contributions	1,456,200.00
Revenue From Exempt-Purpose Activities	
Nil	
Other Revenue (and UBIT)	
Silent Screams Music & Poetry Event	138,000.00
Tumaini Awards Prize Money	3,000,000.00
Membership Fees	550,000.00
Writing Our World (Loan Repayment )	200,000.00
Members Subscription	230,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>6,064,200.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>Program Services Expenses</b>	
Programs	3,301,200.00
<b>Operations Expenses</b>	
<b>Operations</b>	<b>1,955,000.00</b>
Total Expenses	<b>5,256,200.00</b>
Bal b/d	<b>808,000.00</b>

Amounts in Uganda Shillings

## 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebrations & Contact Information

### 6.1 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

Amani Initiative was officially registered as an NGO with NGO Board at the Ministry of Internal Affairs on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 with a registration number 9539. 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 marked our first anniversary as a registered. A simple anniversary celebration was organized at our offices in Kampala. The anniversary celebration involved showcasing the projects and events carried out in our first year of celebration and official cutting of our 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary cake.





Figure 16; 1st Anniversary Cake



Figure 17; Members, Friends & Well-wishers showing some of the event/project posters of 2013 during the 1st Anniversary Celebrations on 14th/12/2013 in Kampala

### 7.2 Contact Us

LOCATION	POSTAL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE			EMAIL
Driver's Corner Building, 7 <sup>th</sup> Room, Maracha Town Council.	652, Arua	+256 703 154 084 +256 752 112 702	<a href="http://www.amaniinitiative.org">www.amaniinitiative.org</a>	Amani Initiative Against Teenage Pregnancy & Early Marriage	@amaniinitiative	info@amaniinitiative.org amani4us@gmail.com





## Join or Support Us

**Amani Initiative is youths founded organization dedicated to the fight against teenage pregnancy & early marriage through community interventions. Any material, technical or financial support towards the vision of the organization can be directed using the information below;**

### Become a member

Membership is available at an annual subscription of 100,000 Ugsh.

Membership Fee Covers;

- Organization Corporate Shirt
- Facilitation of members annual meetings and community outreaches/volunteering

### Donate

Monetary Donations can be cashed in the following account details:

Account Name; Amani Initiative  
Account Number; 1630000001574  
Bank Name; Post Bank (U) Ltd, Main Branch, Kampala Uganda

For more details contact our website

[www.amaniinitiative.org](http://www.amaniinitiative.org)

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