

KICK CORRUPTION OUT OF UGANDA (KICK-U)



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ANNUAL REPORT 2017

a. LIST OF ACRONYMS

KICK-U	KICK CORRUPTION OUT OF UGANDA
ACODE	ADVOCATES COALITION ON DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
UDN	UGANDA DEBT NETWORK
DIPF	DISTRICT INTEGRITY PROMOTION FORUM
DPRM	DISTRICT PEER REVIEW MECHANISM
LGCSCI	LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL SCORE CARD INITIATIVE
LG	LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CSO	CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATION
DGF	DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE FACILITY
HCIII	HEALTH CENTER THREE
N/A	NOT APPLICABLE
STRESUDEA	STRENGTHENING THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND SIDES OF ACCOUNTABILITY

b. BASIC PROJECT INFORMATION

Profile	
Name of project	Strengthening the Supply and Demand sides of Accountability for Improved Service Delivery and Effective leadership.
Project goal	<i>To contribute towards ensuring effective leadership and improving service delivery at Local Government level in Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu Districts</i>
Specific Objectives	1. To enhance the effectiveness of citizens to demand political accountability and effective service delivery.
	2. To strengthen coordination and commitment within district level accountability chain for enhanced capacity of governments to respond to citizens demands at local and central Government levels
	3. To facilitate growth of Local Governments' capacity to effectively deal with and reduce the high cost and distortionary impact of corruption in the service delivery chain.
Geographical coverage (by District)	Kabale, Kisoro And Kanungu Districts in

	Kigezi Sub Region
Contract start date	01/01/2017
Contract end date	31/12/2017
Total project lifetime Budget	576,459,604
Total Lifetime commitment	12 MONTHS
Total Expenditure	576,459,604
Other Sources of funding	N/A
Target population	954 (Duty bearers)
Total beneficiaries reached.	5,070,585

c. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This STRESUDEA Project has been implemented by KICK-U in partnership with UDN and ACODE for a period of 12 months (January-December 2017) in the three districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu in Kigezi Sub Region supported by DGF.

Under this project, KICK-U has implemented the LGCSCI, DPRM and DIPF components in all the 3 districts mentioned above.

This report is an output of activities implemented under the STRESUDEA Project in the above mentioned three districts in partnership with the citizens, district political and technical leadership.

KICK-U would like to acknowledge with gratitude the Support of DGF in form of funds to facilitate the activities of the STRESUDEA project in Kigezi Sub region, UDN for managing the administration of funds that KICK-U was receiving from DGF and building the capacity of KICK-U to properly implement the project as required and ACODE for providing the technical backstopping under LCGSCI to ensure that the score card initiative was well implemented.

KICK-U also appreciates the contributions of the KICK-U Board members, District-based researchers/Assessors across Kigezi Sub –Region which made this project a success.

At the District level, KICK-U is particularly indebted to the offices of the District Chairpersons, Speakers of District Councils, the Chief Administrative Officers, RDCs, District Councillors, Heads of Departments, Media, DIPF members and the Clerks to Council for the support and information you provided during the project implementation period.

KICK-U is also grateful to the citizens/members of various communities, who provided different pieces of information that are part of this report.

In a special way KICK-U would like to greatly thank Democratic Governance Facility (DGF) and DGF contributing partners (namely: the United Kingdom (UK), Denmark, Norway, Ireland, Sweden, The Netherlands Embassy, Austria and the European Union) for providing funding for this STRESUDEA Project implemented in Kigezi Sub Region.

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

There were major projects implemented during the year of 2017 i.e. good governance and social accountability and STRESUDEA.

STRESUDEA Project had three components. The first component was the local government Councils Score Card. This was a social accountability initiative that sought to deepen local governance by strengthening political accountability of elected local leaders and citizens' demand for excellence in the provision of service delivery by their local governments. The second component is the District Peer Review Mechanism (DPRM). It was an internally driven problem identification problem solving approach model that hinged on self-reflection and peer-to-peer learning reflect-action-reflect development approach by local government themselves. The third component was the District Integrity Promotion Forum. This too was an internally driven problem identification problem solving development approach, but with emphasis on strengthening the anti-corruption chain in the district local governments. It brought together all state accountability institutions and non-state actors working on anti-corruption to identify accountability challenges and assign concrete responsibility to individuals to implement actions reached at in a team effort to fight corruption.

Good governance and social accountability and STRESUDEA project were all about enhancing quality and volume of service delivery to the population by duty-bearers through promoting and strengthening transparency, accountability, ethics and integrity in local governments on the one side and empowering communities through information provision, exposure, confidence building to participate in decision-making and effectively demand for accountability from duty-bearers on the other hand. Focus was put on stimulating and sustaining the practice of self-assessment, self-reflection and problem identification and solution finding from within local governments, through peer-to-peer learning mechanisms. The project used problem solving approaches that generated action that emerged from within leading to more sustainable change, as opposed to actions and change that is externally driven. It promoted partnerships between rights holders and duty-bearers in identifying performance gaps in the service delivery chain and formulating strategies for addressing the gaps.

II. MAIN REPORT

PROJECTS' BACKGROUND

THE INITIAL PROBLEM THAT NEEDED TO BE ADDRESSED.

Over the years, Uganda witnessed a steady growth of civil society organisations in Uganda most of which are community based such as women groups, youth groups, farmers associations, burial groups, savings and credit associations and district civil society networks. In Kigezi region, civil society organisations mainly focused at addressing basic needs of local citizens, but hardly built the capacity of citizens to demand accountability and service delivery from government. A few who tried to venture into strengthening the demand side of service delivery had not been perceived positive by Local

Government but rather seen as agents of opposition government. Such perceptions negatively impacted on the intentions of Decentralisation due to lack of collaboration between local governments and civil society organisations. This was evidenced in limited involvement of civil society organisations in local government planning processes and service delivery monitoring.

Whereas a number of civil society organisations in Kigezi region focused on addressing the needs of the most marginalised groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities, such groups had not been empowered to effectively engage and participate in local government planning processes as well as integrating civil society plans with those of local governments. KICK-U also noted that collaboration amongst civil society organisations had also not been enhanced due to limited capacity within district civil society networks, but also due to internal weakness within civil society organisation more especially district networks. Most of the district Networks also had had challenges with internal accountability which prevented them from demanding for the same from government. KICK-U positioned herself to continue building the capacity of her members to first address their internal challenges as a pre requisite to engage government to improve on service delivery.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project while recognizing the complexities imposed on service delivery by fast changing nature of corruption was seeking to promote accountability in public offices through internally driven change and multi-partnerships between state and non-state stakeholders. Interventions were through three inter-linked models (DIPF, DPRM and LGCSCI).

DISTRICT PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (DPRM)

This project took a departure from traditional approaches to local governance and accountability assessment which is often conducted by consultants from outside the study areas. KICK-U believes that governance assessment outcomes and recommendations are more likely to be accepted when the process is underpinned by strong participation of local stakeholders. The District Peer Review Mechanism was therefore led and owned by actors from the respective districts who were recruited and trained to steer a self-assessment process in the districts. DPRM further incorporated a joint peer review where a selected joint panel that visited and assessed participating districts using the same tool to triangulate self-assessment findings.

The project directly targeted local organizations, institutions and Departments of local Government such as the police, judiciary, RDC, DISO, district council (Youth, women, elderly persons and PWDs representatives), the service delivery infrastructure (CAO and heads of department), DPACs, CSOs- networks, district media associations and private sector associations. These benefited from the process through discussions and DPRM empowerment tools, interactions during the DPRM intervention. They received and used the report findings for their own performance management and improvement. KICK-U ensured gender representation and participation, informed by the context of current sex representation in the various Departments and institutions.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS SCORE-CARD INITIATIVE (LGCSCI)

This project was implemented in partnership with Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA) and Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE). The initiative ensured to improve the quality and effectiveness of District Councils and district elected political leaders in fulfilling their mandate as articulated in the Local Government Act. The project thought to deepen democratic governance in Uganda by strengthening the demand side of democracy. This was done through periodic monitoring of the performance of district councils and elected political leaders and communicating their performance to the citizens who elect them. This built civic consciousness of the citizens to demand quality service delivery and political accountability from their elected leaders. The first group, which was the primary focus of the project to date, is the District Council. Individually and collectively, the District Council is a political organ that is responsible for ensuring effective service delivery and political accountability at the district level. At the same time, the District Council was the pressure point that was jolted into demanding accountability from the central government. The second group was the citizens/ electorate who are actively involved in monitoring and demanding better performance from mandated political and administrative institutions and leaders. The third category of actors was comprised of civil society, political parties and the media. These actors operate in the space that exists between citizens on one hand and political and administrative leaders on the other hand.

DISTRICT INTEGRITY PROMOTION FORUM

The project while recognising the complexities imposed on service delivery by fast changing nature of corruption was seeking to promote accountability in public offices through internally driven change and multi-partnerships between state and non-state stakeholders. Interventions were through DIPF and KICK-U partnered with DEI to influence and contribute to addressing issues of corruption, transparency, accountability and effective leadership for better service delivery.

KICK-U collaborated with Directorate of Ethics and Integrity, under the Office of the President of Uganda to officially establish operational DIPFs in Kisoro and Kanungu districts, presided over by the Directorate on Ethics and Integrity. The DIPF members included CAOs, RDCs, LCV Chairperson, District Speakers, Chairpersons District Service Commission, Chairpersons PAC, Chairperson District Land Board, PPDA rep, Resident State Attorney, Chief Magistrate, IGG, DEO, DHO, OC Prisons, RPC, DPCs, DISO, District Community Development Officer, OCCID, RISOs, AG Representative, CSO representative, District Youth chairperson, District Elderly representatives, and a religious representatives, Mayors, town clerks and Municipal speakers.

The issues were generated from the DPRM and LGCSCI shared and discussed them in the DIPF where key decision makers at district level came up with action points towards addressing service delivery issues.

KICK-U also partnered with ULGA, DEI, ACODE and UDN to influence and contribute to addressing issues of corruption, transparency, accountability and effective leadership for better service Delivery.

Key Activities Implemented

LGCSCI

- Conduct inception and management partnership orientation workshop

The project was launched and appreciated by key districts stakeholders. The launch was held in Kabale and attended by 100 people (23 females and 77 males) from the three districts where the project was implemented. They included District technical staff, politicians, private sector, religious leaders and other civil society organizations. As a result, KICK-U was co-opted on the Kabale District Monitoring Committee. Previously, the District Monitoring Committee did not have a representation of civil society.

The districts' leadership from the three districts pledged to offer radio talk shows to disseminate information on service delivery. This enabled KICK-U to reach more people with information on how to improve service delivery and to get feedback from citizens about the status of service delivery. KICK-U was also offered free talk shows by the different radio stations because of the value added in improving service delivery. KICK-U anticipated this would contribute to project sustainability.

Following the launch of the project, through the scoping visits, a MoU was designed for the three districts and all the districts responded positively by signing them.

- Undertaking score card assessment in 3 districts.

3 District Councils of Kanungu, Kabale and Kisoro were assessed. 3 district chairpersons (1 female, 2 males) of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu were assessed and scored. 97 District Councilors (39 females, 58 males) from the three districts of Kabale, Kanungu and Kisoro were assessed and scored. The score results showed that 67 out of 97 district councillors (69%) were below average basing on the four parameters of assessment that was legislative role, contact with the electorate, participation in lower local government councils and monitoring service delivery in the sub counties. The scores indicated a very poor performance on the parameter of monitoring service delivery where by district councilors were found not monitoring government service delivery units in their sub counties and those who tried to monitor, didn't at any time make any report for submission to relevant authorities. However it was found out that some of the factors leading to poor performance by the district councilors included; low literacy levels, lack of knowledge of the local government act, poor facilitation of the district councils by the government especially when it comes to monitoring service delivery, role conflict between the CAOs, LCV Chairpersons and the speakers of the council and non-implementation of the council resolutions by the District technical persons. The orientation and training of district councilors, District chairpersons and clerks to council of the three districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu on score card methodology and their willingness to give/share information with the District researchers enabled the successful implementation of the project.

- Organize and hold half day CEAP Development sessions.

District councilors (51 males, 35 Females) attended the half day CEAP development sessions. These included; 30 (17 males, 13 females) from Kanungu, 28 (17 males, 11 females) from Kabale and 28 (17 males, 11 females) from Kisoro. All the 86 out of 97 district councilors

who attended the trainings gained knowledge on how to conduct Community Engagement Meetings (CEMs) and how to develop Community Engagement Action Plans (CEAPs) with the citizens they represent. During the community engagement meetings, citizens in presence of their district councillors generated service delivery issues and prioritised key issues to be included in the sub county development plan, other issues that were so urgent to be petitioned for to the speaker of the council and others to be taken by their respective district councillors to district budget committee to be included in the 2017/2018 financial year. The developed sub county action plans were to help citizens in holding their leaders accountable as they monitor the implementation of the developed action plans since they were each assigned a responsible person to spear head the process of implementation of the developed action plans. Availability of the consultant to facilitate the sessions attended by District Councilors, availability and willingness of district councilors to be trained, all enabled the success of the intervention.

- **Produce and distribute the councillor diaries in three districts.**
60 diaries were printed and distributed to District councillors in Kabale and Kisoro Districts.
- **Main launch and dissemination of the national synthesis score card report.**
KICK-U in partnership with ACODE conducted a national launch of the synthesis scorecard report which was held at hotel Africana –Kampala on 14/12/2017 that drew participants from all the 35 districts under the score card project. There after KICK-U conducted the regional Launch of the same national synthesis scorecard report on 22/12/2017 where participants included, district chairpersons, CAOs, District councillors, RDCs, Clerks to councils, speakers of the councils, media and other key project stakeholders from all the 3 districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu in Kigezi Sub Region. 67 (14 females and 53 males) participants attended the launch of the score card report for Kigezi Sub region. Where the results were shared, discussed and way forward discussed so that effective leadership and improved service delivery can be realized in Kigezi Sub Region. During the Launch, speakers of the 3 district councils of Kabale, Kanungu and Kisoro give out the success that their councils have achieved as a result of the scorecard project like proper sitting arrangement in the council, following and respecting the council rules of procedure as the council sessions are going on, deliberating on service delivery issues and timely production of quality council minutes by the clerks to council.
- **Implementation of civic engagement action plans (CEAPS) in the 3 districts.**

Implementation of the Civic engagement action plans (CEAPs) in the three districts

KICK-U conducted 30 CEAPs i.e. 10 in Kanungu, 10 in Kisoro and 10 in Kabale. As a result, 30 community engagement action plans were generated guided and facilitated by Kick Corruption out of Uganda. These were generated as a result of the willingness of the District councilors to mobilize citizens for community engagement meetings and availability of the district researchers and KICK-U Head of Programs to conduct/facilitate the community engagement meetings to generate the community engagement action plans for sub counties on water, electricity, health, education, roads and agriculture to benefit both women, youths, PWDs, children and men in their respective communities so that they can have access to improved services for socio-economic development. For example in a Community engagement action plan in Kyanamira Sub County-Kabale District, citizens agreed

individually work on the community access road connecting Muyumbu parish to Nyabushabi parish which has been worked on using locally available resources and this has facilitated easy access to service delivery units in other processes. Local Government leaders such as local councillors played the mobilization role and overseeing the implementation of the developed action plans in their respective sub counties.

- **Enhancement and maintenance of the local government SMS platform for citizen engagement with local government councillors.**

The Local Government SMS platform has been enhanced and is being maintained. Twenty Five service delivery messages were forwarded to relevant stakeholders in connection with service delivery challenges and 5 of them were addressed after the intervention.

- **Development and publication of the synthesis report.**

The national synthesis report was developed and published. This included score card results by all the 35 districts that were under the score card initiative where three districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu were handled by KICK-U are inclusive and 32 districts handled by ACODE.

The synthesis report was produced jointly by KICK-U and ACODE for the 35 districts under the score card project. However KICK-U produced separate district specific score card reports for its specific districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu that contain average councils scores, scores for the LCV chairperson, scores for the speaker of the council, scores for the individual councillors and average scores for all councillors in each district. In the reports, factors that contributed to the achievements registered challenges that were encountered during project implemented and policy recommendations were all documented for further project progress.

- **Conduct support supervision in the three districts of kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu.**

Supervision visits were conducted by KICK-U staff and ACODE staff in each of the three districts of Kabale, Kanungu and Kisoro. 11 (1 female and 10 males) key project stakeholder were reached. In kabale district, the visit was made to the LCV chairperson MR. Patrick Besigye Keihwa, the CAO, Mr. Tibugyenda Wilson and the District speaker. In Kanungu district, the chairperson LCV Madam Josephine Kasya, the vice chairperson Hon. Gad Byomuhangi and the District speaker Hon. Charles Beshesya and clerk to council Mr. sam Birungi, District planner Mr. Atuheire Innocent were all reached. In Kisoro District, the RDC Mr. Ssekandi Shafic, the district speaker Hon. Amos Hakiiza and the District chairperson Mr. Abel Bizimaana were reached. Visits were meant to meet and discuss with key project stakeholders on how well the project objectives can be achieved in three districts to ensure that both supply and demand sides of accountability are strong and playing their relevant roles to improve service delivery in the three districts of project implementation. These key stakeholders were reached mainly to provide supporting documents and evidence for KICK-U to verify and confirm the scores that their departments and district councils had got after the completion of the assessment and scoring exercise. During the visits, ways to improve the performance of the district chairpersons, district councils, district speakers, District heads of departments and individual councillors were discussed and agreed upon by members. Members agreed to implement the actions agreed upon to improve service delivery within their respective districts.

- **Produce and publish 3 district specific reports with performance scores.**

Produced and published 50 copies of 3 district specific reports with performance scores: Three district specific reports for Kanungu, Kabale and Kisoro were produced and published. 50 Copies were printed and distributed to the three districts of Kanungu, Kabale and Kisoro for the key stakeholders to critically analyze how they performed. The reports included the scores for both district councils, speakers of the councils, LCV Chairpersons, and all individual District councillors. Challenges faced during the score card assessment exercise in each district and policy recommendations were also included in the district specific reports so that stakeholder can seek possible solutions to the challenges for further smooth engagements and even work on the policy recommendations for improved service delivery.

The availability of information and performance scores to make up district reports facilitated the printing of district specific reports.

- **Implementation of the local government-parliamentary forum bringing together members of parliament, local government leaders, and CSOs for dialogue and action around effective local governance.**

KICK-U Successfully organized Kigezi regional parliamentary forum, Local Leaders and CSOs on local governance.

This was conducted on 28th December 2017 at Kirigime guest house in Kabale district. It was attended by 56 participants (18 females and 38 males). During the Forum, KICK-U presented STRESUDEA project reports, Achievements, challenges faced and national policy recommendations to the participants who were all key project stakeholders who could aid in transforming Kigezi sub region in terms of ensuring effective leadership and improved service delivery to the citizens. Policy recommendations that need nation level legislation were referred to members of parliament who hail from Kigezi sub region for action. These policy recommendations included, tourism revenue sharing, mineral royalties for citizens in mine areas, environmental protection, land grabbing by government officials, lack of none conditional funds in the local governments, increasing the pay of political leaders mainly district councillors, speaker of the council, district chair persons, timely supply of UPE and PHC funds to schools and health centers respectively, providing means of transport for District councillors to facilitate them to monitor all government projects in their sub counties and districts, ensuring that there is a required minimum education level put for someone to be a district councillor, increasing funding for local government district councils.

This was a critical event where KICK-U had to share her achievements with boundary partners from the three Districts of Kabale, Kanungu and Kisoro. KICK-U's ability to mobilize the relevant stakeholders and the willingness of stakeholders contributed to the success of the local government –parliamentary forum bringing together members of parliament, local government leaders, and CSOs for dialogue and action around effective local governance.

- Training of district researchers/assessors.**

6 district researchers/assessors (1 female and 5 males), two from each district were trained on score card methodology to be able to assess the performance of district councillors in the three districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu.

- **Training committees /council in the three districts Kisoro, Kabale and Kanungu on rules of procedures.**

Committees of council /District council in the three districts Kisoro, Kabale and Kanungu on rules of procedures were trained to be equipped with knowledge and skills on how to conduct council business following the council standard rules of procedure for local governments in Uganda. This ensured uniformity, order and consistency on how district councils conduct businesses as they deliberate on service delivery issues affecting citizens who elect them to represent their views.

The trainings drew participation from a spectrum of leaders including: the district chairpersons, clerks to council, LCV Councilors and District researchers. Generally, the meetings were attended by a total of 110 (53 females, 57 males) and these included; 90 district councilors and 6 research assistants and 14 other participants representing 93.2 per cent of the targeted number of participants.

110 out of the targeted 118 participants were in attendance representing 93.2 percentage turn up.

- **Training district councillors on score card methodology**

86(49 females, 37 males) councilors were trained in scorecard methodology, a process which was led and facilitated by ACODE. The councilors also had the willingness to go through the training process, hence being implemented as planned. After the training, councilors got to know the assessment scoring process and the parameters that researchers/assessors will base on to award scores.

- **Support supervision by ACODE in Kanungu, Kabale and Kisoro.**

ACODE conducted two support supervision visits to KICK-U in Kigezi in the three districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu. This was aimed at monitoring implementation of all the score card activities in the region and to provide technical backstopping where necessary. This support supervision was provided mainly during trainings and assessment for district councillors and citizens on how to develop community action plans and monitor the implementation of community engagement action plans developed by citizens and to advise them on how to improve on their work plans and personally monitor their progress. The support supervision took 3 days, one day spent in each district visiting communities and looking at their developed action plans and advising them on how to improve them.

The success of this support supervision had been due to availability of the technical staff from ACODE who continuously supported KICK-U throughout the implementation of the score card Initiative.

DPRM

- Development of project assessment indicators and tools.

- Scoping visits
- Regional training of assessors
- Self-assessment missions in three districts
- District peer review visits
- District validation Dialogues
- Regional validation conference
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Media engagements through press conferences and releases.

DIPF

- Orientation and establishment of DIPFs (3 Districts by KICK-U and DEI)
- Quarterly DIPF meeting between state actors and non-state actors in the 3 districts.
- Quarterly joint monitoring visits (both state actors and non-state actors)
- Radio Talk shows

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY.

Training 180 HUMC and SMC on their roles and responsibilities.

Community Mobilization, sensitization and training of 12,000 citizens.

Conducted Community radio talk shows and promotional jingles on Good governance and social Accountability.

Conducted a basic budget analysis in the social sectors (education and Health) in Buhara, Kyanamira, Rubaya and central Division in 45 schools and 15 Health centers.

Monitored budget utilization (public expenditure tracking) of health and education services in 45 schools and 15 Health centers.

Conducted 24 quarterly meetings to influence local government leaders to give accountability on health and education social services.

Held 6 quarterly review meeting with some duty bearers, community monitors and citizens.

Produced and Published 5 quarterly newsletters

INSTITUTIONAL AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Networking and information sharing

KICK-U attended 4 networking and information sharing meetings with its partners and donors. These included; DGF, IDF, ACODE and UDN.

Building the capacity of KICK-U staff and board members

KICK-U Staff were trained in M&E, Capacity of Board Members in Governance & Leadership strengthened.

Program staff were remunerated with monthly salaries to enable them execute their roles and responsibilities effectively throughout the reporting period.

KICK-U managed to acquire office equipment; laptops, printer, furniture, projector, vehicle, camera and router for internet that have aided in the effective and efficient implementation of the STRESUDEA project.

Two KICK-U staff were facilitated to participate in external workshops that have promoted networking and information sharing with other partners, through this synergy building is encouraged amongst partners for more efficiency and effectiveness in various initiatives.

Facilitating quarterly board meetings.

Four (4) quarterly board meetings were conducted and all the 7 (3 Females and 4 males) board members attended the prepared board meetings to deliberate on issues to facilitate the smooth running of the project.

CROSS CUTTING ACTIVITIES

Documentation of success stories (production of quarterly newsletters)

KICK-U produced and documented 12 success stories during the project period. These were indications of achievements registered by KICK-U as a result of project interventions through implemented activities.

Procurement of office equipment/Assets.

KICK-U acquired a laptop, a boardroom table with 6 chairs, a projector, an office table and chair for the executive Director.

Key Results/Achievements for this Reporting Period

1. 5,070,585 Citizens empowered to demand for accountability from their elected leaders and other technical staff.
2. Increased Local government plans to respond to citizens needs in the 3 districts of project implementation.
3. Increased citizens trust in Local government services
4. Local Government capacity to respond to needs of vulnerable groups such as women, youth and Persons with disabilities.
5. 30 CEMs Conducted and 30 CEAPs developed.
6. Capacity development of 36 local government staff (Planning Unit) and 3 district councils (120 elected councillors) for better planning, budgeting and monitoring.
7. Support to deepening understanding of the roles and mandate of district councils and citizens empowerment to participate in decision making process at local government levels
8. Support to advocacy and engagements for better local government revenue management and utilization.
9. Accountability of the 120 elected councillors to citizens (E.g. the Local Government council Score Card initiative) in the districts of Kabale, Kisoro and Kanungu.
10. Civic education, access to timely and quality information was enhanced.

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED ACHIEVEMENTS.

1. Citizens were trained on how to conduct Community engagement meetings (CEMs) and come up with community action plans to address the prioritised needs to their respective leaders for collective action.
2. District technical leaders and District councillors and clerks to council were trained and equipped with knowledge and skills on local government act, score card methodology and standard rules of procedure for them to scale up the acquired skills to other Lower local government leaders, citizens and local government staff for improved leadership and service delivery.
3. Citizens were trained and introduced to using the SMS platform to report service delivery issues from their communities to all responsible leaders and bodies for immediate action and information sharing.
4. KICK-U developed a monitoring and evaluation plan to keep monitoring the project achievement registered and advise where accordingly.
5. KICK-U will keep monitoring the implementation of 30 CEAPs developed by citizens and give advice where necessary.

Challenges

As we work with key district stakeholders, we did not anticipate that some of them (political and technical officials) like the RDCs, CAO, LCV Chairpersons, DPCs, and Operation Wealth Creation officials would come along with escorts and drivers in meetings who need to be catered for in terms of meals and transport refund. This compromises the attendance of these officials. However, KICK-U managed to elaborate the project design which they appreciated but have continuously recommended that their support staff should be catered for in the subsequent project arrangements.

The implementation of the Local Government Scorecard Initiative for this quarter was not effected as per the initial work plan. This is because KICK-U work plan did not rhyme with that of ACODE because KICK-U Scorecard implementation is dependent on ACODE technical backstopping. A recommendation was made to KICK-U to follow ACODE's work plan and a draft addendum was considered by ACODE/UDN/DGF.

There is still high expectation from stakeholders beyond what KICK-U can afford in terms of facilitation. KICK-U has continuously created awareness among the stakeholders that it is their constitutional duty to participate in development processes.

Lessons Learned

Kick Corruption out of Uganda has learnt that multi-stakeholder involvement in monitoring public goods and services improves service delivery. Local Government should effectively plan and budget for district joint monitoring for sustainability purposes.

Through DPRM, KICK-U continues to appreciate and learn more about Local Government operations, systems and how civil society and LG can complement each other to achieve a common goal. Local Government departments are beginning to appreciate the need and importance of organized systems which will enable them track performance, as well as improved accountability and record keeping. This should be adopted as a continuous learning process through which this will be used to help them build their capacity in as far as strengthening the supply and demand sides of accountability for effective leadership and improved service delivery is concerned.

Through District Integrity Promotion Forum, district stakeholders appreciate the opportunity of handling governance and service delivery issues through non-confrontational approaches where this encourages the members to openly discuss with objectivity. This was important that the forum adopted into the planning and budgeting of the three districts which contributed to the sustainability of strengthening of supply and demand sides of accountability for effective leadership and improved service delivery.

Kick Corruption out of Uganda learnt that the direct interface between citizens and duty bearers through the joint monitoring has bridged the gap whereby there's an improvement in information sharing which is helping leaders to respond to service delivery gaps for action. Such engagements should be made continuous for purposes of information sharing which facilitates effective leadership and improved service delivery.

KICK-U learnt that most of LG departments operate in isolation. However departments should work and complement each other for effective leadership and improved service delivery therefore there's need for continued interventions that bring them together.

KICK-U also learnt and felt that the presence and involvement of the Board members in promoting the vision, mission and objectives of the organization improves partnership and collaboration with other development agencies. It is important to strengthen governance systems which contributes to institutional growth and development.

KICK-U appreciated the need for regular skills development of staff as this builds their capacity to deliver on their tasks effectively and efficiently.

KICK-U appreciated the importance of capacity building and support from its partners (UDN, ACODE, DGF) towards project implementation where this has helped mitigate the would-be challenges, hence leading to the good progress of the project. It is important to network and collaborate for synergy building in Kigezi region.

Recommendations.

Local government departments should work and complement each other for effective leadership and improved service delivery therefore there's need for continued interventions that bring them together

There is need for continued interventions that can bring departments together like DIPFs

Continued need to strengthen governance systems which contribute to institutional growth and development.

Regular skill development of staff capacity is paramount and therefore required.

Local Government should effectively plan and budget for district joint monitoring for sustainability purposes.

Most significant stories.

On 23rd, November, 2017 a team constituted by Town Clerk, Clerk to Council, DCDO, DISO, DPC, O/CID, Chairman LC5, Speaker, Media Representative teamed up together after the DIPF meeting and headed for Kirima sub county to establish the grounds under which government land was divided among individuals.

The team reached out to one of the councilors Canon Irene Bakesiga for Canon Irene who represented the elderly at the sub county and tasked to explain circumstances surrounding the transactions on government land.

She noted that transactions started up on hearing that UNRA was compensating individuals whose land were crossed by the road during the road mapping.

The sub county leadership and technical staff realized UNRA would not compensate the sub county being a government entity. UNRA had crossed the land of the sub county for example at Haruberera in kanyakyende cell, another land is at sub county round about, and the third is opposite Kirima Health Centre.

Given the above background, it is alleged that the technical staff headed by the sub county chief sought for advice on how they could be compensated. From the advice, the sub county chief together with the council passed a resolution to sell off these lands to the individuals who would sign land agreements to have bought in order to qualify for the compensation since the compensation requires authentic papers for ownership.

These were after compensation to transfer the money compensated from their Account to the Sub county Account to run the sub county projects since they had a lot of activities amidst limited resources.

The land was a portioned in the following ways;

Canon Irene Bakesiga signed to have bought the land opposite Kirima Health Centre at 9.9 million

Nazario Beyongyera secretary for works and security Rutugunda parish councillor signed to have bought the sub county land at around about worse 5million and above. He has not yet transferred the money from his account to the sub county account.

Tindiwegi Patrick Councillor for Kihanda signed to have bought that one of Haruberera –kanyakyende cell worth 2million and plus.

Canon Irene noted that they signed without the intention of using the money but to run sub county projects, she said she had already transferred the money to the sub county Account the way she received it.

The team got in touch with Beyongyera Nazario and Canon Irene Bakesiga but the team did not meet Patrick Tindiwegi.

It was noted that the members were advised by the sub county chief and cashier that land agreements were to be retained by the sub county after compensation. So they didn't have these land agreements by the time as they were submitted to the sub county.

The O/CID said for any person to be compensated must have evidence of ownership. Therefore, the land agreements were in their particulars buying from the local government, which was a mistake to buy government property and sell it because a public property is not an individual property.

The above individuals were told they would be charged by UNRA for selling land by fraud, and corruption. *The DPC promised to open up a general Inquiry file.*

Following the fruitful discussion in April 2017 in the Kabale quarterly District Integrity Promotion Forum meeting, the members all agreed that they would go to Kibanda Health Centre II where shoddy work was identified and yet government funds had been spent. Three years back, a certain contractor was given money to renovate the health centre, however, the work done called for the attention of relevant stakeholders about the dissatisfaction expressed.

According to the Bills of Quantities totalling to 16m, some items used did not reflect the prices quoted which clearly showed no value for money. In December 2016, the RDC visited the Health Centre and found no work done, he instructed the district engineer to call upon the contractor to do the work as expected, and some work was done but still wanting.

During the joint monitoring, it was discovered that the district engineer had visited the health centre in January and advised the contractor to redo some works around the ceiling and the floor which the contractor did not yield to. The DIPF recommended the engineer to go to police and make a statement, a basis for which the contractor would be recalled to make a statement at police, and also make and sign an agreement to redo the work since it was noted that it would be difficult and take long to recover the misused funds.

The RDC later in March had a meeting with the contractor and resolved to redo the work which he committed to do and the health Centre is now in better working conditions.

Over 40,000,000= (Forty million Ugandan Shillings) were recovered through interdicting 7 seven officers in Kisoro district. The officer were forced to recover money by signing agreements to bring back the money.

The officers were,

1. Mr. Byomuhangi Felix, Parish Chief/Ag. sub county chief - Busanza sub county convicted 3rd , May , 2017 over miss appropriation of 7,745,000=
2. Mr. Mbarimo Grace Harerimana, Sub county chief Nyundo was interdicted 13th, March, 2017 on grounds of misappropriation and embezzlement of 15,646,113.
3. Mr. Semafara Pascal, Sub Accountant Nyundo was interdicted 13th , March, 2017 on grounds of Miss Appropriation and embezzlement of 4,936,660 =

4. Mr. Nizeyimana Henry was interdicted 3rd , March,2017 on grounds of Misappropriation of funds worth 16,307,010=
5. Mr. Tumwiringire John Calvin was interdicted 3rd, May, 2017 on grounds of Misappropriation of Ugx 3,723,135.
6. Mr. Ndaruhutse Patrick- Sub, accountant Nyabwishenya Sub County was interdicted from duty on May, 2017 for misappropriation of funds meant for maintenance of Community access roads under Uganda Road fund.

DPRM assessment held in Kisoro district discovered that there was need for intervention in the issue of having Kisoro District Hospital housing Rugarama students at the expense of Hospital staff.

In the DIPF meeting that sat on 8th ,November ,the issue of KISORO hospital house was discussed and the chairman LC5 said he commanded the hospital superintendent to vacate students and the house be occupied by the staff. It was noted that though interns vacated the house, it was closed rendering it useless to the staff. In the last monitoring after the DIPF members by KICK-U. It was found out that Rugarama interns vacated the house and was then occupied by the hospital staff.

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