

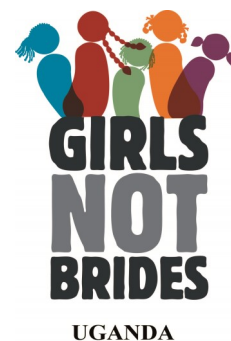


# Amani Initiative

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



## 2016 AMANI INITIATIVE ANNUAL REPORT



The Ugandan Alliance to  
End Child Marriage

# Executive Summary

## Special points of interest:

- Over 1,050 children reached out with scholastic materials as part of the Keep Me In School Campaign
- The Step by Step Project launched
- 250 student leaders in 8 primary schools empowered
- CODES initiative findings released
- His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni launches the National Policy on Elimination of Gender Based Violence in Uganda
- 1500 youth reached

## Table of Content

Executive Summary	2
Equal & Quality Education Opportunities for All	3
Keep Me In School Campaign	4
Step by Step Project	5
Use of media to advocate against child abuse	7
Health	5
2016 Financial Performance	15

## Executive Summary

With child marriage in Uganda standing at 40% and teenage pregnancy at 25%; Uganda has one of the highest rates of child marriage and teenage pregnancy in the world. There have been very many reasons that have been brought forward as causes of this challenge of which some include poverty, child sexual abuse, school drop out, poor sexual & reproductive health choices and many others.

In 2016; Amani Initiative aimed at fighting against teenage pregnancy and child marriage through 3 major focus areas which in-

cluded providing equal & quality education opportunities, sexual & reproductive health sensitizations and empowering the youth to take lead in the fight against teenage pregnancy & child marriage. The 2016 Amani Initiative report shares some of the highlights from the 2016 activities

such as the Keep Me In School Campaign, Aflateen Social & Financial Education Project and also CODES.



Ten (10) UPE schools across Maracha and Arua benefited from the Keep Me In School; 15 secondary schools and 5 out of school youth groups in Arua District participated in the Aflateen Social & Financial Education Project. Amani Initiative closely worked with Girls Not Brides Uganda National Alliance to accomplish various tasks for the alliance such as the development of the GNB governance manual and strategic plan. More information about the 2016 Amani Initiative activities can be found in the 2016 Amani Initiative Annual Report.

## Promoting Equal and Quality Education Opportunities for all Children in Uganda

Nelson Mandela once said that, “Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to Change the world.”

Education without quality and equality will not be able to contribute to the belief of Nelson Mandela as the children will only fill spaces in classrooms without learning. Many children will not have the same equal opportunities as their peers to learn.

The Keep Me In School Campaign aimed at coming up with solutions to challenges that stop children from staying in school such as lack of school fees, lack of scholastic materials, menstrual hygiene and management. The #StepByStep project aimed at sensitizing the youth to focus on the goal of having an education before they think of marriage and other life choices that can stop them from completing an education. The School Leadership Program aimed at empowering student leaders to take up the responsibility of making a child friendly school environment.

Amani Initiative different activities that aimed at promoting equal and quality education opportunities within schools and communities in Arua and Maracha districts. These activities included the Keep Me In School Campaign, School leadership program and #StepByStep project.



Student leaders of Awindiri Primary School

---

*Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to Change the world.”*  
*Nelson Mandela*

---



Pupils that are part of the Keep Me In School Campaign in Arua District

## Why Education was a 2016 focus area for Amani Initiative

Education provides a platform for any one to gain knowledge and skills that can be used to get jobs, create jobs and make more informed decisions about their lives.

Education is also a solution to child marriage whereby once a child is in school; their chances of being married off are usually smaller as compared to a child who stays at home without anything to do.

It's through this background that Amani Initiative adopted Education as one of her 2016 focus areas. This was through strengthening the existing education structures



Keep Me In School (KeMIS) Campaign is a 5 year strategic campaign (2015-2020) dedicated to supporting growth and development of more than 500,000 children and communities through facilitating an Education model characterized with equal & quality

opportunities for both boys & girls, able and disabled children.

Goal of the Keep Me In School Campaign is to facilitate every child with an equal opportunity to quality education and to be in position to use this education to foster the development of his/her

homestead, community and country.

### Objectives of the Keep Me In-School Campaign

- All Children have an equal access to a good quality education especially for the girl child & disabled children.
- Establishing a school environment with structures to retain children in school and efforts to reach out to children not in school with the direct involvement of parents, communities and concerned stakeholders.
- Nurturing the cognitive, social and ethical development of children.



## Highlight of the 2016 Keep Me In School activities

The 2016 Keep Me In School saw a wide social media advocacy were over 6,000 people were reached with information to support equal & quality education opportunities. 1,050 books , 210 mathematical sets, 210

pencils, were distributes to the 10 primary schools in Arua and Maracha that were selected to benefit from the campaign. Awindiri Primary School was also provided with water tanks for storing water for drinking

since water is considered as life and it's important to have access to safe drinking water.





Students of Ediofe Girls Secondary School during the launch of the Step by Step project

## Empowering young girls and boys to delay marriage and pregnancy through the Step by Step Project

Amani Initiative launched the Step by Step project in 2016 to empower both boys and girls to delay marriage until the right time. The right time being considered as when the child is economically, physically and emotionally ready to start and manage a family. Amani Initiative used Information Edu-

cation Communication (IEC) materials such as flyers that were distributed to schools and children. These materials focused on sensitizing the youth against child marriage.

Over 2,000 youth at Ediofe Girls

Secondary School were sensitized on the importance of delaying child marriage.



## Empowering student leaders as ambassadors to advocate for the fight against child marriage

*Over 2000 youth engaged during the Step by Step campaign launch*



Amani Initiative directly supported the schools at all the stages of the electoral process ie organizing campaigns, elections, building capacity of the elected leaders, and also recognizing the leaders at the end of their tenure of office.

This support empowered the youth to take up responsibilities of improving their school environment and also addressing the challenges their fellow youth face such as child marriage, barriers to education, poor sanitation and access to clean water



Student leaders of Awindiri Primary School (Arua District)

Amani Initiative worked with 8 primary schools of which 3 were in Maracha District and 5 in Arua district to pilot the school leadership program that reached out to 250 student leaders.

The school leadership program works through the school electoral system where student leaders are elected by their fellow students to lead through a given period of time.



## Using the media to advocate against child abuse



media platforms to reach out to the general public with key information aimed at advocating against teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

The media platforms included the New

Media is one of the greatest platforms to advocate for solutions to the challenges facing the community. Amani Initiative engaged print media as well as social

Vision, Facebook and twitter. The Amani Initiative Facebook page was able to reach a milestone of 6,000 likes in 2016 and the twitter page reached 700 followers. The media platforms have engaged the public to appreciate that child marriage and teenage are violations that need to be addressed by everyone.

## Using Music Dance & Drama to advocate against child marriage

Music Dance and Drama has the ability to communicate to thousands and also stick the message home.

Amani Initiative supported Uganda Martyrs S.S Ssonde to organize the the 2016 In-ter-house Music Dance & Drama Competitions of Uganda Martyrs College Ssonde held under the theme, **“Combating Teenage Pregnancies and Child Abuse”**

The 4 different houses that participated in the competitions used folk songs, dance and drama to depict and sensitize their fellow youth, parents and teachers about the dangers of teenage pregnan-

cy & child marriage and how best to avoid.



Students during a drama skit about a teacher trying to con his student.

## THE POSSIBLE CHANGE WE CAN ACHIEVE





Reaching out to the Maracha District community health officials about health issues affecting the communi-

*After the camp 17 young men have so far come for the services from MJAP on safe male circumcision*



Mr. Haruna Kanaabi reaching out to scouts in Kaazi with information on sexually transmitted infections (STI's)

## Relationship of Health decisions and ending child marriage & teenage pregnancy

Adolescence is a period of transition from childhood to adulthood. This period is characterized by emotional, biological and psychological changes, putting adolescents at risk for early marriage, unwanted pregnancies,

unsafe abortion, STIs, HIV/AIDS, sexual abuse and exploitation. Adolescents' sexual and reproductive health is of national concern for Uganda because the country has a youthful age structure with a broad-based population pyramid characteristic of a

developing country. Lack of access to age appropriate and comprehensive information has led to poor health choices that have led to child marriage which stands at 40% and teenage pregnancy which stands at 25%.

### Society for Adolescent Health in Uganda (SAHU) 3rd Scientific Conference



MAKERERE - COLUMBIA (MUCU)

**THE SOCIETY OF ADOLESCENT HEALTH IN UGANDA (SAHU)**

3rd Scientific Conference

Venue: **THE HOTEL AFRICANA** | KAMPALA, UGANDA

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016

Theme: **ABOVE AND BEYOND: CARING FOR THE ADOLESCENT PATIENT**

can lead to suicidal tendencies at most cases. Technology was identified as a strategic ap-

As members of SAHU, Amani Initiative participated in the 3rd SAHU Scientific Conference at Hotel Africana from the 20th to 21st April, 2016. The conference had discussions that aimed at coming up

with how to care for the adolescent patient. For instance teenage mothers, HIV/AIDs adolescents etc. It was realized that adolescents often find themselves isolated incase of illness's which

proach of reaching out to adolescents with health care and need to ensure that all health centers in Ugandan have the capacity to handle adolescents' health requirements.

### Let's Talk about Sexuality Campaign during the 2016 National Scouts Competitions in Kaazi

At Kaazi; Mr. Harunah Kanaabi from MJAP sensitized the youth about the importance of Safe male Circumcision for prevention of HIV/AIDs and hygiene .He informed them that it provides a 60% risk reduction from contracting HIV/AIDs,

STI's Harunah went on and informed the scouts that circumcision only has 60% protection, the 40% is still risky, so young people must still be very careful coz they can contract infections even after

the service. All the scouts were advised to visit their nearest health center for an HIV/AIDs test and more information about the other sexually transmitted diseases.



## CODES Initiative

The Community and District Empowerment for Scale-up (CODES) was a learning project that aimed to show how a district health system management and community strategy can be taken to scale. This five year project that was being implemented by Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Ministry of Health, UNICEF, Child Fund International, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Makerere University School of Public Health brought together local

organizations such as Amani Initiative to reach out to the community structures. Amani Initiative was mandated to help the government of Uganda through the Ministry of Health to boost its own capacity to implement policies and interventions that lead to a wide array of improvements in health outcomes especially concerned with the control of the top child killer diseases. The project targeted 8 intervention districts including Arua, Maracha, Apac, Luuka, Masindi, Bugiri,

Buhweju, and Buvuma.

The CODES project was structured around three main pillars which included:-

- 1) **Improved targeting of interventions to match disease burden at the district level**
- 2) **Evidence –based management tools used to improve district health team performance.**
- 3) **Increased community oversight to strengthen demand and exact accountability**

### What was carried out during the CODES Initiative

Amani Initiative carried out the demand side component of CODES, where ACODE employed a behavioral change communication approach of **Community Dialogues**. The Community Dialogues that were facilitated in sub-counties in the districts of Maracha and Arua were meant to be a vehicle for Empowerment of people in communities to demand for and receive better health services. Through engaging trained facilitator's post-dialogue community monitoring visits were held in communities that participated in the 2014, 2015 and 2016 CODES dialogues. Six new community dialogues were held in

Arua District and six dialogues in Maracha District. These dialogues brought together over 500 community members together with their leaders, and health officials to identify the issues facing health delivery and how to solve them. The field notes for both the post-dialogue monitoring visits and community dialogues included information on the breakout sessions, action plans, and community contracts. These notes were used to prepare a publication that was presented to Ministry of Health with key recommendations in the public health sector in Uganda.



Children of child mothers are at a higher chance of being affected by infant mortality rate that the CODES initiative aimed at reducing

Over 500 community members together with their leaders, and health officials to identify the issues facing health delivery and how to solve them.



Caption describing picture or graphic.





## Policy recommendations as the result of the CODES Initiative

As the result of the CODES Initiative; the following policy recommendations were put forward under the publication ; “ ***Assessing the Management and Administration in Public Health Facilities of Uganda and the Implications for the Healthcare Service Delivery and Utilization.***” Evidence from the CODES Project. The findings and recommendations from CODES were made public on Friday, 4th November, 2016 at Protea Hotel at aired live on NTV

1. There is need to organize periodic capacity building and training in leadership and human resource management and development for health facility in-charges
2. There is need to employ appropriate innovations and motivation practices for health workers
3. There is need to build trust in healthcare service delivery by having health professionals, managers and public service workers who are trusted to deliver a high quality service. Trust can easily be built at the health centers by ensuring that the health service providers can meet the needs of the users and be available when needed.
4. Strengthening supervision, monitoring and inspection of lower health facilities
5. Organizing periodic cross-district and intra-district peer to peer learning sessions by central and local governments to consider organizing and facilitating these sessions.
6. Ensuring holistic approach in addressing systematic challenges to service delivery





## Aflateen Social & Financial Education Project

***“Incorporate social & financial education and activities to help children and youth make sound financial decisions.”***

The Aflateen Social and Financial Education program aimed to directly provide 8,000 in school youth and 20 out of school youth groups in Arua, Gulu, Wakiso, Kasese and Kampala with a holistic financial and social education training's, capacity building, and information that will lead to change in the financial and social behaviors of the participants leading to a socially and economically empowered generation.

The program also reached out to more than 100,000 youth and other community members with financial

literacy information through social media, radio, and print media.

The overall goal of the program is to, **“Incorporate social & financial education and activities to help children and youth make sound financial decisions.”**

### **Objectives of the Program**

- 1) Change in financial behavior and practice among youth
- 2) Enhance the skills and ability of youth to build and preserve financial assets (enterprise assets and money)
- 3) Foster entrepreneurship, employment and economic empowerment among young people.

Amani Initiative took lead in implementing the Aflateen Program in 15 secondary schools for term 1 & 2 in 2016.

## Social & Financial Empowerment of youth through the Aflateen Program

The Aflateen programme is a curriculum created by the Aflatoun secretariat that brings social and financial education to youth worldwide. Tailored specifically for this developmental phase, the Aflateen programme not only teaches about finance but also encourages young people to question the world around them.

The Aflateen Program is being implemented in secondary schools in Uganda by the Private Education Development Network with the support of Citibank Uganda Limited under Citi Foundation. The program used a social & financial education program under the modules below:-

- 1) Module One: Personal Development
- 2) Module Two: - Financial Management
- 3) Module Three: Saving
- 4) Module Four: Financial Service Providers
- 5) Module Five: Social & Financial Enterprises

### Aflateen project in numbers

The Aflateen project directly reached out to 15 secondary schools and 5 out of school groups across Arua District in 2016. Over 1500 youth in schools youth and 150 out of school youth participate Aflateen sessions.

Through these activities the youth were exposed to financial services and information through the weekly newspaper distributions and financial literacy articles

#### LIST OF SCHOOLS THAT TOOK PART IN THE AFLATEEN PROJECT ARUA DISTRICT

1. Everest Secondary School
2. Nile High School Odia
3. Arua Islamic
4. Standard College
5. Latibo Foundation
6. Wandu Progressive S
7. Cornerstone S.S
8. Arua S.S
9. Jaden Memorial S.S
10. Najah Muslim S.S
11. Ombatini S.S
12. Golden College S.S
13. Okufura S.S
14. Oriajin S.S
15. Mandela Comprehensive S.S

### Lessons from the Aflateen Program

The key lesson from the Aflateen project was that to empower a child they need to be both socially and financially empowered as this will make them successful members of the community

#### Out of school youth groups that benefited from the Aflateen Program

- 1) Inter – Pangisa Youth Group
- 2) 73rd Parliament Charity Organization
- 3) Above the Law Youth Group
- 4) Muru Youth Group
- 5) Zebra Youth Association



Session time in an Aflateen class

*The number of bank accounts increased from 16% to 35% demonstrating a 19% increase due to the financial education project.*



Youth taking part in an Aflateen school session






---

*Girls Not Brides Uganda National Alliance currently has 60 partner organizations working together to end child marriage*

---



Steering Committee Meeting with GNB Global representatives

As a member of Girls Not Brides; Amani Initiative has played a major role in building the Girls Not Brides Uganda National Alliance which now stands at 60 partner organizations.

Girls Not Brides is a global partnership of more than 550 civil society organisations from over 70 countries committed to ending child marriage and enabling girls to fulfil their potential. Stronger together, Girls Not Brides members bring child marriage to global attention, build an understanding of what it will take to end child marriage and call for

the laws, policies and programmes that will make a difference in the life of millions of girls.

Girls Not Brides Uganda is a National Alliance that hosts over 60 member organizations in an effort to end child marriage in Uganda. GNB-U officially became a National Alliance of Girls Not Brides Global in July 2016; the alliance works at the national, regional and district level through building capacity of its members to advocate for ending child marriage.

The alliance has participated in a number of national campaigns to end child marriage and teenage pregnancies in Uganda hence following up government commitments to end child marriage. In collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, GNB-U participated in the drafting and finalizing the National Strategy to End Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancies (2015).

These activities have strengthened Amani Initiative's activities in ending child marriage & teenage pregnancy.



## 2016 Accomplishments of the Girls Not Brides –Uganda Alliance

### A governance

**structure** for Girls Not Brides Uganda National Alliance was developed in March 2016 with well-defined roles and responsibilities. Regional representatives for all four regions (West, North, East, and Central) were elected. Working groups within the steering committee were as well formed. Mr. Nixon Ochatre the Team Leader of Amani Initiative was elected as the Northern Region representative to the Steering Committee.

This new structure significantly improved the effective management of the coalition. During the quarterly Steering Committee meetings new

developments at national and district level are discussed and joint campaigns and actions proposed.

**Official partnership was also signed with Girls Not Brides Global Alliance GNB-U** becoming an official partnership to GNB global alliance in July 2016.

**A GNB-U Strategic Plan (2016/17-2020/21)** was finalized and is now in place. World Vision facilitated a strategic planning workshop to finalize the Strategy on 28th

September 2016 where the operational environment was discussed and strategies developed. Additionally, the draft advocacy strategy for the alliance is in place and in its final stages of becoming an official document for the alliance. Amani Initiative took part in this activity and contributed to the strategic plan.

**Amplify change proposal** was developed with input from Amani Initiative and will be aiming at operationalizing the National Strategic plan against child marriage & teenage pregnancy

*Amplify Change Proposal to facilitate operationalization of the 2015-2021 National Strategy against teenage pregnancy & child marriage*



GNB— Uganda steering committee members



## 2016 Events



Events provide a platform for Amani Initiative to carry out global activities that are directly linked to the mission and vision of Amani Initiative. In 2016 Amani Initiative celebrated the Global Money Week, 16 days of Activism and International Day of the Girl Child and Day of the African Child.

### **His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni launches the National Policy on Elimination of Gender Based Violence in Uganda during the 16 Days of Activism**

On 25th November, 2016, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni the President of the Republic of Uganda signed the National Policy on Elimination of Gender Based Violence in Uganda. The day also marked the start of the 16 Days of Activism against #GBV.#Endchildmarriage

### **Global Money Week (14th –20th March, 2016)**

The Global Money Week ( 14th - 20th March, 2016) Celebrations. The Aflateen beneficiaries took part in the 2016 Global Money Week celebrations that were

celebrated under the theme, „Take Part. Save Smart!“ that will be advocating for children and youth to learn and take part in clever cost-careful habits from an early age, in order to avoid financial exclusion

and develop key money -managing skills for later in life. These activities are organized by Child & Youth Finance International and the Private Education Development Network (PEDN)

---

*Women need to be economically empowered if we are to achieve the National Policy on elimination of Gender Based Violence in Uganda*

---



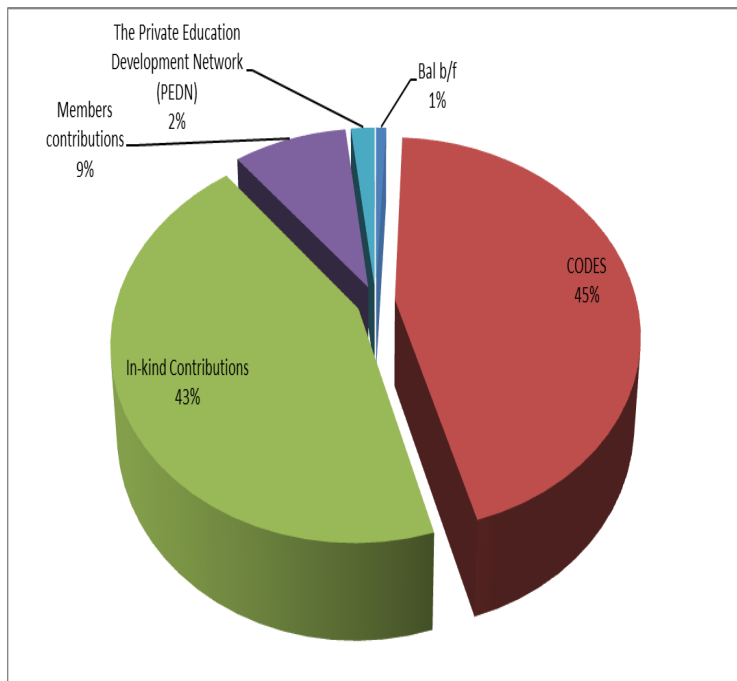
Global Money Week celebrations in Arua District



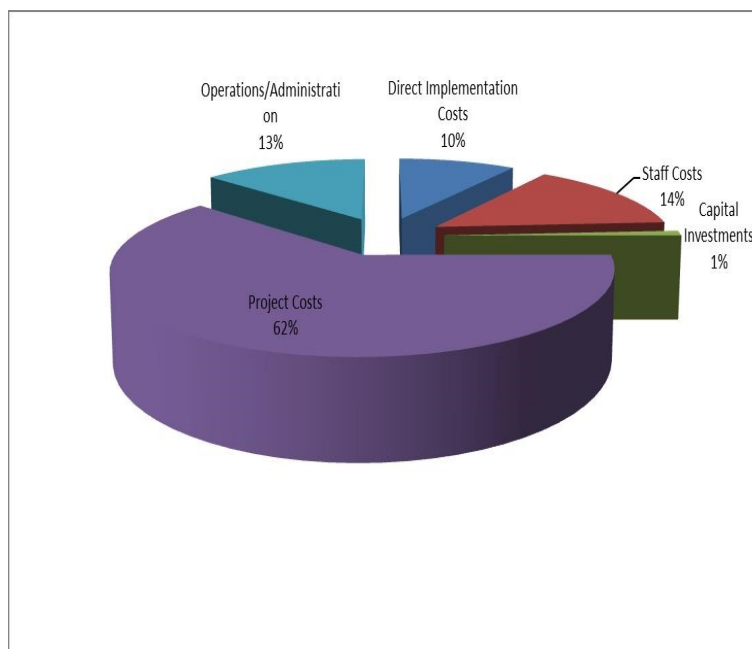
## 2016 Amani Initiative Financial Performance

Incomes	
Bal b/f	425,900.00
CODES	24,000,000.00
In-kind Contributions	21,065,700
Members contributions	5,060,200
The Private Education Development Network (PEDN)	3,400,000
Total Income	53,525,900.00
Expenditures	
Direct Implementation Costs	4,800,000.00
Staff Costs	7,200,000.00
Capital Investments	495,000.00
Project Costs	30,850,000.00
Operations/Administration	6,720,000.00
Total	50,065,000.00
Bal c/d	3,460,900.00

### 2016 Amani Initiative Income Sources



### 2016 Amani Initiative Expenditure Breakdown



## Contact

### Maracha Office:-

P.O.Box 1 Maracha  
District  
Drivers Corner Building  
- Maracha Town  
Council

Tel:- +256 706815208

### Arua Office

P.O.Box 652, Arua  
Arua Children's Library  
Building- Niva Road  
Tel:- +256 703154084

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

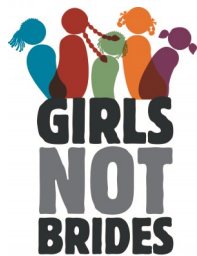
## Our 2016 partners



THE PRIVATE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT NETWORK



Start Early Succeed Young!



UGANDA

The Ugandan Alliance to  
End Child Marriage



**Society of Adolescent  
Health in Uganda**

*A Healthy Adolescent, A Healthy Nation*

*According to the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), 100 million girls will be married before the age of 18 in the coming decade. 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.*

## What you should know about Amani Initiative ?

Amani Initiative is a Ugandan NGO that was established in 2011 by a group of Ugandan 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 is also a registered member of the Girls Not Brides Uganda National Alliance as well as the Society for Adolescent

Health In Uganda  
(SAHU)

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.

### Our Vision

A community whereby each child has an equal opportunity to quality education and develops to full potential without the impact of teenage pregnancy & early marriage.

### Our Mission

To create sustainable solutions to teenage pregnancy & early marriage through the direct involvement of the community

**DO NOT JUMP ANY STEP  
IN LIFE BECAUSE IT'S  
DIFFICULT TO START  
AGAIN...** #Step by step project



IT TAKES TWO TO STOP  
CHILD MARRIAGE &  
TEENAGE PREGNANCY



NOT READY

**MARRIAGE**

**LOVE**

**CAREER**

**EDUCATION**

**#Endchildmarriage**

#STEPBYSTEP PROJECT CONTRIBUTING TO THE NATIONAL STRATEGY TO END CHILD MARRIAGE AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY  
(2014/15– 2019/2020).

**“A SOCIETY FREE FROM CHILD MARRIAGE AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY “**



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



**Keep Me In School**

Equal & Quality Education Opportunities for ALL