

20 20



Amani Initiative

....together we can make a difference!

AMANI INITIATIVE ANNUAL REPORT TOWARDS A SOCIETY FREE FROM CHILD MARRIAGE AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY TOGETHER.



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Group photo of Business Accounting and Financial Management trainers from Northern Uganda (Pader, Gulu, Nwoya, and Omoro Districts)



MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIRPERSON

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02

Dear Friend of Amani Initiative,

It brings me great honor to present to you the 2020 Amani Initiative Annual Report under the theme; ***"Towards a Society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy together."***

This theme directly resonates with the unfortunate impact of Covid-19 on our homes and communities that led to an escalation of cases of teenage pregnancy and child marriage within 2020 leading to many girls dropping out of school to start families they are not ready for socially, economically, or psychologically putting their lives and that of their children at risk. The theme gives us hope that if we come together we are in a better position to effectively prevent and respond to child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

The 2020 Amani Initiative Annual Report presents some of our collective efforts together with our partners towards a society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy and also some of our promising goals for 2021 that we would love you to be part of to achieve a society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

During 2020, we were able to build on our 2019 achievements through the expansion of our programs to 13 districts of Uganda, joining 4 strategic networks and establishing the Amani Transformation Fund (ATF) as a social enterprise that provides low-cost business start-up financing to the most vulnerable members of the community.

Special appreciation to my fellow Board Members, staff of Amani Initiative, and partners who have moved the challenging 2020 journey with us. This report celebrates you specifically.

As you get time to read this report always remember that our key areas of celebration for 2020 and many that we have left out give us lots of hope for 2021 and many years to come. A journey that we would wish to continue moving with you because we are stronger together.

Eva Nassaazi
Chairperson- Board of Directors.





MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER/TEAM LEADER

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03**

Dear Friend of Amani Initiative,

2020 has been a very challenging year for Amani Initiative and most people across the world but as the saying goes; 'Desperate Times Call for Desperate Measures' we had to be innovative enough to continue with our work on prevention and response to teenage pregnancy and child marriage. We didn't achieve everything we set out to do but we did succeed a lot- despite the COVID19 pandemic. 2021 looks promising due to exciting new ambitious goals and projects.

Together in 2020, we implemented 7 strategic projects across 13 districts of Uganda dedicated to the prevention and response to teenage pregnancy and child marriage. These projects which included Connected Women, Business Accounting & Financial Management, Community Skyrocket, Institutional Capacity Strengthening, She Boss, Amplified Community Action Against Teenage Pregnancy & Child Marriage, and Grassroots Soccer directly engaged 3,053 individuals, and 476 low-cost schools across 13 districts of Uganda.

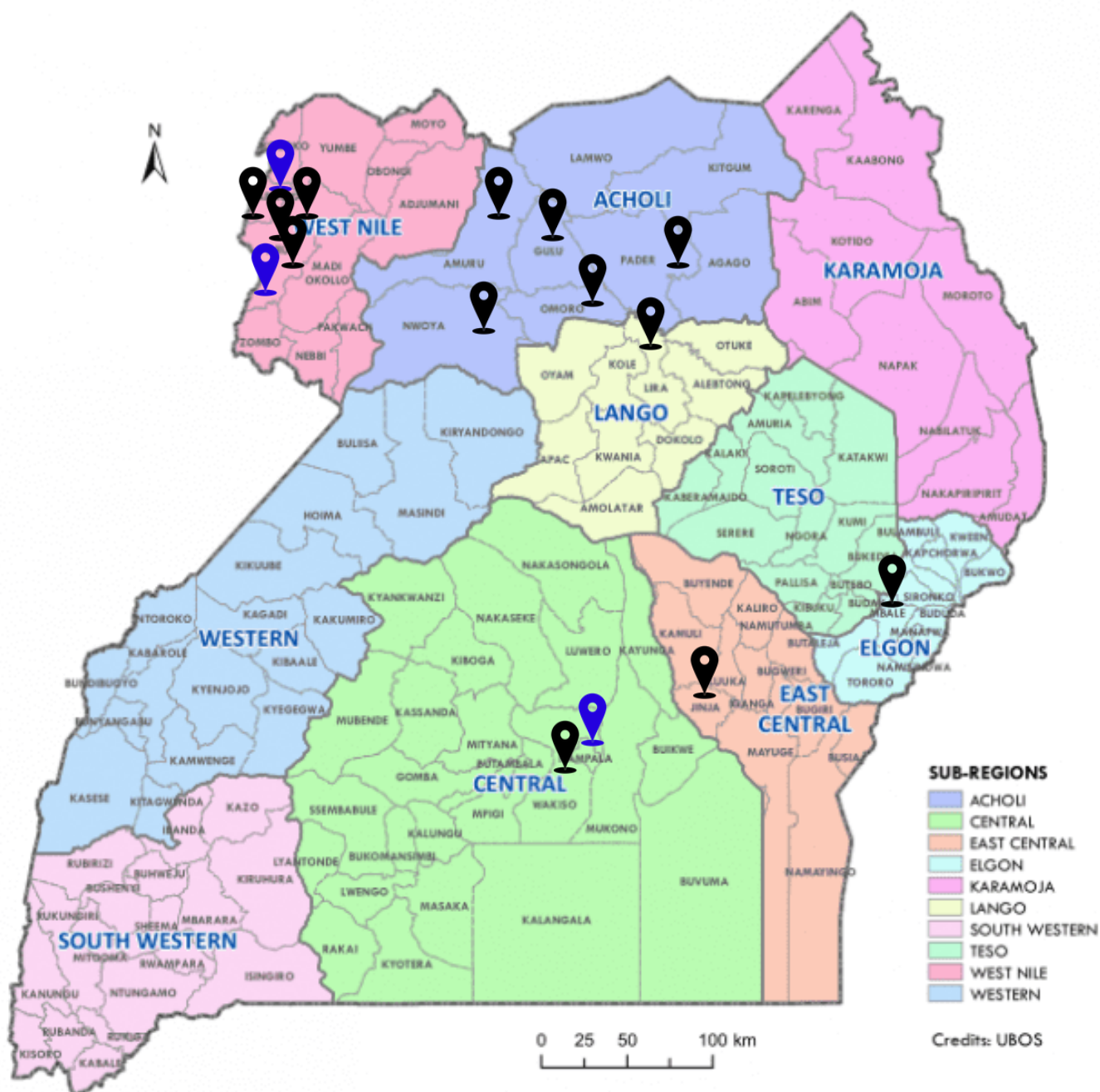
I want to thank our amazing partners such as the Girls First Fund, and PeaceCorps who were part of our 2019 journey and continued with us in 2020. I would also wish to recognize and welcome our new 2020 partners such as the Women Peace & Humanitarian Fund under UN Women, King Baudouin Foundation, and Edify who joined us in 2020 during a time we needed them most. Collectively we have been in a position to increase our annual funding by 117,055,123/- from 63,568,310/= which is a strong sign of the belief that development partners have in our work and a source of motivation to us as an organization.

We joined strategic networks such as the Movement for Community-led Development, Charter 4 Change, End Violence Against Children, and the Arua District NGO Network within 2020 on top of our existing membership with the Girls Not Brides to strengthen our collective efforts within our work because we believe that we are stronger together.

Within 2020, we challenged ourselves to extend our programming across the county with our operating permit as a Ugandan Non-governmental Organization renewed for 5 more years to run until September 2025 and this time giving us permission to spread our programs across all the districts of Uganda.

I want to end by sincerely appreciating the Amani Initiative Board of Directors, staff, community change agents, and trainers who devoted their time to the Amani Initiative vision despite of the many challenges of 2020.

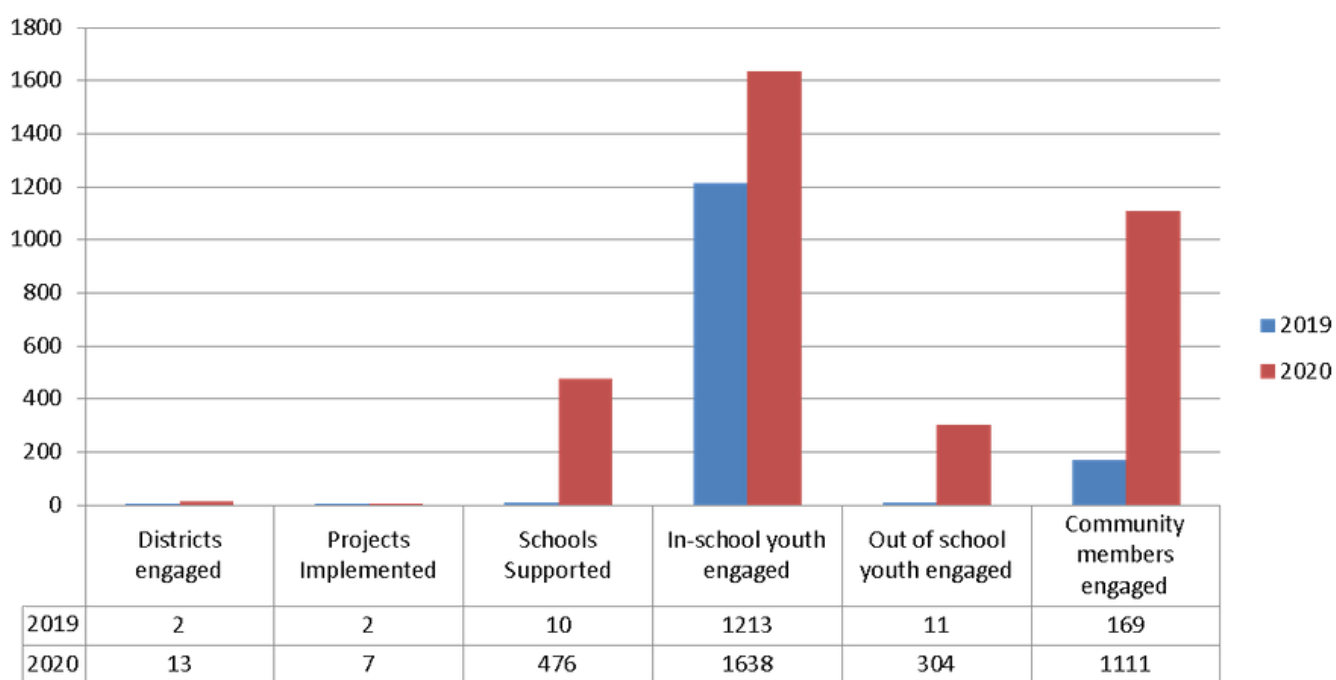
Nixon Ochatre
Founder/Team Leader- Amani Initiative
#StrongerTogether #StaySafe



 Coordination Office

 Active district of operation

"Could anything be better than waking up every day knowing that lots of people are smiling because you chose to impact lives, making the world a better place." Anyaele Sam Chiyson



Group picture of participants from a learning event in Aii vu Sub-county in Arua District

Project #1 Institutional Capacity Strengthening



In response to the impact of Covid-19 on grassroots organizations such as the Amani Initiative; we received funding from the UN Women with technical support by the Women Peace & Humanitarian Fund to enable us to respond to the impact of Covid-19. The funding is to enable us to procure bicycles for our community change agents to facilitate movement, laptops, smartphones, motorcycles, and camera for the organization. We shall also be setting up a VSLA application for our women saving groups as well as a Management Information System for effective and efficient management.

Project #2 SheBoss



SheBoss is a 10-weeks training program by Rego Foundation for micro entrepreneurs designed to accelerate the growth and success of microenterprises

through an array of business development services that are critical to the entry, survival, productivity, competitiveness, and growth of small businesses with Amani Initiative as a training partner on financial literacy.

Project #3 Business Accounting & Financial Management.



In response to the economic impact of Covid-19 to low-cost private schools; Amani Initiative together with Edify engaged 476 low-cost schools across Pader, Jinja, Wakiso, Gulu, Nwoya, Omoro, with accounting and financial management training to enable them improve their ability in managing their finances as well as chances of accessing loans.

Project #4 Community Skyrocket



The project aims to learn about the link between adolescent female sexuality and Child Marriage through engaging with 116 community members from

Arua and Maracha Districts together with Joy for Children through organizing learning events in which community members share their views on social norms on child marriage and adolescent sexuality.

Project #5 Grassroots Soccer

12 coaches and 6 teams within Arua and Maracha Districts were trained by GRS Coaches from PeaceCorps using the GRS curriculum that uses the power of soccer (football) to teach youth about HIV/AIDS, Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH), healthy relationship building, and developing long term goals.



Project #6 Amplified Community Action Against Teenage pregnancy & Child Marriage.



The 2-year project financed through the Girls First Fund focuses on setting up a supportive community system dedicated to prevention and response to child marriage and teenage

pregnancy. The project is directly creating safe spaces for girls within 16 partner schools and 4 sub-counties from Arua and Maracha districts through working with change agents, parents, boys, and teachers within Kijomoro, Oleba, and Oluffe in Maracha and Vurra in Arua Districts.

Project #7 Connected Women



The Connected Women project financed through the New Life Fund, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation

within Maracha Arua, Terego districts, and Arua City supporting 300 women and households in areas of digital literacy, social protection, and financial inclusion.

EDUCATION

"Education is one of the most powerful tools we can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela

Our education thematic area promotes equal and quality educational opportunities for every child through school fees scholarships, re-entry of child mothers back to school, engaging parents, and school outreaches.

Within 2020 we continued supporting 6 child mothers under the Keep Me In School Campaign to stay in school under the school bursary program and school education mentorship outreaches across 16 schools reaching out to 1638 youths of which 51% were female.

Covid-19 and Education.

Unfortunately, the closure of schools on Friday, March 20, 2020, put on hold our school programs and heavily affected the learners within partner schools and our staff in charge of the school programs.

Business Accounting and Financial Management training.

Covid-19 heavily affected low-cost private schools with poor financial systems and loans which resulted in the adoption of the School Business Accounting and Financial(BAF) Management program as our response to this impact. Together with Edify we directly supported 476 low-cost Christian schools within Jinja, Pader, Omoro, Nwoya, Wakiso, Gulu, and Amuru with relevant training on financial management and economic resilience.

The BAF program averted the risk of closure of these schools would lead to thousands of vulnerable children who considered them as **"schools"** having nowhere to go once schools open. This could contribute to higher dropouts as alternative schools would either be more expensive or far from their homes.



**Covid-19 and child protection & safeguarding.**

Many of the Covid-19 prevention and control measures resulted in disruptions to the prevention, reporting, and referral mechanisms of child protection services, leaving many children and families vulnerable. Moreover, measures to contain the virus have affected the delivery of vital support and treatment services as well as contact with informal support networks.

A number of factors related to confinement measures resulted in increased risk for children including heightened tensions in the household added stressors placed on caregivers, economic uncertainty, job loss or disruption to livelihoods, and social isolation which contributed to increased cases of child marriage and teenage pregnancy within our communities.

Our 2020 school mapping report of 16 partner schools under the Amplified Community Action against Teenage pregnancy and child marriage project financed through Girls First Fund indicated that 14% of the girls and 10% of the boys in the candidate's classes did not return to school after schools were re-opened for candidates' classes on the 15th October 2020 after a period of 7 months from 20th March 2020 when schools were closed in line with prevention of the spread of Covid 19. The most affected sub-county was the Oleba Sub-County in Maracha District where 20% of girls and 12% of boys did not return back to school after the re-opening with 54% of the girls at Paranga Primary School failing to return back to school.

Our response to the impact of Covid-19 on child protection.

Within 2020 we onboarded and trained 30 community change agents to be in a position to sensitize, identify, report, and follow up cases of child abuse. This was an effective approach as most transportation had been curtailed due to the lockdown as the people identified as community change agents were members of the community.

We also reached out to 50 households with Arua City, Arua District, and Maracha District through household based support visits with counseling services, follow-up of cases of gender-based violence, and food supply during the Covid-19 lockdown. This helped us to be in a position to solve and reduce some of the cases of child abuse within these households.

SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS



Engaging adolescents on aspects around Sexual & Reproductive Health in Arua District.

Lack of access to age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health information and services increases the risk of adolescent boys and girls contracting sexually transmitted diseases or becoming pregnant which is a key strategic thematic focus area for Amani Initiative. Through Grassroots Soccer, Community Skyrocket, and Amplified Community Action we have been able to make this possible for 1,638 youths within 2020.

Grassroots Soccer

Together with PeaceCorps Uganda; 11 members of the community from Maracha District underwent a GRS Coaches Program in which they qualified to train the 12 weeks GRS curriculum that leverages the power of soccer to educate, inspire, and mobilize youth in developing countries to overcome their greatest health challenges, live healthier, more productive lives, and be agents for change in their communities. As the result of the training 6 GRS team were formed within Arua City and Maracha District. 231 adolescents benefited from the program within 21 teams formed during and as a follow-up the coaches training.

Under the **Amplified Community Action against Teenage Teegnancy and Child marriage project** financed through the Girls First Fund; a total of 911(575 males and 336 females) in school youth were reached out with age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health information during school outreaches across 16 schools. The purpose of the sessions were to provide adolescents with the correct information to guide them make the right personal decisions on matters about their personal sexual and reproductive health.

A learning exchange on community responses to addressing the links between adolescent girl sexuality and ending child marriage through Community Skyrocket.

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A total of 144 people from Odupi Sub-County in Terego District, Aiivu Sub-county in Arua District, and Yivu Sub-county in Maracha district of whom 32 were government officials, 45 adolescents, 50 parents, 9 community leaders, and 8 religious leaders participated in the learning events under the community skyrocket project implemented together with Joy for Children with funding from The Learning Spark Fund under the umbrella of four Dutch-funded Child Marriage Alliance Programs (More Than Brides, Yes, I Do, Her Choice, and Girls Not Brides).

The learning exchanges aimed to learn about the link between adolescent female sexuality and Child marriage through focusing on community responses to address the links between sexuality and child marriage for the purpose of ending the practice.

The learning events recognized that there is a strong linkage between female sexuality and child marriage with positive social norms that can be adopted by parents, or stakeholders working to end child marriage such as cultural beliefs such as “Ranya” in Yivu subcounty, which could discourage adolescent girls in engaging in sex out of marriage which no longer exist or people especially adolescents don’t believe in due to civilization.

940

School bursars, headteachers and school proprietors were trained through the Business Accounting and Financial Management Program under Edify to enable them manage school finances as a strategy to enable schools respond to the economic impact due to Covid-19.

201

Young women and adolescent girls received training sessions on financial literacy. Of the 201 women, 81 were members of the 4 self-support groups formed under the Girls First Fund project and the 121 were from Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 of the She Boss program under the Rego Foundation.

The 121 women under the She Boss program included out-of-school young women and adolescent girls around the slum communities of Kampala engaging in informal economic activities.



Amani Transformation Fund launched.

Within 2020; Amani Initiative also launched the Amani Transformation Fund as a Social Enterprise that provides low-cost business start-up financing to vulnerable groups under Amani Initiative. The loans are provided at a 3% interest of which 2% is retained by the groups as a social fund for their members with 1% supporting the administrative costs of managing the loan by Amani Initiative.



KEY INSPIRATIONS OF 2020

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Amani Transformation Fund

We not only dreamt but also made it a reality though still work in progress of setting up the Amani Transformation Fund. The fund is to operate as an independent social enterprise focusing on socioeconomic transformation for staff and stakeholders of Amani Initiative. 4 women groups made of 81 child mothers joined the fund in 2020 with more groups expected to join as well as completion of the legal registration in 2021.

Amani Initiative is now a National NGO.

Within 2020 our application to the National NGO Board to review our operating permit and enable us to operate Nationally was approved in September 2020. With the new permit, we have been able to expand our programs to Acholi Sub-Region, and Eastern Regions of Uganda as we also continue to strengthen our work within the West Nile Sub-Region. Due to the current status, a National Coordination Office has been set up in Kampala City.

New partnerships and networks joined.

Within 2020, we joined 4 networks which included Charter 4 Change, Arua District NGO Network, Movement for Community-led Development, and End Violence Against Children.

We also onboarded 12 new partners who included Save the Maracha Girl, West Nile Youth Empowerment Centre, Joy for Children, Ensibuuko, Taproot Foundation, Grassroots Soccer, Edify, Rego Foundation, UN Women/WPHF, Maracha District Women Caucus, Christian School Owner's Association and King Baudouin Foundation.



Light moment with adolescents from Maracha District following a learning event on adolescent sexuality and child marriage

Amani Initiative

Statement of Income & Expenditure

For the period 1st Jan- 31st December 2020

	2020 UGX	2019 UGX
INCOMES		
DONATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS	180,623,433	63,568,310
		82,825
TOTAL INCOME	<u>180,623,433</u>	<u>63,651,135</u>
EXPENDITURES		
EMPLOYEE COSTS	(30,511,962)	(1,890,000)
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	(24,802,008)	(6,550,928)
FEES & CHARGES	(2,122,175)	(1,990,218)
PROJECT EXPENSES	<u>(54,656,250)</u>	<u>(39,119,511)</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	68,531,038	14,100,478

Amani Initiative

Statement of Financial Position

For the period ended 31st December 2020

	2020 UGX	2019 UGX
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank balances	65,162,150	15,031,993
Receivables		2,257,921
	65,162,150	17,289,914
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant, and Equipment	24,883,372	3,025,580
Investments		
Total Assets	<u>90,045,522</u>	<u>20,315,494</u>
Reserves		
Retained Earnings	87,782,702	19,251,664
	87,782,702	19,251,664
Current Liabilities		
Trade Payables	2,262,820	1,063,830
Non-Current Liabilities		
Long term Loan	2,262,820	1,063,830
Total Equity, Reserves, and Liabilities	<u>90,045,522</u>	<u>20,315,494</u>



THE TEAM BEHIND OUR 2020 PROGRESS

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Board Members

Eva Nassaazi
James Kisawuzi
Brian Musinguzi
Sharon Mary Nassaza
Nixon Ochatre

Brand Ambassador

Anne Hope Anguyo

Secretariat/Staff

Everline Inzikuru
Kenneth Okoth
Jalia Nabasumba
Winnie Nabinsinyo
Derrick Onzi
Patrick Dranimva
Gloria Alezuyo
Sunday Apangu
Florence Amanguru
Florence Kidebe
Moureen Nakamanya

Business Accounting and Financial Management Trainers

Emmanuel Isiagi	Fred Ojok
Emmanuel Oboire	Francis Alit
Erismus Mpoya	Alex Odongo
Bakisula Paul	Irene Ocwee
Martin Okello	Brian Ochan
Salima Wavamuno	Ronnie Obonyo
Edinansi Mutesi	Brenda Aryemo
Martin Tusonyiwa	Bernard Okema
Jackson Walyabagha	Winfrey Adiok
Margaret Tibatya	Elias Musinguzi
Robert Kanaabe	Palma Oryem
Lydia Kafuko	Ronald Roy Omayo
Esther Wansa	

Community Change agents

Bako Jane	Tiko Agnes	Obeti Jasindo
Ajio Beatrice	Atiku Robert	Drajeru Jane
Anguzu Angelo	Asea Bosco	Amaniyo Lillian
Candiru Milka	Inzikuru Josephine	Leku Fedensio
Apiku Wilfred	Oluma Kennedy	Adiru Joan
Angutu Mike Droma	Oneti Joel	Oguzu Alua Ronald
Obitre Kasto	Ejua Aseri	Feni Titus
Ariko Dorish	Drani Moses	Matua Erick
Alia Viola	Matrima Enock	Rev. Candia Eli
Ocatre Kennedy	Bada Amos	
Aniku Johnson		

OUR 2020 PARTNERS AND DONORS

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JOY FOR CHILDREN
ACTION AND ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN



End Violence
Against Children
THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP



Peace
Corps



Girls First Fund
Supporting Communities To End Child Marriage



edify



Rego
Foundation
Transforming the lives
of women and girls



newlife



Save the
Maracha Girl
Be Enslaved and Let Your Flower Shine



Amani
Transformation Fund
FOR THE GREATER GOOD



THE MOVEMENT FOR
COMMUNITY-LED
DEVELOPMENT



Women's Peace &
Humanitarian Fund
A United Nations & Civil Society Partnership



King Baudouin
Foundation
Working together for a better society

MORE THAN
BRIDES
ALLIANCE



ACCESS FM



CEFTRA-WN

OUR VISION

"A society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy"

OUR MISSION

"To prevent and respond to teenage pregnancy and child marriage through low cost-high impact community led solutions"



Amani Initiative

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