



GOU-IRISH AID JOINT PROGRAMME TO ADDRESS GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN BUSOGA SUB-REGION-CEDOVIP EXPERIENCE

Harnessing the use of community activists particularly men as agents of change for violence prevention: The case of Busoga, Uganda

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Joint Programme To Address Gender Based Violence



GOU-Irish Aid JP

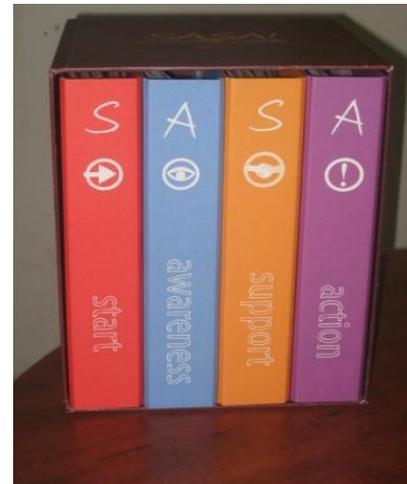
Aims to reduce vulnerability to gender based violence in the community particularly among girls and women

Objectives

1. To strengthen coordination among key actors at national and local government level for effective prevention and response to GBV. **(MGLSD)**
2. To build capacity of duty bearers in Local Governments in Busoga Sub region to prevent and respond to Gender Based violence **(UWONET)**
3. To mobilize communities with a particular focus on men's involvement as agents of change to prevent and respond to GBV **(CEDOVIP)**
4. To generate and disseminate information on GBV in the Busoga Sub-region for policy, programming and advocacy. **(MYSTIC MEDIA)**

CEDOVIP

To mobilize communities with a particular focus on men's involvement as agents of change to prevent and respond to GBV



CEDOVIP Activities

1. Equip CDOs on the application of SASA model for GBV prevention and response

- Capacity building for CDOs & onsite technical support
- Identification and capacity building for 192 community activists (CAs)

Outcomes:

- SASA! team comprised of 42 CDOs & 192 CAs rooted in 32 sub counties and spearheading efforts to prevent VAW



CAs of Buyende district set to Mobilize communities to communities

CAs activities

- community conversations

Discussions draw a deeper connection between VAW and HIV and the implications of men using their power over women and the benefits of balancing power



CAs activities cont'd....

- ▣ outreach to drinking places and video halls

short stories used for group discussions about how community members can use their power to support men and women affected by or and confronting violence against women and HIV/AIDS



Engaging men through games

- **Ludo game discussions:** (engaging men at their leisure time)

Discussions aim to foster love, mutual respect and fidelity in intimate relationships



CAs activities cont'd....

□ Quick chats

discussions explore ways to provide support to men to make joint decisions with their partners and what men and women can do to support the practice



What difference has it made?

- community members increased knowledge on VAW, women's rights and the need to prevent GBV
- Breaking silence about VAW: Over 2000 DV cases referred to police and LCs
- Ownership of the program through 40 male action groups spearheading efforts to prevent VAW
- Reduction in experiences of physical violence from 60% (UDHS 2006) to 56% (UDHS 2011)
- Police is working to transform the force to strengthen response to GBV issues-in the making of the GBV directorate
- Increased coordination between CAs and duty bearers in handling DV cases
- Several district local government leadership have integrated GBV prevention with at least 4 districts allocating some funds towards this work
- changes in protocols and practices with in the health sector and police (Revised PF3) to ease access to justice
- CAs and many community members report benefits from the program i.e. renewed relationships, self esteem and respect from community
- Advocacy yielded into gov't enacting legislations such as DVA, FGMA, Anti Trafficking in persons Act etc

Learning from Practice...

Time, time and more time

- Social norm change is not...
 - ▣ A quick fix
 - ▣ Easy to measure
 - ▣ Do-able in short project cycles
 - ▣ Possible without community/stakeholder ownership
- Implications
 - ▣ Need holistic approaches
 - ▣ Reorient staff, communities, donors
 - ▣ Special challenges for poor settings that lack infrastructure and services



Thank you!