OVERVIEW

- UN Awareness Month 2017 culminated with the celebration of the 72nd anniversary of the United Nations on 24th October 2017 by UN staff and partners under the theme UN For You. The commemoration involved UN staff and partners carrying out community outreach activities in four different divisions in Kampala to assist least advantaged people in the spirit of ‘Leaving No One Behind’

- The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Museveni made a passionate appeal to all adults to be mindful of the girls in their communities and protect them from all the dangers that surround them and the insecurity they face around men. She made the appeal during the commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child that took place in Kyenjojo District on 12th October 2017.

- Uganda joined the rest of the world to commemorate the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) on 13 October with a call from the United Nations Resident Coordinator to strengthen the ability of communities to manage the impact of disasters. She made the call during celebrations to mark the day at Kazinga Primary School in Kyegegwa District.

- The United Nations has appealed to the Government of Uganda and all relevant stakeholders to work together to address the drivers of migration to fast-track achievement of food security and zero hunger in Uganda. The call was made by the UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Rosa Malango, during World Food Day celebrations held on 16th October 2017 in Rubanda District, South Western Uganda.

- The UN awareness month was kick started with an SDGs Run organized by Youth Go Green on 1st October 2017 at Kololo Independence Grounds in Kampala.
UN CELEBRATES 72ND BIRTHDAY UNDER THE THEME ‘UN FOR YOU’

By Patricia Nalule, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO)

Every year the United Nations commemorates her anniversary on 24th October. This year the UN System in Uganda commemorated its 72nd anniversary differently under the theme, ‘UN for You.’

The commemoration involved UN staff and partners carrying out community outreach activities in four different divisions in Kampala to assist least advantaged people in the spirit of ‘Leaving No One Behind’ to raise awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the work the United Nations is doing in the country.

L-R Ms. Christine Guwatudde Kintu, Permanent Secretary Office of the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Moses Ali, 1st Deputy Prime Minister and Ms. Rosa Malango UN Resident Coordinator leading cutting the cake on UN Day

While addressing the guests Rt. Hon. Moses Ali, First Deputy Prime Minister on behalf of the Government of Uganda appreciated the contribution that UN agencies have made over the
past few decades including in health, agriculture, providing food to those in dire need, support to refugees and host communities and strengthening institutions.

**Pictorial: UN Day Celebrations in the different divisions of Kampala**
The UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Rosa Malango on behalf of the UN applauded all those that had joined the UN family to celebrate their birthday and reaffirmed UN Uganda’s commitment to work with the people and Government of Uganda; adding that the visits to the different communities were a beginning of new partnerships.

In Nakawa Division, community outreach activities were held at Kyambogo Primary School under the theme “Food security and nutrition” (Goal 2); in Rubaga Division at Kampala School for Physically Handicapped under the theme “Quality Education” (Goals 4 and 10); in Makindye Division at Munyoyo Church of Uganda Primary School under the theme “Environment and Urban Planning” (Goals 11 and 13) and Kawempe at Kalerwe Market under the theme “Health and Sanitation” (Goals 3 and 6).

The day concluded with a debriefing at Office of the Prime Minister where different UN agencies shared their experiences and rewarded some of the exceptional community members who participated. UN Day commemoration outreach activities will be held in November by the UN Area Coordination (UNAC) offices based in Mbarara, Gulu and Moroto.
FIRST LADY CALLS FOR PROTECTION OF THE GIRL-CHILD

By Monica Aturinda, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO)

First Lady, Hon. Janet Museveni (wearing hat), flanked (on her right) by Hon. Florence Nakiwala Kizingi, State Minister for Youth and Children and Hon. Aston Kajara, MP Mwenge (on her left), Kyejono LC5 Chairman William Kaija and Ms. Rosa Malango, UN Resident Coordinator during the International Day of Girl- Child in Kyejono District

The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Museveni, made a passionate appeal to all adults to be mindful of the girls in their communities and protect them from all the dangers that surround them and the insecurity they face around men.

“We have to revive the spirit of raising a child being the responsibility of every adult in a community. If we call ourselves champions of the adolescent girls, we must have an open eye to look out for the children and support them. If we talk about abstinence, we must mean it. We must ensure that the children are secure in our villages and on the roads as they go to and come back from school,” said the First Lady. The First Lady made these remarks during the commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child that took place in Kyenjojo District on 12th October 2017. The UN designated the day to increase awareness of gender inequality faced by girls worldwide.
While speaking at the event, the UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Rosa Malango asked the girls to believe in their potential. She said to the girls, “remember that nothing good comes easy and that anything worthwhile is worth waiting for. I encourage you to focus on your education, learn and stay away from groups that will lure you into bad habits that could lead to pregnancy and HIV. If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn’t.” The adolescent girls pointed out the following key challenges to achieving their dreams: sexual harassment and abuse by teachers and boda boda riders, forced marriages by their parents, exposure to dangers such as defilement due to long distances from school and corrupt officials who protect those who abuse them.

SDG 13 – CLIMATE ACTION

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO MANAGE DISASTER IS KEY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION

By Alfred Ongom UN Development Programme (UNDP)

Uganda joined the rest of the world to commemorate the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) on 13 October with a call from the United Nations Resident Coordinator to strengthen the ability of communities to manage the impact of disasters. She made the call during celebrations to mark the day at Kazinga Primary School in Kyegegwa District.

The theme was ‘Home Safe Home: reducing exposure, reducing displacement’ emphasized the need to protect communities.

“Humanity has one home, planet earth and every nation must contribute to protecting it and strengthening the ability of its communities to manage the impact of disasters when they strike,” Ms. Malango said. Agreeing with her, Hon. David Karubanga, the Minister of State for Public Service said, “the Government stands ready and will continue to stand in solidarity with all persons affected by disasters and its associated shocks, this is manifested and translated into existing strong public policies, strategic annual work plans and resource allocations, to take forward implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Agenda.”
UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Rosa Malango; Hon. David Karubanga, the Minister of State for Public Service planting a tree during International Disaster day in Kyengegwa District

Uganda continues to be adversely affected by multiple hazards such as drought, floods, landslides, earthquakes, and lightning. Since 2007 to date, the above natural and human-induced disasters, have affected over 3.6 million people, equivalent to the combined total population of greater Kampala.

SDG 2 – ZERO HUNGER

UN AND GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA TO PROMOTE ZERO HUNGER BY ADDRESSING MIGRATION CAUSES

By Anita Tibasaaga UN Food and Agriculture (FAO)

The United Nations has appealed to the Government of Uganda and all relevant stakeholders to work together to address the drivers of migration to fast-track achievement of food security and zero hunger in Uganda. The call was made by the UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Rosa Malango, during World Food Day celebrations held on 16th October 2017 in Rubanda District, South Western Uganda.
Ms. Malango added that the United Nations will continue supporting the Government of Uganda, private sector, civil society, and local communities to build capacity to address migration through rural development and mobilize investment in sustainable agriculture and rural livelihoods. “Together, we can help people to stay on their land and foster a more equitable development that protects the environment and Uganda’s other natural resources” she said.

Second Deputy Prime Minister of Uganda, Right Honourable Ali Kirunda Kivejinja hands over a gift to one of the winners of an agricultural quiz during World Food Day in Rubanda District

In a speech read for him by the Second Deputy Prime Minister of Uganda, Right Honourable Ali Kirunda Kivejinja, the President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, noted that agriculture and rural development are key to addressing root causes of migration, particularly movement of youth from rural to urban areas. Additionally, drivers and impacts of migration are intimately linked to Government’s goals of fighting hunger, reducing rural poverty, and promoting sustainable use of natural resources. Consequently, the Government of Uganda commits to playing a lead role in reducing rural migration by creating better conditions for the people, enhancing resilience in rural areas and engaging young people in gainful employment through participation in agricultural value chain activities, aimed at increasing incomes and lessening movement” said President Museveni.

Rubanda District, created less than two years ago, was chosen as the location for the World Food Day celebrations to create national and global awareness to the challenges such as climate change, poverty and population growth, which force people to leave their homes. In September 2017, more than 10 people died and others are still nursing injuries after a
landslide occurred in the hilly Rubanda District. This was after torrential rains forced rocks down the slopes, hitting locals at the foot of the hills and sweeping away houses.

SDG 17 – PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

SDGs RUN; LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

By Patricia Nalule, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO)

“The UN awareness month is a month that allows us to interact with our partners and beneficiaries to make sure that people understand what we do and improve on partnerships. I am really excited that our first activity for UN month this year is a run organized by the youth,” said Ms. Rosa Malango, UN Resident Coordinator.

Speaker of Parliament of Uganda, Hon. Rebecca Kadaga and UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Rosa Malango sending off participants at the SDGs run.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Run was the first activity of the Uganda UN Awareness month. The 17km marathon was to increase awareness about the SDGs. It was held on Sunday 1st October 2017 at 7am at Kololo Independence Grounds. The run was
organised by a youth NGO, Youth Go Green, Ministry of Water & Environment and the Speaker of Parliament, with support from the UN. Proceeds from the run went to planting fruit trees in selected primary schools.

The run attracted more than 1000 participants and was flagged off by the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, Right Honorable Rebecca Kadaga together with Ms. Rosa Malango.

“It is my hope and prayer that every year, we meet to do this run for the sake of the people and sustainable prosperity,” said Ms. Malango during her sendoff remarks.

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