UN Uganda Bulletin Vol 39 25 Nov 2019

OVERVIEW

• This 39th edition highlights the work of UN, Government and partners and how they are changing lives through different interventions

• Uganda, Kenya Presidents jointly launch Cross-Border Programme for Sustainable Peace and Development in Karamoja, Turkana and West Pokot

• UN Country Team holds first New generation dialogue with partners in the spirit of the UN Reform

• UNFPA’s Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescents club empowering boys in Tokora, Nakapiripirit District to take care of their families and respect women

• CSOs of Persons with Albinism need to work tirelessly to promote and protect their rights

• UNHCR’s Vocational Training Centre in Kyaka II refugee settlement to equip more than 2,000 refugee and Ugandan with income generating skills

• With UNICEF, UKaid and UNCF support Barigye, a Boda Boda Chairman is educating his colleagues about the Ebola disease and how to avoid it

• UN Women, Government of Norway launch a three year programme to enable women participate in peace and security processes

• Access to relevant data for decision making is very key for improving public health

• UNAIDS to work with First Lady on a new HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programme for young people

• Government of Uganda, European Union, UN hold inception meetings for the Spotlight Initiative in five districts of Amudat, Arua, Kitgum, Kyegegwa, and Tororo

• IOM, IGAD convene a meeting in Kampala for seven IGAD countries to discuss data harmonization in East and Horn of Africa

• News briefs
PRESIDENTS LAUNCH CROSS-BORDER PROGRAMME FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IN KARAMOJA, TURKANA AND WEST POKO

By Michael Wangusa, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO)

President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya jointly launched the Cross-Border Programme for Sustainable Peace and Development in Karamoja, Turkana and West Pokot, at a colourful ceremony in Moroto on 12 September 2019.

The ceremony was attended by senior central and local government officials and members of the UN Country Teams from both countries, as well as thousands of members of the public.

The objective of the programme is to accord communities on the Uganda and Kenya sides of
the border, opportunities for better co-operation, close coordination and peaceful co-existence as well as bridging isolation gaps to improve their livelihoods and socioeconomic conditions for sustainable peace and development.

The two Governments of Kenya and Uganda will be responsible for resource mobilization and ensuring political leadership and ownership of the programme support for the project. More

SDG 17 – PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

UN COUNTRY TEAM, PARTNERS HOLD THE FIRST-NEW GENERATION

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

The UN Country Team (UNCT) and partners held their first-New Generation UNCT dialogue. The dialogue took place on 7 October 2019 at UNICEF Offices.

The dialogue was held in the spirit of the UN reform, mandated by United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/279, repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the heart of all UN’s work.

As a result of the reform the New Generation UNCT is now a robust team comprised of the Heads of UN Agencies in Uganda, International Banks, Development Partners, National and
International Non-Governmental Organisations, Private Sector, Academia among others.

“The New Generation UNCT dialogue will be a safe space for UNCT and partners to discuss issues before further discussions in other coordination fora such as Local Development Partners Group (LDPG), Partners Democracy Group (PDG), Government Sector meetings among others,” said Ms. Rosa Malango, UN Resident Coordinator at the meeting.

SDG 5 – GENDER EQUALITY

ENGAGING BOYS IN PREVENTING VULNERABILITIES TO HIV/AIDS AND GBV

By Maël Rabemananjara and Klaiswa Rajab, UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

Three times a week, Logel Justin and his friends meet at the Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescents (ELA) club, a modest but very youth friendly place where they spend most of their time. This club is very important to them as it provides them a venue to learn, read, sing, dance, play games and socialize with their peers.

Logel is among the 25 beneficiaries of the ELA boys club in Tokora. Due to poverty, he was forced to give up on school when he reached Senior Four.

*ELA Club boys playing a game of draughts. Today, these agents of change are campaigners against gender-based violence.*
He started hanging out with other boys and they spent their time drinking alcohol, smoking, beating old people and raping young girls. “We thought that raping and beating girls and women was normal because we did not know anything about GBV. Some of us were married just because we wanted to have someone cooking for us at home,” says 23-year-old Logel.

**SDG 10 – REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

**FIRST NATIONAL MEETING OF CSOS OF PERSONS WITH ALBINISM CONVENES FOR A NATIONAL ACTION PLAN**

By Bernard Amwine, UN Human Rights (OHCHR)

“Persons with albinism in Uganda need support. Their experiences of discrimination are multiple and intersecting. Short, medium and long term measures must be put in place for relief, rehabilitation and development initiatives,” said Ms. Ikponwosa Ero, the UN Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, visiting Uganda in her personal capacity.

*Participants pose for a photo at the First National Meeting of civil society organisations of Persons with Albinism in Uganda*

Ms. Ero was speaking at the First National Meeting of civil society organisations of Persons with Albinism in Uganda, organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in partnership with the Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (OSIEA) on 11 and 12 September 2019 at Lake Victoria Serena Resort Hotel. The meeting
brought together 23 leaders of civil society organisations of persons with albinism; 14 males and 9 female drawn from the districts of Kampala, Kayunga, and Luwero in the central region, Lira in the north, Isingiro in south western, Serere in north eastern and Mbale in the east - to discuss common challenges and explore national strategic interventions towards the promotion of their human rights. More

SDG 8 – DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

NEW VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE HELPS EMPOWER REFUGEE AND UGANANDAN YOUTH

By Duniya Aslam Khan, UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

Akankunda Agnes, 24, is mother of one-year-old daughter and one of the trainees at the Sweswe Vocational Training Centre (VCT), in Kyaka II refugee settlement, in south-western Uganda.

She came to Uganda last year, following the inter-ethnic clashes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Enrolled in the agriculture course, Agnes plans to pursue farming as a career in future.

A Student working on a bicycle at the newly opened Vocational Training Centre in Kyaka II settlement, Uganda © Duniya Aslam Khan
Australia for UNHCR, one of the several national associations raising funds for UNHCR globally, supported the VTC by investing approximately US$ 661,000 in the construction of the centre and implementation of the training programmes. In order to ensure the sustainability of this project and integration with government service delivery, the VTC will be handed-over to district authorities in five years. More

**SDG 3 – GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

MEET DEO BARIGYE, THE RUBIRIZI BODA-BODA CHAIRMAN CHAMPIONING FIGHT AGAINST EBOLA AGAINST EBOLA AMONGST PEERS

By Alex Taremwa, UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

Deo Barigye is the Chairman of Nyakasharu boda-boda stage right at the centre of Rubirizi town. At his stage, over 60 cyclists park and wait for clients. It is the junction point into the hilly outskirts of the district.

*Deo having a session with colleagues Nyakasharu boda-boda stage right at the centre of Rubirizi town*
Having been part of the community influencers trained by the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) with UNICEF support and funding from UKaid and UNCFER Barigye hit the ground running. He mobilized his colleagues in and out of town for a series of meetings where he educated them about the looming Ebola disease and how they can avoid it.

The Local Council 1 Chairman of Buzenga Village, Moses Mugisha says that he has been following the work Barigye and team are doing and is pleased at how great the boda-boda Chairman has been able to organise what would otherwise be a rowdy group of highly vulnerable people.

“It is hard to get all these people in one place, sitting and listening for all this time to someone who is not going to give them money,” Mugisha wondered after finding Barigye conducting a 'lecture' on Ebola to his attentive colleagues. More

INVOLVE WOMEN IN PEACE NEGOTIATION PROCESSES

By Aidah Nanyonjo, UN Women Uganda

“Inclusion of women in both formal and non-informal peace negotiation processes is vital for sustainable peace and development. That is why we strive to ensure that more women participate in peace and reconciliation efforts at all levels,” Ms. Zenia Chrysostomidis, Chargé d'affaires of Norway to Uganda said.

Ms. Zenia was speaking during the launch of a 3-year Women Peace and Security programme which is aligned to SDG 5 and 16, NDP II & #UNSCR1325. The programme is funded by the Norwegian government and will be implemented by UN Women in
partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development. The focuses on creating an enabling environment for women to participate in Peace and security processes, conflict prevention, Conflict resolution and Peace building and Recovery.

Ms. Zenia revealed that one of the priorities in the Norwegian National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 is to ensure that peace and reconciliation processes are inclusive. She highlighted how crucial it is to involve women in peace building not only at community level but also around the table where the roadmaps for peace are negotiated.

USE DATA AND INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION- DR. YONAS TEGENG WOLDEMARIAM

By Benjamin Sensasi  World Health Organization (WHO)

One of the public health challenges in low-medium income countries is lack of capacity to process data into information to support evidence-based decision making. This was pointed out by Dr. Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam the World Health Organization Country Representative in Uganda while opening a two weeks training on antimicrobial resistance.

“The relevant data for improving public health is left on shelves or is not used lying idle in electronic servers, making countries data rich but information poor”, he said.

Uganda is the first country in the WHO African Region to host the SORT IT in which
participants from Sierra Leone, Ghana and Uganda as well as experienced mentors from 16 countries are interacting and sharing cross-cutting experiences on antimicrobial resistance. More

SDG 3 – GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

FIRST LADY DISCUSS HIV PROGRAMMING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

By Angela Kateemu Nuwahereza, UNAIDS

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has been requested by the First Lady of Uganda for support towards a new programme to reach young people with HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention services.

This was during a recent meeting the First Lady, Janet Museveni, who is also Minister for Education and Sports had with UNAIDS Country Director Dr. Karusa Kiragu, Global Ambassador and co-chair Global HIV Prevention Coalition, Prof. Sheila Tlou and Dr. Saman Zamani, Senior Portfolio Manager, Global Fund, Geneva.

During the meeting, the First Lady indicated that while a lot has been done on sensitizing the youth about HIV/AIDS prevention, there is still a high rate of infection among the young people in Uganda. More
EU, UN, GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA HOLD SPOTLIGHT DISTRICT INCEPTION MEETINGS IN EASTERN, WESTERN NILE, NORTHERN AND WESTERN UGANDA

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

Participants posing for a photo during the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative District Inception Meeting in Amudat

“Spotlight should focus mostly on keeping girls in school so that they are not forced into cutting or other harmful practices such as early marriage,” said Ms. Dorcus Chalain, Vice Chairperson Amudat District.

“We have had many beautiful programmes here in Amudat, but if we want to see change in this community, we need to deliberately choose to keep children in school and teach them the dangers of such harmful practices so that they can protect themselves,” she added.

Ms. Chalain said this during the inception meeting for the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative District, which took place on 16 September 2019 at Amudat District headquarters. The meeting was attended by representatives from sub-county, civil society partners, religious and cultural
leaders, media, police, government, United Nations and women representatives from local groups.

The district inception meetings aimed to create awareness and formally introduce the Spotlight Initiative to participating District Local Governments, other government partners, civil society organizations (CSOs), representatives of local women’s groups, and the community at large.

While addressing participants at the meeting in Amudat District, Mr. Patrick Okello, Commissioner Ministry of Local Government who spoke on behalf of the government, pledged government’s commitment to prevent and respond to violence against women and children and enhancing sexual and reproductive health.

“We hope that this initiative will be catalytic in combating violence against women and children; and the targets and multi-sectoral strategies become embedded in the forthcoming National Development Plan III and in this district’s development plans and budgets,” said Ms. Rebecca Kwagala, UN Area Coordinator Alternate for Eastern Uganda who spoke on behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator.

The EU-UN Spotlight Initiative District Inception Meeting were held between 16-20 September 2019, in five districts of Amudat, Arua, Kitgum, Kyegegwa, and Tororo. More

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

IOM UGANDA HOSTS MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND STAKEHOLDERS ON LATENT TB

By Richard M Kavuma, UN Migration Agency (IOM)

The From 27-29 August 2019 the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) convened a meeting of senior representatives from institutions working on migration and national bureaus of statistics (NBSs) from the seven IGAD countries, and Tanzania, to begin a process of migration data harmonisation in East and Horn of Africa.

“It is essential that we can access reliable, timely data on migration in East Africa to ensure economic, social and political inclusion of migrant groups; to ensure that our economies can capitalize on the free movement of skills across the region; and to address migrant groups’
critical needs,” said Ali Abdi, Chief of Mission of IOM Uganda.

During the workshop, the seven IGAD member states, which are, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda, agreed to form an IGAD regional working group on migration data.

The group will support peer exchanges, capacity building, and develop a set of guidelines to harmonise and standardise migration indicators and statistics to achieve comparability.

CLOCKWISE: Dr Frank Laczko, Head of the Global Migration Data Analysis Centre, IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Ali Abdi, and participants in a group photo at Imperial Royale hotel in Kampala.

In addition, to the IGAD member states, Tanzania is also going to reap benefits from this initiative. More
UN Uganda strengthens partnerships as part of the UN reform implementation

UN Uganda family meeting with Ambassadors for Turkey, China, Eritrea and the Head of Austrian Development Agency in the spirit of the new UN Reforms. At the different meetings, they discussed partnership for Sustainable Development Goals.

For more information, please contact:

Michael Wangusa  
michael.wangusa@one.un.org  
+256 (0) 771 005 988  
UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO)

Monicah Aturinda  
monicah.aturinda@one.un.org  
+256 (0) 772 147 505