



Thematic Clusters

LASPNET has 7 thematic clusters focusing on different cross cutting issues. These include; Land, Traditional/Informal Institutions, Criminal, Social/Cross-cutting issues, Gender Justice, Juvenile/Children issues and Transitional Justice. It is an emerging arrangement to enable members provide technical input into identified areas of contextual relevance and thematic interest. The arrangement is supported by working groups which set priorities to advance provision of legal aid services to traditionally excluded groups by ensuring access to justice for all.

Development Partners

Our Major Development Partner is the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF).

Strategic Partners

LASPNET is also boasts of strategic partnerships with organisations such as; Plan International, Save the Children, Action Aid, World Vision, UNICEF, UCRNN, JLOS, ULS, JSU, the Judiciary and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Milestones

- ★ Positioning the Network as a Think Tank on legal Aid and access to justice issues.
- ★ Contributing to the Development of a National Legal Aid Policy and legal framework.
- ★ Facilitating Legal Aid Open Weeks.
- ★ Strengthening the Capacity of LASPs through tailor made trainings and institutional development intervention.
- ★ Research & Advocacy Initiatives and Engagements. Some of the recent researches conducted include: Capacity Assessment of Legal Aid Service Providers across Uganda; Access to Justice for the Poor, Marginalized and Vulnerable People of Uganda, among others.
- ★ Providing a platform for consensus building, networking, dialogues and collaboration as one voice for legal aid service providers.

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LASPNET
 LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK

Vision

A Free and Just Society.

Mission

To provide a platform for effective networking and collaboration to enhance legal aid service delivery and access to justice for the most vulnerable and marginalized people.

Goal

To improve networking, collaboration and coordination among legal aid service providers in Uganda.

Mandate

To strengthen coordination and networking of LASPs, harmonization and standardization of legal aid service provision by the different service providers, lobbying and advocacy to facilitate a favorable legal and policy environment.

Background

The Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) is a national member-based non-governmental organisation established in 2004 to provide strategic linkages and a collaborative platform for legal aid service providers (LASPs) in Uganda. The network maintains a common front to interface with the Justice Law and Order Sector on issues of access to justice and the rule of law. It targets three critical aspects of coordination: bringing together different LASPs for solidarity in strategizing, sharing lessons and experiences, while minimizing duplication; capacitating them through collaborative research and analysis; as well as documenting, providing feedback, and amplifying voice on key issues regarding access to justice/legal aid at regional, national or international level.

Strategic Objectives

1. To strengthen advocacy for supportive enacting and implementation of legal aid harmonized legal and policy framework.
2. To promote research and knowledge management to support evidence based programming and advocacy for legal aid and access to justice.
3. To enhance networking and coordination of LASPs through promoting professional standards, collective voice and advancing the legal aid and access to justice agendas.
4. To strengthen institutional development of LASPNET through effective and efficient, functional organizational systems that provide sustainability.

Our Values

1. Justice
2. Team work
3. Commitment
4. Collaboration
5. Non-discrimination
6. Human Rights

Programs and Interventions

- Lobbying and Advocacy
- Networking and Coordination
- Research and Knowledge Management
- Strengthening institutional capacity of LASPNET and LASPs

Membership

LASPNET has a membership of 47 Legal Aid Service Providers (LASPs), operating in over 70 districts of Uganda. Membership is granted after meeting the eligibility criteria and approval by the board. See www.laspnet.org for the membership directory and details on the application procedure.



Benefits to Members

- Collective voice and influence
- Information resources and updates
- Collaboration and networking
- Ownership and involvement
- Capacity building and development
- Leadership and authority on board matters
- Profiling of member organisations
- Solidarity and support
- Sector wide representation

Organisational Structure and Management

The network is established and governed by a General Assembly comprised of Legal Aid Service Providers from which the Board of Directors is elected every two years, to provide oversight and policy implementation. The Executive Director who heads the Secretariat works closely with the Board of Directors in policy and institutional governance to facilitate management of programmes and operations of the Network.

