



**Amani Initiative**

.....together against teenage pregnancy & child marriage



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## Our Vision

A more equal, healthy and prosperous community free of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

## Our Mission

To enhance a collective and sustained effort against teenage pregnancy & child marriage



## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

PROMOTING EQUAL & QUALITY  
EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR ALL

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE  
TO MAKE MORE INFORMED  
DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR  
SEXUALITY

SOCIAL & FINANCIAL  
EDUCATION FOR YOUTH

EVENTS

ADVOCACY

RECOGNITIONS



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# MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM LEADER,



In 2012 a group of university friends came together with an aim of coming up with a sustainable and community based solution to a unifying community problem which had been ignored for long. Back then issues related to teenage pregnancy and child marriage were not getting the required media attention yet to the group, this was a big problem, for most of them it was a personal problem. Through starting up Amani Initiative, a membership based nongovernmental organization an opportunity to any person with a passion of ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy to be part of the cause.

2015 marked the official implementation of our 5 year strategic plan with a vision of **a more healthy, and prosperous community free of teenage pregnancy and child marriage**. Progress being achieved in the fight against teenage pregnancy and child marriage at the global & National levels has strengthened our belief that our vision will be a reality sometime. The Sustainable Development Goals that were officially launched in September as well as the National Strategy against Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy have united the global efforts against teenage pregnancy and child marriage. This has led to prioritizing programs and funding towards efforts against the vice.



I would sincerely wish to thank our donors and partners such as the Private Education Development Network (PEDN), Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Girls Not Brides, The Society of Adolescent Health in Uganda (SAHU), Let Girls Be Girls, Maracha District, Arua District and many others who have made 2015 a very productive year in the fight against teenage pregnancy and child marriage in Uganda.

I would also wish to thank my team who have sacrificed their time and money to implement some of the different activities of 2015 reflected in this report. Special recognition to our District Program Coordinators (Patrick Dranimva- Maracha & Inzikuru Everline- Arua).

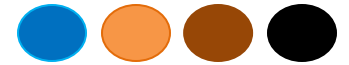
Special appreciation to you that is taking your time to read through our 2015 annual report. May this report encourage you to join the movement against teenage pregnancy and child marriage in your community?

**OCHATRE NIXON**

ASSOCIATE FELLOW ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY







## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Amani Initiative is currently implementing its 5 year strategic plan ( 2015-2020) strategic plan that aims at creating a more equal, healthy and productive community free of teenage pregnancy and child marriage. In the year 2015, considerable steps have been taken in achieving this vision.

Our education department concentrated on making the school environment a friendly environment whereby every child feels involved in the running of the school environment. We started the implementation of our Keep Me In School project where we have so far worked with 10 schools. Two vulnerable girls directly affected by teenage pregnancy have also benefited from the school fees program. 220 student leaders from from primary schools in Arua & Maracha districts have benefited from our student leaders development program.

Through empowering adolescents to make informed decisions about their sexuality, we were able to organize school outreaches and workshops where by more than 800 adolescents directly took part in sessions related to sexual & reproductive health decisions, managing and understanding menstruation, and HIV/AIDs.

At the Global and National level, we have continued to work with Girls Not Brides to strengthen our efforts against child marriage. The Girls Not Brides Global members meeting in Casablanca, Morocco were an opportunity for the members to learn from each other, the Girls Not Brides National alliance is also working with Ministry of Gender to implement the National Strategy to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

We have also had more than 2,000 in school youth to benefit from the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program in schools in Arua and Maracha District.

Through the support from our partners and members we were able to raise 46,363,950 that was used to implement our various programs as well as administration.

Please read more to learn about the various activities of the organization in 2015.

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## EDUCATION

*Nelson Mandela once said that, "Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world."*

*Education is also a great weapon against teenage pregnancy and child marriage as it reduces the girls chances of engaging in habits and situations that can lead to child marriage & teenage pregnancy. It also empowers the child to be able to say NO to early unprotected sex and marriage as the result of the career dreams developed when at school.*

*Key activities and events were organized under the Education Department of Amani Initiative in 2015.*

***These included:-***

- 
- *Student Leadership developed through engaging with 220 student leaders in 10 UPE schools*
  - *School fees program with 2 vulnerable children supported back into school*
  - *Recognition of the best performing and well behaved students*
  - *Distribution of scholastic materials*
  - *Stand #UpForSchool Campaign*
- 





## Promoting Equal & Quality Education Opportunities

The Keep Me In School project implementation was officially launched with the start of the 2015 School Academic Year.

Ten (10) primary schools have already been mapped and selected to benefit from the Keep Me In School activities such as:-

- School student leadership and involvement in school management through empowering and capacity building 220 student leaders
- Student engagement in creating a child friendly school environment
- The school fees program currently supporting two girls in Maracha and Wakiso districts
- Understanding and managing menstruation workshops reaching to over 400 students.

The Schools have been selected from Wakiso (2), Arua (5), and Maracha (3) as below:-

### Wakiso

- Cornerstone Children's Center
- Busega Community School for the Deaf



Leadership capacity building of student leaders of Awindiri Primary School

### Arua

- Niva Primary School
- Awindiri Primary School
- Arua Hill Primary School
- Onzivu Primary School
- Anyafio Primary School

### Maracha

- Nyarakua Primary School
- Bura Primary School
- Yivu Primary School

This scholarship is met to support vulnerable girls directly affected by teenage pregnancy and cannot afford to go to school but have the desire and ambition to study. Currently two girls are benefiting from this program



## Keeping Girls In School Through Schools Fees Scholarship

### The Story of Patience

Patience is only 4 years and blind; she was born to a 18 year old Gloria who was raped when still 14. Being disabled (deaf). The culprit used Gloria's inability to protect herself to abuse her sexually hence making her pregnant.

The program is currently supporting the schools fees for Patience who is enrolled at Busega Community School for the Deaf.



Nixon (Founder -Amani carrying baby Patience) with Gloria ( Patience's mother) and Pastor at Busega Community School for the Deaf

### The Story of Ocituru

Ocituru now in Primary Five at Yivu Primary School, dropped out in Primary Five 5 years ago due to pregnancy. Now a mother of a 5 year old boy, Ocituru has been motivated to return to school to provide a good future for her child and herself.



Patrick ( Amani Initiative Maracha Program Coordinator) visiting the parents of Ocituru to inform them about the school fees program for Ocituru seated in a yellow top and next to her is her baby boy in a blue sweater.

Through the School fees program for teenage mothers and child mothers, Amani Initiative aims at encouraging more teenage parents like Ocituru to go back to school and use the education to improve their lifestyles and that of their children.



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## ADOLESCENT SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health is a big strategic issue if development partners and the government is to have results in reducing the rates of teenage pregnancy from 24%

Many young people in Uganda still lack access to comprehensive and relevant reproductive health information and services.

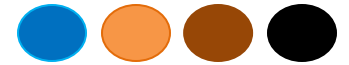
Through the #LetsTalkAboutSEXUALITY project, Amani Initiative has intensified its efforts in providing adolescents this information. This has been organizing interactive and participatory sessions with the youth under the support of trained sexual & reproductive health educators.

**Activities implemented in 2015 included:-**

- 
- #LetsTalkAboutSEXUALITY school outreach in Mpigi reaching to over 400 adolescents
  - The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual UMA health and nutrition fair
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Adolescent Health Conference
- 
- 







The #LetsTalkAboutSEXUALITY School Outreach:-  
**Empowering young people to make more informed decisions about their sexuality**



Students learning about the Menstrual Wheel under a session on understanding and managing menstruation

The #LetsTalkAboutSEXUALITY is a strategic project by Amani Initiative that aims at empowering young people to talk about issues concerning their sexuality such as:-

- When to have sex
- Effects of teenage pregnancy
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Puberty
- HIV/AIDs
- Understanding & Managing Menstruation

This was after the realization that most teenagers still lack access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information which usually results to them making

decisions on what they read, see or told by their peers which information might not be correct.

**The #LetsTalkAboutSEXUALITY outreach at Budde S.S in Mpigi District**

More than 400 students at Budde S.S were engaged in a one day outreach in June which involved topics under;

- Defilement
- Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health
- Understanding & Managing Menstruation

*" I will abstain from sex, always be clean and not to fear to use pads."* 14 year old Shanitah Bakansa, Form Two

*"I have learnt to abstain from sex, avoid peer groups and not to feel shy. Thank you for the service that you have given us today "* Sumayiya Bashir, 16 years in Form Three.



A student interacting with health worker about Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Mukono District



## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual UMA Health & Nutrition Fair



Students at the School Guidance Seminar where a topic about teenage pregnancy and sex was presented

During the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual UMA Health & Nutrition Fair on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 over 350 students from 6 secondary schools around Kampala took part in the Uganda Manufacturer's School Career Guidance Seminar about career guidance and adolescent health.

Amani Initiative as a key partner took lead in facilitating a session under the effects of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

The over 350 students, took part in an interactive session about teenage pregnancy and child marriage. The key objective of the dialogue was to empower the students to become agents against teenage pregnancy and child marriage. They were informed on what to do in case they get pregnant and where to go. During the conclusion remarks, Nixon Ochatre from Amani Initiative

tasked the students to think of these four questions before they decide to have unprotected sex:-

- Are you physically ready?
- Are you psychologically ready?
- Are you economically ready?
- Are you socially ready?



Students acting out a skit about teenage pregnancy during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual UMA Health and Nutrition Fair with the guidance of the team from Amani Initiative



## **The Fourth Annual Adolescent Health Conference in Kampala (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)**

The Second Clinical and Scientific Meeting under the Society of Adolescent Health in Uganda of which Amani Initiative is a member was held at Protea Hotel from the 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 under the theme, Engaging the Hard to Reach Adolescents into Care."



Group photo of the participants at the last day of the workshop

The aim of the meeting was to provide health care takers with up to date evidence based information related to engaging the hard to reach adolescent into care.

Reasons that adolescents might be at risk to be hard to reach include:-

- **Poor access to medical care**
- **Psychological stressors**
- **Chronic medical conditions**

**From the meeting it was agreed that there needs to make hospitals more accessible and friendly to adolescents.**

## **Key Note Speakers at the SAHU Conference**

The conference which was supported by the Makerere University- University of Columbia collaboration brought together key actors under adolescent health from Mulago Hospital, Makerere University, and University of Columbia.

Some of the Key Note speakers and messages included:-

- Dr. Sabrina Bakeera Kitaka ( Masters in Paediatrics & Child Health)
- Dr. Busingye Kabumba, (Phd)
- Professor Susan Rosenthal ( Phd, Professor of Behavioural Medicine, Columbia University)
- Mr. Nixon Ochatre ( Founder, Amani Initiative)



Nixon Ochatre making his speech about services available to hard to reach youth in Uganda

- Dr. Betsy Pfeffer ( Columbia University)
- Professor Lawrence Stanbery (Columbia University)
- Prof. Philip LaRussa
- Mr. Rogers Kasirye (ED, Uganda Youth Development Link)
- Please visit <http://www.sahu.ug> to download the presentations



## **LIVELIHOODS & YOUTHS EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT**

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*Uganda has the world's youngest population with over 78% of its population below the age of 30. With just under eight million youth aged 15-30, the country also has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in Sub-Saharan Africa. Although Uganda is making strides economically, it faces significant challenges in meeting its young people's needs today and their challenges tomorrow as its population continues to grow at a rate of 3.2% annually.*

*Through career mentorship sessions, debates, and the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program, Amani Initiative was able to reach more than 3,000 youth under this department.*

*Teacher trainings were also organized in Arua and Maracha districts reaching out to 50 teachers.*

*Some of the activities implemented under this department in 2015 included:-*

- 
- *Aflateen Social & Financial Education Project*
  - *Newspapers in Education Program*
  - *Youth career workshop at the UMA Health Fair*
  - *Teacher training workshops under the Aflateen program.*
- 
- 





## Social & Financial Education for youth

### Phase One of the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program (January – 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2015)

With the support of the Private Education Development Network (PEDN) and Citi Foundation; Amani Initiative is currently implementing the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program in 30 secondary schools located in Arua and Maracha Districts.

Aflateen Social and Financial Education Program is a youth focused program implemented by PEDN in secondary schools in Uganda to empower the students both socially and financially. The program encourages teachers and facilitators to work with youth through a learner centered learning, which differs from the traditional rote learning.

Live in school sessions under the Aflateen Program

The 2014-2015 Aflateen Social & Financial Education Project aimed at **connecting youth savings, income and education in Uganda with 3 basic outcomes;-**

- Change in financial behavior and practice
- Change in financial and social skills
- Change in business and enterprise skills

During 2015 more than 1610 students in 18 secondary schools with 11 of these schools in Arua District and 7 in Maracha District took part in the Aflateen sessions.



Aflateen Club Members showing off their rights and responsibilities after the session about Rights & Responsibilities

Name of session	No. of beneficiaries
Personal Understanding & Exploration	1610
Rights & Responsibilities	1561
Saving & Spending	1365
Planning & Budgeting	1251
Social & Financial Enterprises	1256

List of participants, who attended the Aflateen Sessions during January to June, 2015





		No.of Direct Beneficiaries		
		FEMALES	MALES	TOTAL
	<b>Schools in Arua</b>			
1	ARUA ACADEMY SECONDARY SCHOOL	17	65	82
2	ARUA PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL	93	124	217
3	ARUA ROLE MODEL SECONDARY SCHOOL	36	63	99
4	ARUA SECONDARY SCHOOL	50	58	108
5	BISHOP ANGELO TARANTINO	52	45	97
6	GOLDEN COLLEGE	49	50	99
7	HAVANNA INTERGRATED	46	69	115
8	MANDELA COMPREHESIVE S S	59	37	96
9	NAJAH ISLAMIC SS	48	61	109
10	NILE HIGH SECONDRY SCHOOL	59	60	119
11	NISA UGANDA SS	42	38	80
12	ST MARY'S EDIOFE GIRLS SS	112	0	112
13	ANYAFIO ROLE MODEL SS	0	63	63
14	LATIBO FOUNDATION	55	45	100
15	ALL SAINTS S.S	27	20	47
16	ARUA ISLAMIC S.S	55	40	95
17	ARUA TOWN COLLEGE SCHOOL	79	18	97
18	STANDARD COLLEGE	50	54	104
19	ALLIANCE GLOBAL COLLEGE	42	46	88
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>1927</b>

	Schools in Maracha District	Females	Males	Total
1	KIJOMORO SEC SCHOOL	39	26	65
2	KOLOLO PUBLIC SCHOOL	51	41	92
3	MARACHA DOMESTIC	68	60	128
4	MARACHA S.S	40	46	86
5	OFFUDE MODERN S S	15	19	34
6	NYADRI URBAN S.S	0	45	45
7	YIVU SECONDARY SCHOOL	35	30	65
8	OTRAVU S.S	32	48	80
9	MARACHA HIGH SCHOOL	68	60	128
10	OLEBA SEED	56	34	90
	<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>813</b>



Some of the Aflateen program club leaders pose for a group photo with their school liaison teacher





## Phase Two of the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program

The second phase of the Aflateen Program aims at **“Incorporating social & financial education and activities to help children and youth make sound financial decisions.”** With an overall target

of 8,000 in school youth and 20 out of school youth groups; from Arua, Kasese, Kampala, and Wakiso Districts.

The implementation of the second phase of the

Aflateen Program started off on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015 and will be ending on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2016.

Through the PEDN/Amani Initiative partnership; 15 secondary schools and 3 out of school groups were mapped and accepted to be part of the program.

The second phase of implementation focused on Arua District with 15 schools to be selected as direct beneficiaries and 3 out of school groups.

Out of the 17 schools mapped, 15 of them were selected to be part of the 2015-2016 Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program

N/S	School	Name Of Head Teacher	Name Of Aflateen Patron
01	CORNERSTONE SS	Adresiru Brosca	Debo Philliam
		Acidri George	Munduru Jane
02	NILE HIGH ODIA	Obeti Benard	Ondoru Kevin
03	ARUA ISLAMIC SS	Ariga Mohammed	Drundra Ronald
04	OKUFURA SS	Ayiko Gershun	Aleti Benon
		Apangu Robert	Anguyo Philip
05	MANDELA COMPREHENSIVE SS	Adriko Asedri Richard	Manze Bosco
		Angucaku Michael	Dradebo Luke
06	EVEREST SS	Mramadile	Dralema Robert
07	ARUA SS		Banio David
08	NAJJAHA MUSLIM SS	Yassin K ayiman	Iddiabubaker
		CandiruZainab	Mr Guna
09	ORIAJINI SS	OdamaAjoy	Obicoma Joseph
		Alia Simon	Amati Joel Mark
10	OMBATINI SS	Buzaare Milton	Enyatia Polly
		AsegaMuhammoud	Acidri Moses Mbaa
11	WANDI PROGRESSIVE SS	Ojaku Eric	Ejoyi Christopher
		Apiku Stanley	Amaguru Monica
12	ANYAFIO ROLE MODEL SS	Alema Geoffrey	Andreeyoti Ceacer
			Guma Ivan
13	GOLDEN COLLEGE-ARUA CAMPUS	Alule Michael	Nyakuni Tom
		Onen Miller	Philip Kwoome
14	JADEN MEMORIAL SS	Taban Rashid	
		Adaigamajid	
15	MANIBE PUBLIC SS	Ajdiruhogla	
16	MUNI GIRLS SS		
17	STANDARD COLLEGE SS		Ezaru Gloria



## LIST OF YOUTH GROUPS MAPPED

5 youth groups were mapped to benefit from the Aflateen youth social and financial education program and they include;

N/S	Name Of Proposed Youth Group	Name Of Conduct Leader	Date
01	Inter-Pangisa Youth Group	Lomuri Vidal Victor	25/9/2015
02	73 <sup>rd</sup> Parliament Charity Organization	Drate Yassin	25/9/2015
03	Zebra Youth Association	Mr. Anguyo	26/9/2015
04	Above The Low Youth Group	Mr Okuma	26/9/2015
05	Muru Youth Group	Lomuri Vidal Victor	28/9/2015

Three of the mapped out-of school youth groups have been selected to directly benefit from the Aflateen programs. These out of school groups include:-

Name of Group	Males	Females	Total
Inter-Pagisa Youth Association	30	20	50
Zebra Youth Association	20	10	30
Above the Law	20	10	30
Total	70	40	110

## Stake holders' workshop

The stake holders' workshop was organized and took place on 3<sup>rd</sup>/10/2015 at ARUA Social Center. It was a great success as all the members invited turned up for the workshop. And members in attendance included; the District Education Officer Arua, one representative from the Chief Administrative Officers office, sixteen teachers from all the 15 mapped schools, two radio presenters from local radio stations in Arua, one lead trainer from PEDN, one support trainer from Amani Initiative, and representatives from new vision office, the news was all over the radio and it gave us a good platform and boosted the participation of schools.



Participants of the teacher training held by Amani Initiative with the support of the Private Education Development Network (PEDN)



## Live in school sessions



Aflateen Session at Cornerstone Secondary School

Five live in sessions were carried out for phase two of the Aflateen program in the five schools under the following modules; personal development, financial management, savings and financial service providers. More than 500 turned up for the sessions and were each given student journals to aide their learning process and this made sessions easy as they continue to follow from the journals.

Through adopting active learning and child centered teaching methodologies the students were empowered to become socially and financially empowered members of the community through the different core elements as per the

student sessions illustrated in the table below.

S/N	SCHOOL	NUMBER STUDENTS THAT ATTENDED SESSIONS					NAME OF LIAISON TEACHER
		<i>Personal development</i>	<i>Financial management</i>	<i>Savings</i>	<i>Financial service providers</i>	<i>Social &amp; Financial Enterprises</i>	
01	Jaden Memorial Secondary School	90	88	77	82	85	Gerile Ismail
02	Mandela Comprehensive Secondary School	80	82	79	85	82	Dradebo Luke
03	Ombatini Secondary School	100	93	92	90	87	Acidri Moses Mbaa
04	Cornerstone Secondary School	176	176	170	165	150	Debo Philliam
05	Standard College-Arua	70	77	60	83	76	Aduvuku Albert
	<b>Total</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>480</b>	

List of schools that participated in the live in sessions from September, 2015 to November, 2015.





## What did the students learn under the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program

### Phase One of the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program (12 secondary in Maracha & 18 secondary schools in Arua reached from January- August, 2015)

Through adopting the internationally recognized Aflatoun Curriculum that is being implemented in over 90 countries, the phase one of the Aflateen program designed a youth social and financial education curriculum tailored towards the needs and goal of the project. The curriculum was designed under five sessions and each student provided with a student journal to follow up with their progress. Below are the different sessions and objectives.

Session Name	Objectives
PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING & EXPLORATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ To enable the young people be able to relate to the Aflateen Social &amp; Financial Education Program</li><li>▪ Facilitate personal understanding as a catalyst for positive change among young people</li><li>▪ Empower the young people to make plans for their future through believing in their strengths</li></ul>
RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exercise critical thinking in understanding the multicultural characteristics of society, and how young people experience these, how problems arise and how they can be addressed.</li><li>• Exercise critical thinking in deconstructing social constructs and reflecting on certain behaviors and beliefs in society.</li><li>• Realize the rights for themselves and for others by developing ideas for Social or Financial Enterprises.</li></ul>
MONEY, SAVING & SPENDING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate skills in responsible money management and use of financial and non-financial resources.</li><li>• Understand how their consumer choices have implications on their personal situation, society and the environment.</li><li>• Developing a saving culture for both financial and non-financial items through developing a saving sheet.</li></ul>
PLANNING & BUDGETING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate skills in planning and budgeting a complex team project.</li><li>• Understand how to work successfully in a team to achieve a goal.</li><li>• Explore their own entrepreneurial abilities.</li><li>• Make a difference in their lives and their community through a Social or Financial Enterprise.</li></ul>
SOCIAL & FINANCIAL ENTERPRISES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify successful traits of Social and Financial Enterprises.</li><li>• Model their own Social or Financial Enterprise Ideas after other successful Aflateen projects</li><li>• Learn how to pitch a business proposal</li></ul>



**Phase two of the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program (5 secondary schools in Arua reached from September- December, 2015)**

Session Name	Objectives
<b>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	To facilitate personal understanding and exploration amongst youth in a stage where they are affected by peer pressure. To generate support for the school live in school sessions
<b>FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT</b>	To instill proper financial management skills among the youth through behavioral change under budgeting, and spending
<b>SAVINGS</b>	To promote a saving culture amongst the youth
<b>FINANCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS</b>	To build the confidence and use of financial services by youth
<b>SOCIAL &amp; FINANCIAL ENTERPRISES</b>	To encourage entrepreneurship and responsible members of the community

The Aflateen implementation has seen more young people in the target schools becoming more responsible members of the community through the social empowerment. Students have also been encouraged to open up saving accounts with financial institutions such as DFCU Bank which directly takes part in sensitizing the students about the different products available for youth in financial institutions.



## Newspapers in Education Program

To many newspapers are a normal source of information for the students under the Aflateen program, newspapers are used as a back up to the information from their classes. Through the Vision Group- PEDN partnership; Amani Initiative contact schools under the Aflateen program have been in position to benefit from the Newspapers in Education program.

Through the newspapers in education program, schools are supplied with newspapers copies on a weekly basis. The particular newspaper also includes a special pullout (Pakasa Vision) that has entrepreneurship

Some of the articles that were published included the topics below:-

1. Selecting Savings Products
2. Personal Financial Management: "Using Your Money Wisely"
3. Budgeting
4. Personal Financial Management: "Staying Within Your Budget"
5. Lesson One: Knowing Myself And Where I Want To Be?
6. Personal Financial Management
7. Rights & Responsibilities Of Consumers Of Financial Services
8. Savings: What Are They And Why Save?
9. Money, Saving & Spending
10. How To Create A Personal Financial Plan
11. Starting Up A Saving Group
12. Use Of Insurance Policies In Normal Life And Business

and business focused information. PEDN also prepares articles that are published under this pullout.

In 2015, we had **30 schools in Arua and 10 schools in Maracha Districts** receiving weekly newspapers from New Vision every Friday of the school term.

**3,641** copies were distributed during this period with the schools developing innovative ways on how to best distribute the newspapers and make maximum use of them. This encouraged a reading culture amongst the beneficiaries as well as a source of national and international information.



Students during one of their newspaper reading sessions with the support of Everline from Amani Initiative





## Building the capacity of teachers under the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Program

The Aflateen Social & Financial Education Project has been implemented across 7 districts of Uganda in 2015. These included Arua, Maracha, Wakiso, Mukono, Gulu, Kayunga, and Kasese. Throughout these districts, teachers were a key stakeholder in the successful implementation of the program that had an overall goal of socially and financially empowering young people in Ugandan secondary schools. The project also uses child centered and active learning methodologies which some of the teachers might not be accustomed to yet the sustainability of the project depends on the capacity of the teachers to implement the project activities in the absence of the Aflateen program officers.

For sustainability of the project, the Private Education Development Network (PEDN) adopted teacher trainings and stakeholder sensitization in all the districts and schools to be benefiting from the project activities. In West Nile Region under the partnership of Amani Initiative, one teacher training was organized in 2015 in Arua district covering schools to benefit from the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Aflateen program.

The training participants included representatives from the Chief Administrative Officer's office, the District Education Officer, and schools liaison teachers (15) from the 15 schools that had been selected to be part of the project and also partner organizations who were directly involved during the project implementation at both the community and school level.



Aflateen liaison teachers learning on how to use Newspapers in Education facilitated by Joan from the New Vision during the teacher training workshop held at the Arua District Social Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015



The teacher trainings focused on three core components, that is to say, *Social & Financial Education, Child Centered Teaching Methodologies and Active Learning Methods* as explained below;-

**Social & Financial Education** for youth in schools is still not one of the secondary school lessons in Uganda and it's found that most teachers lack this very important information. The little information related to social and financial education is found in the school business and entrepreneurial subjects such as Commerce, Entrepreneurship and others which information is still lacking since it's mainly theoretical with no immediate relevance on the daily life of the student. The Aflateen Program seeks to change this through adopting the internationally recognized Aflateen Social & Financial Education Curriculum that focuses on five core elements (*Personal Understanding & Exploration, Rights and Responsibilities, Saving & Spending, Planning & Budgeting, Social & Financial Enterprises*).

**Child Centered Teaching Methodologies:** The biggest of schools and teachers in Uganda still use the teacher centered learning which is characterized by lack of participation and involvement of the students in the learning process. The Aflateen program values the child centered teaching methodology which engages the students through group discussions, play, and acting. The teachers were trained under child centered teaching methodologies such as use of the KWL Chart, Group Discussions, Image Theater, and questioning skills as well as explained in the coming pages.

**Active Learning Methods:-** These methods included image theatre, questioning skills, use of community mapping as well as ice breakers to make the lessons less boring and appealing to the student



## UMA School Career Workshop

The UMA Career workshop is an annual event organized by the Uganda Manufacturers' Association (UMA) to empower youth make informed career choices.

On 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 over 350 students from 6 secondary schools around Kampala came together at the UMA Conference Hall for a day long career guidance workshop. The workshop was facilitated by key note speakers who included, Mr. Fagil Mandy, Miss Uganda 2014/15 Leah Kalanguka, Mr. Ochatre Nixon, (Founder & Team Leader- Amani Initiative), a representative from Nsambya Medical School and others.

The participants covered many topics such as:-

- **The river of life**
- **Making the decision to join the medical field**
- **Use of talents and skills**
- **Financial Management**



Mr. Fagil Mandy facilitating a session about his personal life story and career



Miss Uganda ( Leah Kalanguka) facilitating a session about use of talents and skills as a career choice



Ms. Jane of Nsambya Medical School encouraging the students to join the medical field as a career choice



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## ADVOCACY & CHILD PROTECTION

*2015 saw great strides being taken in realizing advocacy work under the international and national advocacy against child marriage and teenage pregnancy.*

*Through our membership under the Girls Not Brides Global alliance, we took part in formulation of efforts geared towards developing national and international policies against child marriage.*

*In 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals were formulated as well as the National Strategy against Child marriage and teenage pregnancy.*

*Donor and government efforts have now been directed towards the fighting against child marriage which is a sign that one time we shall see more political and social will to fight against the vice.*

*Some of the key activities played under advocacy included:-*

- 
- *Advocating ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy through affecting the new priorities for the post-2015 Development Agenda.*
  - *Uganda National Strategy to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy.*
  - *The Girls Voices Initiative by Let Girls Lead*
- 





## Advocating ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy through affecting the new priorities for the post-2015 Development Agenda.

As the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) come to an end in 2015 after 15 years of implementation; tremendous effort has been realized in most of the set goals especially in promotion of equal and quality education for both girls and boys. Despite of some of this success a lot still needs to be desired.

For instance a 2011 report by FAWA indicated that only 51% girls as opposed to 56% boys completed primary education. Records from the Ugandan Ministry of Gender show that 3/10 girls drop out of school every year. Pregnancy is named as the major reason for school drop outs especially in upper primary level. According to UBOS 2011, 1 in 4 girls aged 15-19 years is a mother or pregnant with her first child. Retention of these victims is close to impossible since majority of schools have non tolerant policies against pregnant students.

Due to the background surrounding the MDGs, the world leaders through the United Nations are working on the Sustainable Development Goals Framework.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are intended to be universal in the sense of embodying a universally shared common global vision of progress towards a safe, just and sustainable space for all human beings to thrive on the planet. They reflect the moral principles that no-

one and no country should be left behind, and that everyone and every country should be regarded as having a common responsibility for playing their part in delivering the global vision.

### ***Open letter regarding the target on child, early and forced marriage through Girls Not Brides.***

Amani Initiative has continued to work through Girls Not Brides to urge **Ambassador Macharia Kamau**, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations, **Ambassador CsabaKőrösi**, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the members of the Open Working Group **to maintain ending child, early and forced marriage as a separate target under Goal 5** (gender equality, empower women and girls everywhere).







## ***Girls Not Brides Global Member Meeting Casablanca 19 – 21 May 2015***

*Girls Not Brides* is a global partnership of more than 450 civil organizations from over 70 countries, determined to end child marriage and enable girls to fulfill their potential.



The first *Girls Not Brides* Global Member Meeting took place in Casablanca from 19-21 May 2015. Its objective was to strengthen the partnership through collaboration, networking and shared learning, and to accelerate efforts to end child marriage around the world.



A panel discussion about the roles of youth in fighting against child marriage

During the meeting strategic discussions which included involving youth, the elders and use of other innovative methodologies in the fight against child marriage.

The meeting also provided regional bodies such as East African Community members to brainstorm on how they can best work together towards eliminating child marriage through collective strategies.

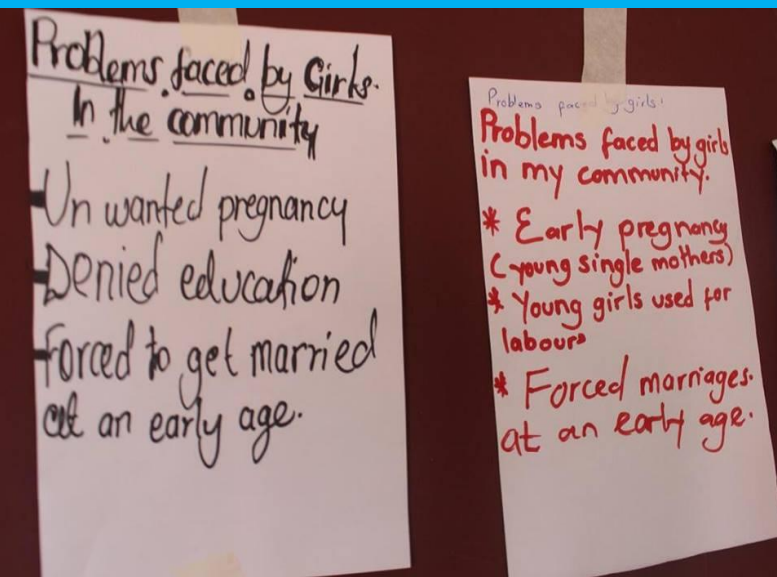


Group discussion about the role of youth in fighting against child marriage

### **Key Highlights of the Girls Not Brides Global Members meeting**

- Member engagement
- Trainings on advocacy and fundraising
- Engaging youth in the fight against teenage pregnancy
- Using alternative methods in the fight against child marriage





Some of the problems identified by girls under the Let Girls Lead project

## 6 reasons why members of Girls Not Brides made huge progress on child marriage in 2015

### 1) The Global Goals include a target to end child marriage by 2030

The global target that *Girls Not Brides* members have been working towards for the past three years was adopted by 193 governments earlier in September. Target number 5.3 of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development calls on countries to end child, early and forced marriage by the year 2030.

### 2) The UN Human Rights Council adopted first substantive resolution on child marriage

The Human Rights Council adopted its first substantive resolution by consensus, which recognized child marriage as a human rights violation and called for more efforts to end this practice.

85 governments showed their commitment to this issue by co-sponsoring the resolution, which called on States to work with civil society to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses to child marriage and review progress at the Human Rights Council in March 2017.

### 3) National initiatives & strategies on child marriage in a growing number of countries

Change did not just happen at the international level. An increasing number of countries have recognized the need to move from a project-based approach to child marriage towards the development of comprehensive, national strategies. Through the Girls Not Brides Alliance, Amani Initiative took part in the formulation of the National Strategy (2015-2020) with a vision of a society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

### 4) Countries acted on commitments to increase the age of marriage to 18

2015 saw a number of countries taking steps to improve their legal framework, one of the critical measures to address child marriage, by banning marriage under the age of 18. Some of these countries included Malawi, Chad, and **Guatemala**

### 5) The first African Girls' Summit put child marriage on Africa's development agenda

At the end of November, the African Union and the Government of Zambia held the first-ever African Girls' Summit on Ending Child Marriage bringing together governments, civil society, youth, UN agencies and dignitaries from across Africa, recognizing child marriage as a key priority for Africa's development agenda.

### 6) More funding in place – but more needed

We can't end child marriage without investing time, capacity and money. Luckily, 2015 saw a number of governments commit to funding efforts to end child marriage.



## Extracts from the Uganda National Strategy to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy

The Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development passed the National Strategy to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy (2014/15-2019/20) in June, 2015.

This strategy is in line with the Amani Initiative 5 year theory of change with a vision of **“A more healthy, and prosperous community free of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.”** As an organizations and members of Girls Not Brides in Uganda, we are committed to directly contributing to this strategic plan.

This section presents a summary of the National Strategy against child marriage and teenage pregnancy that you can also get on our website (<http://amaniinitiative.net/?p=466>)

### THE PROBLEM/ SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The right to family and marriage is provided for in the Uganda 1995 Constitution with the age of consent (minimum legal age for marriage) set at 18 years for both males and females (Republic of Uganda, 1995).

Statistical evidence (UDHS 2011, UBOS 2011) indicates that over 15% of ever-married women aged 20-49 were married by the age of 15, and 49% were married by age 18, with a decline from 56% (1996) for women aged 20 - 49 married below the age of 18, and 19.6% for women married below the age of 15. The UDHS data further shows that men tend to marry at much older ages (four years older) than women with a median age at first marriage of 22.3 years old than women in the same age range (25-49); only 9% of the men were married by age 18,

### NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD MARRIAGE AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY

Child marriage affects all aspects of a child's life and is a violation of children's rights, as recognized globally and nationally. It exposes children especially girls to multiple vulnerabilities and significantly impacts on development of their capabilities. Child marriage and adolescent pregnancies are interlinked with significant negative consequences on girl's physical and psychological wellbeing; and general development of girls including their education opportunities and outcomes.

Child marriage also prevents boys from obtaining an education, enjoying optimal health, bonding with others of their own age. This perpetuates the cycle of poverty from one generation to another. Diana Santillan (2013) argues that boys are equally impacted on by the practice of child marriage and have an important role in ending child marriage.

### NATIONAL RESPONSES TO ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE & TEENAGE PREGNANCY:-

#### ONGOING POLICY AND PROGRAMS INTERVENTIONS

- Child rights abuses especially SGBV have attracted most interventions<sup>4</sup> with a focus on community mobilization, sensitization and awareness raising about women and children rights.
- Government programming has largely focused on instituting a conducive national legal and policy framework to end child marriage. For instance the Uganda Constitution (1995) and other laws (Republic of Uganda 1995; and the Penal Code (amendment) Act (CAP 120) 2007), set the legal age of marriage or engagement in sexual acts at 18 years.
- The National Development Plan (NDP) 2010-2014/15 acknowledges child marriage as a negative social cultural practice that increases the rate of early pregnancy; which is partly responsible for the country's persistently poor health outcomes for women and children especially high maternal and infant mortality ratios; and high fertility rates.
- Government institutions involved include, Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development
- MoESTS: Gender and Equity Program
- Ministry of Health
- National Council for Children
- Bilateral Agencies include, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, UN Women
- Non- Governmental and Community Based and Faith Based Organizations are also involved



## NATIONAL STRATEGY TO END CHILD MARRIAGE

### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The National Strategy against Child Marriage & Teenage Pregnancy seeks to provide a guided vision and direction to the Government of Uganda, development partners, and all stakeholders concerned and committed to ending child marriages and teenage pregnancies.

It is premised on the understanding that a child interacts with different contexts and the nature and level of interaction influences his/her development as stipulated in the ecological model that provides conceptual grounding of the strategy. The ecological model further highlights the different roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders at different levels of operation. The strategy also draws on the principle of co-responsibility of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Guided by the latter the strategy document envisions a comprehensive sector approach to end child marriage and teenage pregnancies in Uganda.

### VISION

**“A society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy.”**

### GOAL

Ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy for prosperity and social economic transformation

### OBJECTIVES

1. To promote an enabling environment to end child marriage and teenage pregnancies by strengthening child protection mechanism and enforcement of relevant legislation.
2. To influence changes in dominant thinking in regard to social and cultural norms that cause, drive and perpetuate the practice of child marriage and teenage pregnancies in society.

### STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS

1. Improve legal and policy environment (with focus on child rights) to protect children
2. Generation of relevant data and evidence for programming and monitoring progress towards ending child marriage and teenage pregnancies
3. Changing communities' mindsets, knowledge, aspirations, behaviors and social norms that drive child marriage and teenage pregnancies
4. Increased access to quality protection, education, reproductive health services and other opportunities
5. Empowerment of girls and boys with comprehensive and appropriate information on life skills
6. Establish and strengthen structures and systems for implementing the NSCM&TP strategy
7. Coordination, monitoring and evaluation mechanism in place for effective management of the NSCM&TP strategy

### KEY TARGET GROUPS

The National Strategy against Child Marriage & Teenage Pregnancy targets the following;

- **Primary targets:** these are stakeholders who are major decision makers in regard to the practice of child marriage. They include parents, clan elders and members, in and out of school young girls living in difficult situations such as conflict and disaster prone areas (refugees), and men and boys who perpetrate the practice of child marriage.
- **Secondary targets:** these include influential community members like community civic leaders, school teachers and officials, health workers, religious, traditional and cultural leaders, and peers.





## The Girls Voices Initiative by Let Girls Lead

The Girls Voices Initiative aims to amplify the voices and power of girls to affect the new priorities for the post-2015 Development Agenda. Two (2) students from St. Mary's Ediofe Girls Senior Secondary School were selected to be part 36 other girls between the ages of 10-19 from all over Uganda for a workshop at Silver Springs Hotel from 1- 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2015.

During the workshop the girls were empowered through developing their skills in leadership, communications, and advocacy that helped them empower more than 20 other girls after the workshop.

The girls drafted key messages focusing on sustainable solutions against girls.

### Key messages drafted by the Girls

- **Education:** Ensure that education is compulsory and accessible to all girls in Uganda.
- **Sexual Harassment:** Curb and punish sexual harassment as an issue that affects girls on many levels.
- **Teenage Pregnancy:** Prevent teenage pregnancies and re-integrate the teenage mothers back into the society.
- **Child Marriage:** Let girls be girls! We need books rather than babies. We call upon the government to end child marriage.

## Girls' Voices Initiative High-Level Meeting

In anticipation of the adoption of the sustainable Let Girls development goals in September 2015 at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York.



Girl Leader (Sabia) presenting about teenage pregnancy during the high level meeting

Let Girls Lead organized a high level meeting that brought key stakeholders to take part in a girl led panel discussion. On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> 7 girls leaders including Sunday presented on key topics which included;-

- Girl education in Uganda
- Teenage pregnancy
- Child Marriage
- Sexual and reproductive health amongst adolescent girls
- Sexual harassment
- Girl discrimination
- Girls' involvement in STEM (Science, Technology, Economics and Mathematics) fields



### ***The Girls Lead advocacy in schools and their communities.***

Through the leadership of Ms. Inzikuru Everline, the Amani Initiative two girl leaders (Cakuru Charity and Sunday Sabia Grace) have been able to mobilize more than 40 other students to work towards the right of the girl child in their school and community.

#### ***Who are our Girl Leaders***

##### ***Sunday Grace Sabia***



I am Sunday Sabia Grace, 15 years old from Koboko district in West Nile –Uganda. I was born in a family of five children ( 2 girls and 3 boys) but the three boys died and currently we are only two girls. Both my parents also died so I am currently an orphan and my uncle is looking after me. I study at St. Mary's Ediofe Girls S.S with a lot of challenges but I keep on with my struggle to become a doctor.

I am currently volunteering with Amani Initiative and I usually plait hair and make designs to get some extra income to support my uncle. I want to become a doctor and currently studying science subjects, I also want to be a social worker so as I can help the people in my community especially the girl child.

##### ***Cakuru Charity***



I am Cakuru Charity aged 16 years in senior three at St. Mary's Ediofe Girls SS, Arua. I live in Arua ( West Nile, Uganda) in a small village called Yapi. I am the third born in our family since we lost first born. My mother and father divorced and currently I do stay with my father and step mother. In my community, many children aged above 10 years are not in school and most of them are girls. This has led to early marriage and teenage pregnancy, and forced marriages since the girls are idle at home.

I volunteer and work with Amani Initiative an organization that is spearheading the fight against teenage pregnancy and child marriage through community based interventions. My personal goal is to become an accountant, designer as well as empower girls and fight against women rights as a social worker.

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## 2015 EVENTS & MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

*The world is now considered as a global village as the use of media, technology and United Nations recognized events has made it possible for development partners to celebrate such events under the same theme's.*

*In 2015, various events and media campaigns were organized by Amani Initiative.*

*2015 saw Amani Initiative also recognized for the Social Media Awards under the Best Social Justice Category.*

### ***The 2015 events included:-***

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- *Women's Day held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2015 under the hashtag #MakeItHappen*
  - *Day of the African Child held on the 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2015*
  - *International Day of the Girl Child (11<sup>th</sup> October, 2015)*
  - *Peace Day 21<sup>st</sup>, September*
  - *19 Days of Activism (1st – 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2015)*
  - *16 Days against Gender Based Violence (25<sup>th</sup> November- 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015)*
- 

### ***The 2015 Social Media Campaigns included:-***

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- *#IamCOMMITTED*
- *#MyLifeAt15*
- *Stand #UpForSchool*
- *#GBVTeachin*
- *#EndChildMarriage*
- *#InvestInUGchildren*
- *#KeepMeInSchool*







## 2015 International events

### Women's Day held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2015



The Women's Day was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March with a special theme, engaging women to end teenage pregnancy and using the hashtag **#MakeltHappen**.

Through Social Media advocacy, the role of women in advocating was advocated to expound the role of women in the efforts to promote girl issues such as equal education opportunities, teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

Amani Initiative also partnered with Reach a Hand Uganda, Talent Africa, and other organizations during the Airtel Rising Woman Women's Day Concert held at Kati Kati featuring Tiwa Savage with a focus on teenage pregnancy. 15 lucky winners were given free tickets to

attend the show after taking part in our social media competitions.

### Day of the African Child held on the 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2015



**Figure 1** Time to celebrate the Day of the African Child Cake with deaf children at Busega Community School for the Deaf

The 2015 Day of the African Child Day was internationally organized with a special focus to advocate against child marriage. This year's were dedicated to celebrate the achievements of the Day of African child during the 23 years of existence with a special focus on child marriage. At Amani Initiative we engaged with the pupils at Busega Community School for the Deaf to celebrate the Day of the African in an effort of bringing about an inclusive solution against child marriage with direct involvement of the voices and rights of disabled children as well.

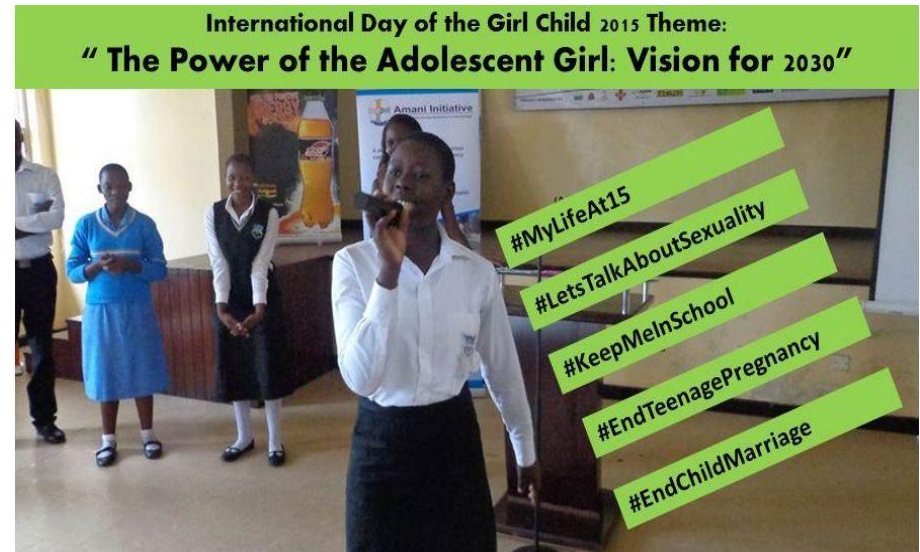


## ***International Day of the Girl Child (11<sup>th</sup> October, 2015)***

This was organized between 1<sup>st</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 under a theme: - The Power of the Adolescent Girl: Vision for 2030

*"This year, as the international community assesses progress under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) since their implementation in 2000 and sets goals to be achieved by 2030, girls born at the turn of the millennium have reached adolescence, and the generation of girls born this year will be adolescents in 2030.*

*As we reflect on the achievements of the past 15 years and plan sustainable development goals for the next 15, it is an opportune time to consider the importance of social, economic, and political investment in the power of adolescent girls as fundamental to breaking the intergenerational transmission of poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination and to achieving equitable and sustainable development outcomes."* Source UN Website on the International Day of the Girl Child 2015



Through engaging with Girls Not Brides, Amani Initiative strengthened its campaign against child marriage through the **#MyLifeAt15** campaign







### **Peace Day 21<sup>st</sup>, September**

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

Amani Initiative took part in their first event under the theme, “Partnerships for Peace – Dignity for All” which aims to highlight the importance of all segments of society to work together to strive for peace. As part of the activities, Amani Initiative organized social media messages and community dialogues about peace building. We are hoping to have bigger activities in 2016.

### **19 Days of Activism (1<sup>st</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2015)**

The 19 Days of Activism was implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 with a special focus on bullying.



The head boy at Awindiri PS addressing the rest of the school to say NO to bullying during the 19 Days of Activism

### **16 Days against Gender Based Violence (25<sup>th</sup> November- 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015)**

The 2015 16 Days of Activism was implemented

From the 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 under the theme, “**From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World; Make Education Safe for All.**”

The 16 Days of Activism is an annual campaign aimed at bringing to attention some of the greatest challenges affecting women and girls.

As part of the 16 Days of Activism, Amani Initiative took lead in one of the topics under the #GBVTeachin under the topic, “**Sexual Violence with Impunity against school children and young people.**”

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE** against children is preventable

**2.6** Million Girls (4.5% of girls) aged 15-19 suffered some form of sexual violence

**#GBVTeachin:-**

**“Sexual Violence with Impunity against school children and young people”**

Share your views with @Amani\_Initiative and @16DaysCampaign using hashtags #16Days, #GBVTeachin, #KeepMeInSchool during the 16 Days of Activism.

**25<sup>th</sup> November**  
**12:00pm- 10:00pm (EAT)**

**Amani Initiative**  
together against teenage pregnancy & child marriage

**FROM PEACE IN THE HOME TO PEACE IN THE WORLD**

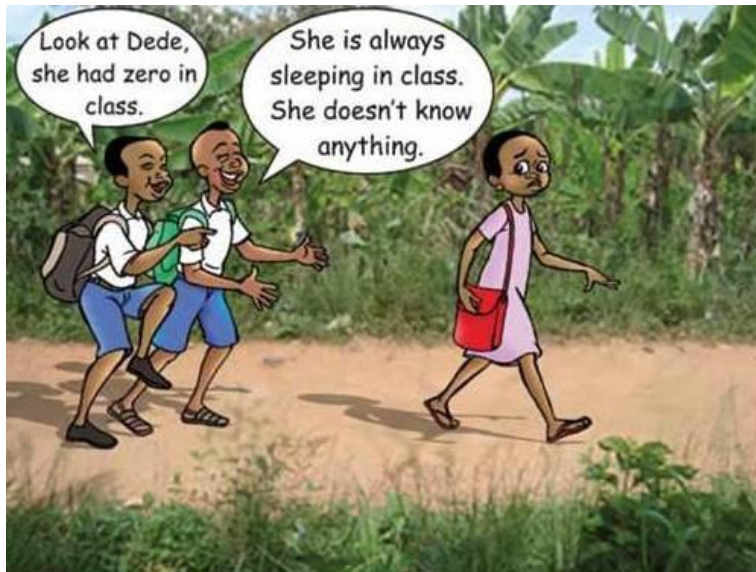
**16 DAYS**





[Amani Initiative @Amani\\_initiativ](#) 30 Nov 2015 Uganda

As a student, you have a responsibility to encourage and motivate your fellow students [#GBV](#) [#GBVTeachin](#)



**Use Media to advocate against teenage pregnancy and child marriage**

### **Social Media Awards**

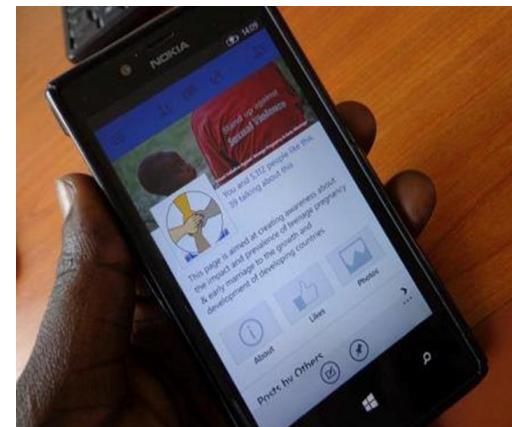
Amani Initiative was recognized for its efforts in making the community a better and safe place for humanity through the use of social media during the 2015 Social Media Awards held on 7<sup>th</sup> March at Golf Course Hotel. Currently Amani Initiative runs a Facebook page as well

as a Twitter page which runs advocacy, sensitization and awareness messages about issues concerning teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

These interactive platforms have engaged more than 7,000 people on a daily basis inspiring more individual community efforts against teenage pregnancy and child marriage.



**ENGAGE WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



**Follow us on twitter:**

[https://twitter.com/Amani\\_initiativ](https://twitter.com/Amani_initiativ)

**Like us on Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/www.amaniinitiative.org>

**Website:**

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



### Using radio to sensitize the community



Amani Initiative has been invited for Radio talk shows such as at Radio Pacis in Arua and Power FM in Kampala.

The talk shows were tailored at

sensitizing and empowering the communities about the impact of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

### Photographic Campaigns

#### The #IamCOMMITTED Social media campaign



Launched on 5th January 2015, the #IamCOMMITTED campaign aims at engaging people join the Amani Initiative 5 year theory of change against teenage

pregnancy & child marriage. In picture is Flavia Ibyara Former Miss Uganda- Eastern Uganda.

### #MakeItHappen to celebrate Women's Day, 2015



Women and girls make up about half of our global population but make up two thirds of the 1.4 billion who live in extreme poverty.

With our vision as a more healthy, productive and educated community free of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

This focused our theme for the 2015 International Women's Day were we are calling on every citizen, from world leaders to volunteers, to make it happen.

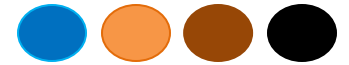
#### Stand #UpForSchool



Stand #UpForSchool is a global campaign of over 10 million people standing #UpForSchool and the right of every child to go to school and learn safely.

As an organization, we had more than 500 people sign up to the campaign. To learn more about Stand #UpForSchool please check <http://www.aworldatschool.org/>





**Different Countries; Different Languages; Different Languages; Same Message; End Child Marriage  
#MySolution**

**CHILD MARRIAGE IN THE WORLD**

- One third of girls in the developing world are married before the age of 18 and 1 in 9 are married before the age of 15.
- In 2012, 70 million women 20-24 around the world had been married before the age of 18.
- If present trends continue, 150 million girls will be married before their 18th birthday over the next decade. That's an average of 15 million girls each year.
- While countries with the highest prevalence of child marriage are concentrated in Western and Sub-Saharan Africa, due to population size, the largest number of child brides resides in South Asia.
- Child marriage in Uganda stands at 40%





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## CODES Community Dialogue

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In early 2012, the Community and District Empowerment for Scale-up (or CODES) project was inaugurated as a way to help MOH achieve the target reductions in under-five mortality that the government has set for itself. CODES is a multi-year project that helps the Government of Uganda boost its own capacity to implement public policies and interventions that lead to a wide array of improvements in health outcomes—especially concerning the control of malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea in children under five. Funded by the United States Fund for UNICEF as a grantee of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CODES was developed jointly with Uganda's Ministry of Health, UNICEF, and the Karolinska Institute, in partnership with the Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment, Child Fund International, the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and the Makerere University School of Public Health. The Commissioner of Health Services at the Ministry of Health, Dr Anthony Mbonye, chairs the project's steering committee.

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*Amani Initiative signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ACODE to implement the CODES project in Maracha & Arua Districts. The sub-counties covered in 2015 included:-*

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### **Sub- Counties in Arua District Covered:-**

- Anyara Parish, Adumi Sub-County.
- Anyufira Parish, Omugo Sub-County
- Aripea Parish, Aiivu Sub-County
- Bandili Parish, Rhino Camp Sub-County
- Nyirivu Parish, Ajia Sub-County
- Panduku Parish, Pawor Sub-County
- Tanganyika Ward, Olli Division
- Yivu Parish, Pajulu Sub-County

### **Sub- Counties in Maracha District Covered:-**

- Michu Parish, Oluvu Sub-County
- Ayiko Parish, Oluvu Sub-County
- Ambidro Parish, Kijomoro Sub-County
- Anyivu Parish, Tara Sub-County
- Kimiru Parish, Oluffe Sub-County
- Loinya Parish, Yivu Sub-County
- Paranga Parish, Oleba Sub-County
- Robu Parish, Nyadri Sub-County





## Community and District Empowerment for Scale-up Project

Amani Initiative in partnership with Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) facilitated community dialogues in Arua and Maracha Districts with a total number of participants was (724 – M & 766 – F)

The objectives of the dialogues were to (1) return CODES baseline study findings to the district (through the Citizen Report Cards); (2) reflect on the findings, and share experiences and perceptions; and (3) create a joint action plan (community contract) to address healthcare challenges with less or no external support

### General Information of the dialogues

#### Attention Points for the District Health Management Team (DHMT)

Some of the key findings during the baseline study were presented to the district health management for their actions. The

#### Break-Out Sessions in numbers

- Community Leaders ( 306- M & 56 – F)
- Caretakers ( 183- M & 637 – F)
- Village Health Teams (125 – M & 56 – F)
- Health Workers (82 – M & 75 – M)

To learn more about the joint Action Plan / Community Contract and CODES Committee and other reports please visit <http://amaniinitiative.net/?p=452>



- ***Selected responses from the community members during the CODES Dialogues***
- “Poor sanitation and hygiene within the community: Many homesteads lack basic sanitation and hygiene facilities. Compounds are bushy and lack latrines, bathing shelters, drying racks for utensils, and rubbish pits. Many households don't boil drinking water or store it in clean utensils, while others share accommodation with animals (largely because of fear of theft). These various practices only exacerbate risks of children developing diarrhea, pneumonia, and malaria.” Anyara Parish, Adumi Sub-County, Arua District
- Community health education talks on proper sanitation and hygiene practice was an action taken by Caretakers of **Anyivu Parish, Tara Sub-County, Maracha District**
- Mobilize community members for awareness-creation sessions about the risks of poor hygiene and sanitation as an action point by Community Leaders in Paranga Parish, Oleba Sub-County, Maracha District



## 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Amani Initiative

#### 2015 Consolidated Income & Expenditure Account Amounts in Ugx

##### Incomes

Bal b/f	1,057,500.00
Members Contributions	2,177,000.00
In- Kind contributions	10,050,000.00
Partners Support	32,129,450.00
Other support	950,000.00
<b>Total Incomes</b>	<b>46,363,950.00</b>

##### Expenditure

Education Department	1,650,000.00
Youth Livelihoods Development Department	9,634,000.00
Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health Department	985,000.00
Child Protection & Advocacy Department	3,520,000.00
CODES Project	7,055,000.00
Events & Strategic Meetings	9,800,450.00
Administration & Operations	13,293,600.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>45,938,050.00</b>
Bal c/d	425,900.00

##### Note:-

Amani Initiative is a membership based organization that directly works with the community structures to implement its programs.

We appreciate all material, in kind support towards the successful implementation of our programs





## Implementing Team and Partners

Amani Initiative is a member based organization that values involvement of individuals, organizations, community leaders and central government in the fight against teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

During the period of January- June, 2015 we had a big involvement in terms of volunteers, community involvement during the project implementation in our various thematic areas and outreaches as below;-

### Kampala/Waksio Program area

- Ochatre Nixon (Team Leader)
- Kisawuzi James
- Alikwani Rashid
- Patricia Anena
- Haruna Kanaabi
- Sharon Nassaza
- Okoth Kenneth
- Brian Musinguzi
- Anchil Geatan
- Fera Immaculate
- Osman Ganafa
- Ibyara Flavia
- Winnie Nabisinyo
- Jackie Kikome
- Hellen Apio
- Jessie Lwanga
- Sharon Laurette ( Int'l Ambassador)

### Arua District Program area

- Inzikuru Everline (District Program Coordinator)
- Wadiiko Gertrude
- Matua Nobert
- Alema Geofrey
- Cakuru Charity
- Sande Sunday Grace

### Maracha District Program area

- Patrick Dranimva (District Program Coordinator)
- Florence Amanguru
- Ngamville Geofrey
- James William Ededria

### Who we worked with in this period :-

- Girls Not Brides
- Society of Adolescent Health in Uganda (SAHU)
- The Private Education Development Network (PEDN)
- Let Girls Lead
- Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE)
- New Vision ( Vision Group)
- Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA)
- Busega Community School for the Deaf
- Reach a Hand Uganda



## About Amani Initiative

Amani Initiative is a Ugandan NGO that was established in 2011 by a group of youths who were directly or indirectly affected by the pertinent issue of teenage pregnancy & early marriage. The organization is registered with the NGO Board under registration number 9539. Amani Initiative has been awarded by six child based organizations (ANPPCAN-Uganda, Child Fund Uganda, Compassion International, Save the Children in Uganda, UCRNN, World Vision Uganda and UNICEF for its efforts in the fight against teenage pregnancy & early marriage under the 2013 Tumaini Awards.

## ENGAGE WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on twitter: [https://twitter.com/Amani\\_initiativ](https://twitter.com/Amani_initiativ)

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/www.amaniinitiative.org>

Website:

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

Amani Initiative is a membership based organization made of professionals and individuals passionate about the fight against teenage pregnancy and child marriage pool their resources (financial, technical expertise, time) to foster and strengthen community structures to facilitate the fight against teenage pregnancy and child marriage

### Contact Our Program Officers Amani Initiative-Maracha District Office

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### Amani Initiative- Arua District Office

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- Ministry of Education & Sports, Science and Technology