



LASPNET

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK



2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Supported by:



www.laspnet.org

OUR IDENTITY

Our Vision

A Free and Just Society.

Our 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

The 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.

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LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK

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 Legal Aid Service Providers Network

OUR VALUES

Justice:

We believe that all human beings are entitled to equality, righteousness, equity or moral rightness.

Team work:

We promote collaboration and coordination for delivery of legal aid services among service providers to achieve a common purpose and goal.

Commitment:

We are committed to supporting legal aid service providers and general citizenry to access justice.

Collaboration:

The common link between LASPs is a responsibility of forming a common front in advocacy and service provision as a united entity.

Non-discrimination:

LASPNET and its members serve all irrespective of origin, sex, age, disability, race, ethnicity, religious affiliation or geographical location.

Human Rights:

Our programmes focus on the rights of human beings as provided by the UN charter and the constitution of the republic of Uganda.

ACRONYMS

ACCU	Anti-Corruption Coalition in Uganda
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AHURIO	Association of Human Rights Organizations in the Rwenzori region
CBA	Canadian Bar Association
CEON-U	Citizens Election Observation Network
CLA	Communal Land Association
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DGF	Democratic Governance Facility
EC	Electoral Commission
FHRI	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
FIDA-U	Association of Women’s Lawyers in Uganda
FLRT	Family Land Rights Tree
HRAPF	Human Rights Awareness &Promotion Forum
HRCU	Human Rights Center Uganda
IGA	International Governance Alliance
IIMS	Integrated Information Management System
IWILAP	Islamic Women Initiative for Justice Law and Peace
JAA	Justice Advocacy Africa
JLOS	Justice Law and Order Sector
LAC-LDC	Legal Aid Clinic-Law Development Centre
LASPs	Legal Aid Service Providers
LASPNET	Legal Aid Service Providers’ Network
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
MLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
NLAP	National Legal Aid Policy
NUDIPU	National Union of Disabled Persons in Uganda
PILAC	Public Interest Law Clinic
PPRR	Principles, Practices, Rights and Responsibilities
PWD	Persons with Disability
RDC	Resident District Commissioner
SAM	Self Actualization Model
SIP	Strategic Investment Plan
TAT	Trial Advocacy Training
UCBA	Uganda Court Bailiffs Association
UCRNN	Uganda Child Rights NGO Network
UGANET	Uganda Network on Law, Ethics &HIV/AIDS
UHRC	Uganda Human Rights Commission
UNWG	Uganda National Working Group

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1.0 FOREWORD BY CHAIRPERSON



It is great pleasure that I share with you LASPNET's Annual Report for the period July 2015 to June 2016. I would like to thank the membership and LASPNET stakeholders for entrusting me with the enormous task of steering LASPNET over the last two years.

The year was also particularly significant for LASPNET, as the Network has a new Strategic Plan 2016-2020. With the new Strategic Plan, a direction, new staff roles and future engagements have been redefined. This was also supported by an in-depth assessment of the existing programmes and capacity of Legal Aid service Providers in Uganda to inform a comprehensive membership development and support strategy. This will support future capacity building interventions.

In the reporting period, we have successfully conducted two significant researches, developed a manual for child friendly legal aid, assessed the capacity of the membership to ensure quality and professional delivery of legal aid services. Furthermore, LASPNET's visibility has increased its profile and work in legal aid, access to justice and rule of law. Also, for the first time LASPNET was accredited as election observers and was a key player in the election process by providing legal rapid response.

In an effort to enhance case management, the IIMS has also had a rebirth. If the current progress continues, the way clients are supported, referred and services provided will significantly improve and change, which will strengthen collaboration as LASPs will be able to easily refer clients amongst one another.

We have also embarked on reaching out to the membership and strengthening the collective voice by building LASPNET's voice at a regional level.

Because of your support, challenges were overcome, great strides were made and milestones achieved. Accordingly let me take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members, Development Partners, Membership, Stakeholders and the Secretariat staff for the hard work for all the successes registered.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'S. Nsubuga', written in a cursive style.

Samuel H. Nsubuga
Chairperson of the Board

2.0 FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK



LASPNET is pleased to share with you the 2015 Annual Report which marks slightly more than a full year since my appointment as the Executive Director.

In the reporting period emphasis has been on LASPNET's core mandate of Research, Advocacy and Capacity building. In addition, a capacity assessment of LASPs was conducted in a bid to enhance service delivery. Of particular emphasis was the Advocacy on the National Legal Aid Policy and Law, on which I am happy to report, we have made progress though a lot more needs to be done to ensure government's commitment. In pursuit of the national legal aid agenda, we have been conducted two key researches; one on defining who is poor, vulnerable and marginalized in Uganda and another on the Cost

Benefit Analysis of the National Legal Aid Policy. LASPNET with support from LASPs and other key stakeholders has also embarked on various engagements to build momentum for legal aid to be on the agenda of the legislative and executive arms of government. We developed a child friendly manual, a vital tool for providing services to children. We also redesigned the IIMS to make it more user friendly and 34 LASPs have so far enrolled. We are appreciative of the feedback received during the membership monitoring visits indicating the need for engagements at regional level.

The Secretariat appreciates the support of the outgoing Board in its oversight function which has been very instrumental particularly in the transition period, supporting the Secretariat activities and strengthening the Network as a whole.

LASPNET like other NGOs is operating in a difficult and narrowing space challenged by issues such as office break-ins on NGOs that still continue with no successful prosecution of the culprits. Widening the resource base and sustainability remain key. Despite the challenges, LASPNET continues to explore ways of demanding for the establishment of sustainable Legal aid and enhancing access to justice for all.

Our gratitude goes to DGF for renewing its commitment and funding under the project titled "*To strengthen Capacity and Advocacy for the Standardisation of Legal Aid Services in Uganda,*" which is focused on improving efficiency, effectiveness, standards and sustainability of legal aid through research, advocacy and innovations.

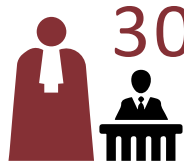
LASPNET has therefore transitioned from increasing its relevance and visibility to consolidating the new spaces, and opportunities that have emerged to deliver on its mandate and core objectives in line with the new Strategic Plan 2016-2020. This is demonstrated through collaborations with institutions such as the Tanzania Legal Aid Society.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to making more strides in the New Year.

Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa
Executive Director


OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

2015


 **304** Legal aid lawyers, paralegals, programme officers, psychosocial workers trained on election observation, mediation, trial advocacy, and plea bargaining.


 **136** Affected people supported during the election period.

 **5** Radio Talk shows on CBS FM; Bukedde FM; Radio One Talk Back; Radio One Spectrum and Kagadi Community Radio.

 **50** Jingles on 5 radio stations including; Radio West in Mbarara, Etop Radio in Soroti, Megha FM in Gulu, Radio Simba and Radio One in Kampala.

 **2** Press Conferences held. The first Press Conference was held on 29th February 2016 at the Secretariat offices in Mengo, highlighting emerging election


 **12** LASPs accredited and participated in election observation.

 **24** Cases referred to other LASPs.


related issues and those encountered by the 23 rapid legal response advocates and paralegals deployed by LASPNET to provide surveillance in selected areas to support those who may need legal aid services during the electoral period. The second was held on 6th May 2016 following the launch of the Cost Benefit Analysis research for the National Legal Aid Policy.


 **30** Advocates & Paralegals participate in legal rapid response.

 **7** Television Interviews which were held on Urban TV, NTV, Kingdom TV, and WBS TV.

 **2** Position papers about the position paper on National action for human rights, the bills of Uganda human rights commission where we have provided input.


 **2** Opinion Articles written on the rule of law and the legality of the concept of preventative arrest on March 10th 2016.

 **3** Press Statements shared on 18th and 29th February in relation to the 2016 general elections and 1 related to access to justice campaign and fast tracking the passing of the NLAP.

 **3** Joint Position Building engagements including on the 7th of August 2015 LASPNET Board of Directors, DGF, JLOS held breakfast meeting with Chief Justice of Uganda Hon Bert Katureebe to congratulate his Lordship upon elevation to the office

 **28** Articles published in various media in relation to LASPNET events throughout the year.

of the Chief Justice and to call upon the leadership of the Justice Law and Order Sector to fast track enactment of Legal aid policy and law; LASPNET participated in Amicus Curiae application under the Umbrella of CEON Uganda, LASPNET and other eight civil society organizations on 10th March 2016; A regional meeting on the post-election violence in the Rwenzori Region held on 21st March, in Fort portal, in Fort portal on 21st March at the Uganda Human Rights regional office in Fort portal.

 **6** National Level Conferences including National Dialogue on Execution of Court Bailiffs on 27th May 2016; National Legal Aid Conference be held from August 9-10, 2015 at Speke Resort Munyonyo; National Convention on Child Justice on 24th and 25th November, Access to Justice Conference on 22nd October 2015; National Legal Aid Conference August 9th-10th 2015; Parallel Session at National Dialogue on Ending Violence on 14th June 2016; Dialogue on the Evolving status of the Divorce Law on 24th March 2016.

 **83** Partnership and Networking Meetings including with the Tanzania Legal Aid Society.

3.0 OPERATING ENVIRONMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON LASPNET

During the reporting period, LASPNET has implemented a project action, with support from the Democratic Governance Facility of “strengthening synergies for improved quality, capacities, and standards among the various LASPs in Uganda.” The key emphasis was on ensuring improvements in the LASPNET’s capacity to network, provide an effective platform for members to advocate for issues of access to Justice; undertaking evidence based research to inform practice changes and reform; institutional building through strategic planning; streamlining service delivery through improved information collection and utilization through a harmonized information management system.

As a result, there has been remarkable improvements in areas of capacity building, institutional strengthening; improved research and knowledge management; networking and partnership building; improved coordination as well as participation of the network in setting the legal aid and access to justice agenda in Uganda. There has also been increased visibility and relevance in providing the needed platform for reforms and practice changes related to access to justice and legal aid in Uganda.

For LASPNET, the operating environment was further influenced by developments in the Justice Law and Order Sector. There is however increasing demand for its role towards complementing the anticipated national policy, legal, and institutional framework for guiding and being at the forefront of setting the legal aid agenda in Uganda. The contextual developments in the sector based on the JLOS SIP III include some of the interventions by JLOS through the Judiciary like development of reforms to address bottlenecks in justice delivery such as; development of a case backlog reduction strategy; Anti- Corruption Strategy; Plea Bargaining; ADR, Small Claims Procedure, Justice for Children projects to ensure effective and timely delivery of justice. In addition, JLOS has through the Uganda Human Rights Commission embarked on the development of a Human Rights Action Plan and sought the views of the other stakeholders. It has further engaged stakeholders through their participation and presentation of an analysis of the sector performance which is a positive sign that the views of the users of its services are given due consideration. This has demonstrated commitment and addressed the assumption of stakeholder will and commitment.

However given that this was an election year, lobbying interventions were greatly limited by the absence of some political heads such as the Attorney General, Speaker of Parliament, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, since focus was placed on electoral reforms including civic education of the masses. This was occasioned by slow progress of enactment of the National Legal Aid Policy (NLAP). Emphasis was geared towards research and engaging the technical heads of institutions which resulted into conclusion of the Cost Benefit Analysis research of the National Legal Aid Policy and Law which culminated into a launch by the Deputy Attorney General. The findings will be utilised in the development of interventions by the sector and will further inform advocacy initiatives for a legal aid framework.

The enactment of the NGO Act and the numerous break-ins of Civil Society Organisations’ (CSOs) offices including some LASPs created a risky operating environment leading to members coming out openly to condemn rights abuses. This reduced on the much needed collective voice to make pronouncement on emerging issues of access to justice. However, as a network, we did not relent but moved forward to pronounce ourselves on the break-ins through press conferences and joined other coalitions such as CEON-U to find refuge in a team.

4.0 HIGHLIGHTS ON THE KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The reporting period has seen increasing visibility for LASPNET and involvement in key access to justice events, provision of opinions, research and documentation, advocacy and LASPNET's representation on key decision making levels in JLOS working groups, the Steering Committee of the UNICEF funded Justice for Children Programme under JLOS, and the working group on Access to Justice in the Ministry of Lands. Some of the key achievements include:

CAPACITY BUILDING, RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION:

The researches conducted in this period include: the capacity Assessment of LASPs, Poverty, Marginalisation and Vulnerability in the context of Access to Justice, the Cost Benefit Analysis for the NLAP; and the Child Friendly Legal Aid Manual.

Various capacity building trainings were held including: on Election Observation; Monitoring and Evaluation, Trial Advocacy, IIMS, Plea Bargaining, Mediation, and Conflict Management.

LOBBY AND ADVOCACY:

- ❖ **National Legal Aid Policy:** After conducting a Cost Benefit Analysis research for the NLAP, LASPNET rallied members and stakeholders into an advocacy campaign calling on government fast track the enactment of the policy into law. Consequently, the policy made it to the order schedule of Cabinet and the 10th Parliament.
- ❖ **Various national level engagements:** Court bailiffs dialogue, access to justice campaign access to justice conference, national legal aid conference.
- ❖ **Adoption of the Children's Amendment Act:** Lobbying, advocacy and consensus building meetings were held with key stakeholders to fast track the adoption of this Act. Under the UCRNN coalition, LASPNET presented a position paper on the Children Amendment Bill, 2015 to the Gender Committee of parliament on 23rd July 2015; led a presentation on the proposed Inter-country adoption and legal guardianship as well as on proposed amendments on juvenile justice.
- ❖ **Roundtable discussions were also held in collaboration with International Governance Alliance and FIDA Uganda on Marriage and Divorce laws** in a bid to take stock of the failures of passing and bid reignite the debate on the marriage and divorce bill.
- ❖ **Building coalitions and partnerships LAPSNET's participation in Amicus Curiae application:** Under the Umbrella of CEON Uganda, LASPNET and eight other civil society organizations on 10th March filed an application in the Supreme Court as Amici Curiae of the Election petition 1 of 2016. The main aim of participating in this process was to provide support through evidence gathered as election observers in order to add value to the ongoing petition. It was also an opportunity especially for CSOs to utilize the amici to ensure that due process is followed by court when making decisions.

- ❖ **Due to the increased insecurity in the Rwenzori region during the 2016 general elections, a regional meeting was convened by AHURIO on behalf of LASPNET** as part of the rapid response efforts on 21st March at the Uganda Human Rights Commission regional office in Fort portal, Kabarole. The key issues that emerged from the deliberations were the need to deploy paralegals and lawyers in hot spots, to identify the nature of cases and magnitude of the caseload as well as provide legal aid support.
- ❖ **Advocating for State funded legal aid for children and Child Friendly Justice** the National Learning Event organized by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, UCRNN and the National Child Justice Convention with Save the Children.
- ❖ **Enhancing Access to Justice and providing legal support through legal and rapid response:** LASPNET through its membership supported 136 persons out of the targeted 50 poor and vulnerable persons to get their cases concluded on election related matters from February 18th to April 30th 2016.
- ❖ **2 Service Recognition Awards were given to LASPNET** by the Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF) and Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN).



5.0 ANNUAL PROGRESS IN DETAIL:

INTENSIFIED VISIBILITY AND RELEVANCE THROUGH BUILDING PARTNERSHIP, LOBBY AND ADVOCACY

One of LASPNET's main strategic objectives is to conduct research to inform advocacy strategies as well as build needed voice on pertinent issues and sustain institutional linkages with state actors so as to effectively complement government's efforts in enhancing access to justice for the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable persons. During this period, LASPNET embarked on interventions that contributed to the national agenda of peaceful general elections, advocacy for electoral reforms and child justice. LASPNET was represented through its staff and Board members in over 80 meetings. In most of these meetings, LASPNET was either a facilitator, presented a paper or a participant. The views and ideas exchanged greatly shaped the access to justice, legal aid, human rights and rule of law agenda as well as reforms in Uganda. Below are some of the key advocacy activities:

5.1 Breakfast Meeting with the Chief Justice

On 7th August 2015, LASPNET Board of Directors, the DGF Head of Programmes Ms. Helen Mealins, Mr. Musa Mudozi the JLOS Technical Advisor Human Rights and Accountability, representing the Senior Technical Advisor, some LASPs such as FHRI, Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society and FIDA Uganda met with the Chief Justice Hon. Justice Bart Katureebe to congratulate him on his appointment as Chief Justice and call upon the leadership of JLOS to support fast-tracking of the enactment of the legal aid policy and law. After calling for support from LASPs in supporting for better financial and human resourcing of the judiciary and enactment of the Administration of Justice Bill, the Chief Justice pledged his support on issues of mutual interest to support making access to justice a reality for all.



The team at the meeting with the Hon. Chief Justice

5.2 National Legal Aid Conference

JLOS, Justice Centres Uganda and LASPNET organized the 3rd Annual National Legal Aid Conference to advocate for passing of the National Legal Aid Policy and Law with key decision makers. The Conference organized under the theme; “Sustainable funding and Legal Aid service delivery by the State”, was held on August 9-10 at Speke Resort, Munyoyo. The conference was graced by H.E. President of the Republic of Uganda as the Chief Guest who reiterated government’s commitments to the national legal aid scheme.

5.3 Championing Legal Aid and Access to Justice at the Inaugural Access to Justice Conference

LASPNET convened the inaugural Access to Justice Conference that took place on 22nd October 2015 at Kampala Serena Hotel. The Conference which was held under the theme, “Positioning LASPNET as a platform to drive the Rule of Law Agenda for Development,” was attended by a multiplicity of stakeholders from the Justice Law & Order Sector, academia, media, legal aid service providers, civil society and development partners from DGF, Austrian Aid, Plan International, UNICEF, among others .

A key highlight of the conference was the launch of the Access to Justice Manifesto by the Chief Guest, His Lordship Remy Kasule, the Chairperson of the Uganda Law Council and a Judge of the Court of Appeal. The Manifesto further informed the advocacy roadmap in relation to inclusion of legal aid in political aspirant’s manifestos.





LASPs, Development Partners and representatives from the Judiciary at the Access to Justice Conference.

5.4 Supporting Restorative and Child friendly Justice

LASPNET participated in the organization of the National Child Justice Convention under the theme, “Enhancing Restorative and Child Friendly Justice in Uganda”, held on 24th -25th November, 2015, in partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) and in conjunction with Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN) supported by Save the Children. The Conference sought to enhance inter-sectoral coordination, identify implementation gaps, share good juvenile justice practices and approaches for enhanced delivery of juvenile justice. The National Child Justice Conference enhanced visibility on the need for child friendly justice practices in Uganda and calls for State funded legal aid.

Relatedly, LASPNET also convened a parallel session on Access to Justice and Violence against Children at the National Learning Symposium on 14th June 2016 at Silver Springs Hotel Bugolobi. UCRNN in partnership with the MGLSD had organized the two day National learning event to discuss the long term efforts to end all forms of violence against children opened by the first lady and Minister of Education, Ms. Janet K. Museveni . The parallel session convened by LASPNET discussed and laid strategies aimed at effectively responding to all forms violence against children especially those that interface with the justice system. 61 Participants who attended the parallel session were from the child justice sector namely; the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS); the Judiciary; the Police; Lawyers, including LASPs and State Attorneys; representatives from not-for-profit organizations working with children in a social work capacity. The parallel session reiterated calls for state funded national legal aid for children; and the critical role of the collaboration and coordination of stakeholders in preventing violence and responding to violence against children.



Left: Ms. Rhonah Babweteera, Ms. Sylvia Namubiru Executive Director LASPNET, Hon. Florence Mutyabule ,Chairperson Uganda Parliamentary Forum for Children; and Mr. James Kaboggoza Ssembatya Commissioner for Children in the MGLSD during a press conference at the National Child Justice Convention.

5.5 Great strides made in the Advocacy for the National Legal Aid Policy and Law



Hon. Mwesigwa Rukutana Deputy Attorney General and State Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs launches the research on cost benefit Analysis with the Chairperson of the Board, Mr. Samuel H. Nsubuga on 6th May 2016 at Hotel Africana.

The turning point of efforts to support the passing of the National Legal Aid Policy and Law happened in May 2016 when LASPNET mounted a media campaign a week preceding the launch of the Cost Benefit Analysis report, dubbed the “Access to Justice Campaign Week”, to popularize the need for the policy calling on the general public, LASPs, partners and stakeholders to add their voice to the call for government to fast track the enactment

of the National Legal Aid Policy and law. The week long access to justice awareness campaign was held to inform the general public and key stakeholders, highlight issues on access to justice, the need for legal aid and its importance to foster social- economic development. During this campaign, a call was made to all to rally behind the cause for a national legal aid policy and law in order to change the lives of majority of Ugandans. A Fifty radio jingles were ran on Radio West, Etop, Megha FM, Radio One and Radio Simba; four radio talk shows were held on CBS, Radio One, Akaboozi, Bukedde, Kagadi-Kibaale Community Radio, Jubilee Radio, Kingdom FM; four television interviews , frequent social media updates and interactions, one press release, a newspaper pullout in the New Vision, and opinion articles were written in newspapers by the LASPs such as FIDA and partners such like ISER about the milestones and challenges in access to justice and legal aid.

This culminated into the launch of the research on the Cost Benefit Analysis of the National Legal Aid policy and law on 6th May 2016 at Hotel Africana. The research showed the cost and benefit of the NLAP by analyzing the status of legal aid delivery as it is now as well as the benefits of legal aid in Uganda. It also provided an estimated cost of establishing a national legal aid body as well as the required restructuring of the oversight body (Law Council).The launch itself generated over fifteen press stories on different angles of justice and legal aid in various media. The above engagements resulted in government on 1st June 2016 listing the National Legal Aid Bill for consideration in the 10th parliament.

Bills to be tabled by Government before Parliament for consideration in the new session	
1	Agriculture Extension Bill
2	Amendment of the NAADS Act 2001
3	Amendment of the Universities and other Tertiary Institution Act (2011)
4	Fisheries (Amendment) Bill
5	National Coffee Bill
15	The National Legal Aid Bill, 2015
16	Uganda Wildlife 2015 Amendment Bill
17	Uganda Land Commission Bill
18	Landlord-Tenant Bill
19	NEMA Act (Amendment) Bill
20	The Climate Change Bill
21	Water Act (Amendment) Bill

This was published in the New Vision of 1st June 2016 pg 5.

5.6 Support to the Passing of the Children’s Amendment Act

LASPNET provided technical support to UCRNN and MGLSD before and during the enactment of the Children’s Amendment Act including the Executive Director being part of the technical bench that supported Parliament on 2ndFebruary 2016 when the amendment act was finally discussed and passed. Thereafter on 2nd March 2016, the Executive Director was hosted on the NTV News Night segment to discuss child adoption in light of the Children’s Amendment Bill.

She also joined UCRNN to meet the first lady to lobby for the assenting to the children’s Act. This meeting was held on 23rd May 2016 at State House Kampala. Thereafter, the Executive Director together with UCRNN and other selected organizations working on child protection were invited to State House- Entebbe on 2nd June 2016, for a round table discussion convened by the first lady of Uganda Hon. Janet K Museveni on children and women in Uganda. The first lady of Turkey was also in attendance. All these efforts resulted in the assenting to the amended children’s act on 23 May 2016.

5.7 Reigniting the Momentum on the Marriage and Divorce Bill

LASPNET collaborated with the International Governance Alliance (IGA) and FIDA-Uganda to convene a national dialogue on the *Evolving Status of the Divorce Law in Uganda*, on 24th March 2016, at Protea Hotel. The dialogue was supported by the Ford foundation and attended by representatives from the academia, human rights activists, LASPs and civil society. At the dialogue, participants emphasized innovation in utilization of the progressive marriage and divorce decision by courts of law pending enactment of the marriage and divorce bill. Efforts are under way to reignite the adoption process of the marriage and divorce bill and take forward the recommendations from the dialogue.

5.8 Position Papers on the Sexual Offences Bill 2015 and Human Rights Enforcement Bill, 2015

LASPNET prepared Position Papers on the Sexual Offences Bill and Human Rights Enforcement Bill, 2015 on 13th April 2016 and 22nd June, 2016 respectively. These were developed and presented to the Uganda Human Rights Commission.

5.9 Legal Aid Rapid Response & Regional Stakeholders meeting in the Rwenzori Region on emerging post-election violence

LASPNET conducted election observation and surveillance to provide on spot legal rapid response over a 4 months (January to April 2016) observation period and review of the election process in Uganda. A team of 30 lawyers and paralegals was deployed in 19 districts and several areas in Kampala to track cases of violence, human rights violations and challenges in accessing justice during the election period. The team operated in the districts of: Nakaseke, Luweero, Kampala, Mukono, Wakiso, Tororo, Iganga, Namutumba, Kamuli, Kapchorwa, Mbale, Busia, Jinja, Lira, Kasese, Ntoroko, Kyegegwa, Kyenjojo, Rakai, Rukungiri, Kibaale, Lamwo District and several areas in Kampala. The rapid response team was able to provide support to 136 out of the targeted 50 poor and/or vulnerable persons to get bond and or have their cases on electoral related matters dismissed. The findings of the election observation and rapid legal response were documented in a report where recommendations for reforms including: a reformed electoral body; new electoral laws; funding for political parties; and the role of police and the military in the electoral process were made. Most significantly, our findings revealed the urgency to have a National Legal Aid frame work that provided a state legal aid funded scheme to the poor and vulnerable. The findings were documented into a report and submitted to the Electoral Commission.



The Chairperson Electoral Commission, Eng. Badru Kigundu receives the report from the Chairperson, LASPNET Board on 16th August 2016 while the Treasurer, LASPNET Board, Mr. Mutimba Anthony looks on.

Furthermore due to the insecurity in the Rwenzori region just after the elections, a regional meeting to discuss the emerging human rights violations was convened with support from LASPNET'S Rapid response initiative by Association of Human Rights Organizations in Rwenzori Region (AHURIO) on behalf of LASPNET, on 21st March at the Uganda Human Rights Commission Regional Office in Fort portal, Kabarole. The key issues that emerged from the deliberations were that there was need to deploy paralegals and lawyers in the hot spots to identify the nature of cases and magnitude of the caseload as well as provide legal aid support and better coordination for the relevant JLOS institutions.

5.10 Supporting the Completion of the Chain of Justice

Arising out of the Land Justice Cluster meeting and feedback from members, LASPNET in partnership with the Uganda Court Bailiffs Association (UCBA) organized a half day stakeholders dialogue to share experiences and lessons; appreciate gaps and challenges and; make practical recommendations on how to engage and build synergies that will simplify the process of execution especially for the indigents and vulnerable. The interactive dialogue was opened by Hon. Justice Flavia Anglin Ssenoga, the Deputy Head of the Execution Division and closely followed by panel presentations from key players in the execution process of court orders in Uganda such as Bailiffs, the Police, and Registrar of the Execution Division. The dialogue highlighted issues of malpractices by bailiffs, elusive judgment debtors, political interference, and contempt of execution orders by police. It was closed by the Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Gulu, Captain Santos Okot Lapolo. Over 50 stakeholders from across the Justice System such as the representatives from the judiciary, JLOS, the Police, LASPs, Court Bailiffs, RDCs, and Representatives from State house, KCCA and the media fraternity participated in the dialogue. Resolutions included; the need for a body to regulate bailiff's services, pro bono services to be offered by bailiffs to the indigent and the need for decentralization of the services of the Land Protection Unit to at least the regional level.



Left: Mr. Bonny Rwamukaaga, President of the UCBA; Centre Hon. Justice Flavia Anglin Ssenoga Deputy Head Execution Division and Mr. Samuel Herbert Nsubuga, Chairperson, LASPNET Board

5.11 Advocacy through the Media

Media coverage for this period was mostly tagged to the Access to Justice Campaign that was run to promote the call by LASPs to government to fast track the passing of the National Legal Aid Policy; Rapid Legal response during the elections and after the elections. Below are some of the key media engagements in the reporting period:

LASPNET ran 50 radio jingles on 5 radio stations which included; Radio West in Mbarara, Etop Radio in Soroti, Megha FM in Gulu, Radio Simba and Radio One in Kampala. The message urged the public to ask their leaders to fast track the passing of the National Legal Aid Policy into law.

To highlight access to justice issues and the need to pass the National Legal Aid Policy, with the support from LASPs, five radio talk shows were held with LASP member organizations as active participants. CBS FM on 4th May hosted the Executive Director LASPNET; on 6th May Joan Natamba from Platform for Labour Action and Berna Bakkidde of LASPNET were hosted on Bukedde FM; On 9th May the Executive Director LASPNET was hosted on Radio One Talk Back; On the same date she was hosted on Spectrum, s Radio One together with Mr. Jaffer Senganda of Muslim Centre for Justice and Law (MCJL), and Mr. Richard Muganzi of Uganda Land Alliance (ULA).. Gard Benda of World Voices Uganda who is also the Vice Chairperson on the LASPNET Board was hosted on Kagadi Community Radio on 13th May. Another talk show was conducted on 20th June 2016 on CBS FM to inform the public about the Lwengo pilot intervention to explore sustainable legal aid through public private partnership.

Engagements on the National Legal Aid Policy continued with LASPNET's participation on six television interviews which were held on Urban TV on 3rd May, NTV 6th and 17th May 2016 on NTV@One and; Kingdom TV on 10th May 2016.

The Executive Director LASPNET also appeared on WBS TV on 29th February 2016 to discuss findings of LASPNET's rapid legal response; on 2nd March 2016, she appeared on the NTV News Night segment to discuss child adoption in light of the Children Amendment Bill and on 9th March 2016, she again appeared on WBS Television to talk about women and their challenges in accessing justice in light of the International Women's Day celebrated every 8th March.

Several interactions and sharing of information has continually been done on all social media platforms, such as; Twitter, Facebook, Whatsapp an email.

One press conference was held on 29th February 2016 at the Secretariat offices in Mengo, highlighting emerging election related issues and those encountered by the 23 rapid legal response advocates and paralegals deployed by LASPNET to provide surveillance in selected areas to support those who needed legal aid services during the electoral period.

Two press statements were shared on 18th and 29th February 2016 calling on all concerned stakeholders to respect constitutionalism, rule of law and access to justice during the post-election period. One other press statement was shared with media houses on 2nd May 2016 to highlight issues of access to justice, legal aid and the launch of the report of the Cost Benefit Analysis research. In addition, two articles were written on the need for the Electoral Commission to uphold the rule of law on 20th October 2015 and how lawful the concept of preventative arrest is on March 10th 2016.



Ms. Sylvia Namubiru, ED LASPNET explains legal aid on Urban TV During the A2J campaign.



Ms. Dora Kiconco, ED UGANET/LASPNET Board member explains the Cost Benefit Analysis research during the lunch time bulletin on NTV, 6th May 2016.



Newspaper article on the cost benefit analysis research.



ABOVE: Executive Director appearing on Morning at NTV on 16th December 2015 to discuss the Poverty Marginalization and Vulnerability in context of Access to Justice report.



A newspaper article on the launch of the Poverty, Vulnerability and Marginalisation Report in the context of Access to Justice.



BELOW LEFT: Hon Rukutana in a News bulletin speaking at the CBA launch.

5.12 Revitalizing the Cluster Meetings

The cluster meetings offer an opportunity for a collective voice by LASPs in thematic interest areas to deliberate and engage on emerging issues. LASPNET originally with 7 clusters now has 6 clusters focused on Criminal Justice, Child Justice, Gender Justice, Land Justice, Social Justice and the Traditional/Transitional Justice. The Transitional Cluster has been absorbed by the traditional justice due to only 2 members currently engaged in transitional justice issues.

A total of 7 thematic cluster meetings were held on 14th March 2016; 13th-14th April 2016 and 4th May 2016 and were highly participatory and interactive. In the meetings, the draft terms of reference guiding each cluster were reviewed, amended, and LASPs took ownership of the cluster.

The meetings resolved on action points such as: the need to hold to follow up with Bailiffs on the challenges of execution of court orders; the over stay on remand for children in conflict with the law; challenges of access to justice for persons with disability; the need to reengage relevant stakeholders on the Marriage and Divorce Bill, amongst others. The Social Justice cluster meeting held on 14th March, 2016 focused on exploring public Interest litigation (PIL) to see that the preventative arrest is pronounced unconstitutional or to petition court for review as an immediate remedy for Dr. Besigye and other victims. Overall there was appreciation for the revitalization of the cluster meetings.

Some of the action points that were taken forward include; the National Dialogue on Execution of Court Orders held as a result of recommendations from the Land Justice cluster; follow up with the Electoral Commission (EC) on the need to hold LCI and LCII elections, a key component of the justice system where the Chairperson of the EC explained that the elections had been delayed due to financial constraints. Engagements with the Principal Judge were done to discuss the issue of overstay of children on remand and he as a result assigned a Judge in the Criminal Division to handle juvenile offenders and a magistrate has been assigned to hear cases at the remand home. Overall, the cluster meetings met their objective and the strategic objective of LASPNET which is to provide a platform for LASPs to have a collective voice on issues on access to world justice and legal aid. This underscores the role of LASPNET to create synergies amongst its members.

6.0 EVIDENCE BASED RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Research on Poverty, Vulnerability, Marginalization in the Context of Access to Justice

A research that seeks to define key concepts of Poverty, Vulnerability and Marginalization in the context of access to justice in Uganda was conducted. The findings helped inform the Cost Benefit Analysis study to support the passing of the National Legal Aid Policy and Law. The draft research report on Poverty, Vulnerability and Marginalization was validated on 29th October 2015 at Piatto Restaurant. The final report was launched by the Hon Lady Justice Elizabeth Jane Alividza on 15th December 2015 on behalf of the Hon Principal Judge at Imperial Royale Hotel. It was attended by several representatives from the Judiciary including registrars, development partners, LASPs, academia as well as the media.



L-R Mads Mayerhofer-DGF Chairperson, Lady Justice Elizabeth Alividza- Commercial Court, Fredrick Walulya-General Secretary LASPNET, Martha Nanjobe -Programme Manager DGF, Sylvia Namubiru-Mukasa-ED LASPNET and Gard Benda-Vice Chairperson LASPNET at the launch of the report on Poverty, Marginalization and Vulnerability.

6.2 Research on the implications of the National Legal Aid Policy and Law

The research on the Cost Benefit Analysis of the NLAP was conducted and the report was officially launched by, Hon. Mwesigwa Rukutana, Deputy Attorney General on 6th May 2016 at Hotel Africana. Hon.Ruktana reaffirmed governments' commitment to establishing a harmonized legal aid mechanism for enhancing access to justice especially for the poor and vulnerable people. He commended LASPNET for the research saying that the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs now had a basis on which to convince the Ministry of Finance to fund the scheme.



Participants at the launch of CBA on 6th May 2016.

6.3 Production of user manual for LASPs and Child Advocates to improve Legal Aid Delivery to Children

A Child-Friendly Legal Aid Manual, was developed as part of the Uganda National Working Group (UNWG) of the Supporting Access to Justice for Children in East Africa project, which is supported by the Canadian Bar Association (CBA). In this role, LASPNET identified the need for the Manual to address capacity gaps amongst its members and other stakeholders in the child justice sector to provide child-friendly services. The Manual was developed with the support of Anna Du Vent, a Legal Intern from the Canadian Bar Association who was hosted by LASPNET for a period of 6 months. The Child-Friendly Legal Aid Manual provides Lawyers and other Stakeholders working in child justice with information to help them serve child clients in a child-friendly manner by upholding their rights and appreciating their unique vulnerabilities and needs. The manual was launched on 23rd March 2016 at Serena Lweza by Hon. Justice Eudes Keitirima the Masaka High Court Judge.



Hon. Justice Susan Okalany, Judge of Mbale High Court Circuit & former Chairperson Uganda National Working Group SAJCEA and Justice Eudes Keitirima, Resident Judge Masaka High court giving remarks at the launch of the Child Friendly Legal Manual at Serena Lweza.

7.0 ENHANCING LASPs' PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND COLLECTIVE VOICE

LASPNET held several capacity building initiatives as directed by the Capacity Development Strategy to improve service delivery and professional standards. Due to the nature of the training curriculum and relevance in the delivery of quality legal aid services, an application to the Uganda Law Council will be made seeking for accreditation of LASPNET as a CLE service provider for future trainings in the areas listed in the Capacity Building Strategy and Action Plan.

7.1 Trial Advocacy Training for LASPS and Local Faculty Training

The Trial Advocacy Training (TAT) is an annual program organized by LASPNET in collaboration with Justice Advocacy Africa (JAA) geared at deepening the skills of advocates to contribute to strengthening the judicial system in developing countries. In Uganda, the TAT is a pertinent training need for lawyers as most people who seek the services of advocates including legal aid services are indigent and illiterate in matters of law and human rights, hence unable to make a distinction between quality service and mediocrity. TAT is therefore an intervention to build the capacity of advocates in legal aid so that they can be better lawyers, provide better services and facilitate access to justice.



Mark Wagner Reviews a Recording of performance with the Trainee at the Trial Advocacy Training.

A training of legal aid advocates in Trial advocacy was held from 11th – 15th January 2016 at Esella Country Hotel. It was facilitated by Senior Practitioners from Justice Advocacy Africa to equip advocates with practical skills in court presentation. 33 LASP advocates were trained (24 female and 8 male).

As part of efforts for sustainability, some LASPS were trained as Trial Advocacy Teacher Faculty interns to equip some of them with skills on how to conduct a trial advocacy training in the absence of JAA as well as expand the training to other regions. This training was conducted on 18th – 20th January at Piato Restaurant. The trainees were taken through the trial advocacy training modules and equipped with practical skills on how to facilitate the modules, thus increasing on the number of the Ugandan Faculty by 18 (9 female and 9 Male).

7.2 Legal Aid Service Providers' Capacity Empowered to Participate as Election Observers

LASPNET participated in the election process for the first time as election observers. LASPNET members were trained on election observation in preparation for the February 2016 general elections. The training was held on 27th and 28th January 2016 at Fairway Hotel and was facilitated by an experienced faculty in election observation which included; National Democratic Institute, Netherlands Democratic Institute, HURINET, EC, CEON and CEWIT. Following accreditation by the EC, a total of 23 members were deployed in respective areas to provide rapid legal response to victims of election related violations. The feedback from the team was utilized in the development of press releases calling for the respect of the rule of law especially the right to access justice and the legality of the preventive arrest concept. A total of 136 persons were assisted by the advocates and were released without charge, or police bond and bail.



Exposure to setting up a polling station.



Role play of a Person with Disability being assisted at the polling station.

7.3 Plea Bargaining Workshop

LASPNET in partnership with the Judiciary organized a one day plea bargaining sensitization workshop on 6th June, 2016 at Kabira Country Club for legal aid advocates. The workshop opened by the Hon. Principal Judge, brought together 119 participants. The participants were drawn from LASPs, State Attorneys from the Directorate of Public Prosecution, Judges, the Chief Registrar and Technical Advisor from the Judiciary. The facilitators were drawn from the Judiciary training team including the Hon. Principal Judge; Justice Yorokamu Bamwine, the Criminal Division Head; Justice Wilson Masalu Musene, the Executive Director Judicial studies Institute; Hon. Dr. Justice Peter Adonyo, the Director of Public Prosecutions; Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, experienced judges from up country High Court Circuits as well as the technical team of the Judiciary comprising of the Chief Registrar, Paul W. Gadenya and the Coordinator on the Plea Bargaining programme who doubles as the Technical Advisor to the Judiciary, Mr. Andrew Khaukha. The participants acquired knowledge and skills on plea bargaining.



Front row: Left Ms. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa, Executive Director LASPNET; Hon Justice Peter Adonyo Executive Director Justice Studies Institute; Centre: Hon. Principal Judge, Justice Yorokamu Bamwine, Right: Hon Justice Mike Chibita the Director of Public Prosecutions Paul W. Gadenya at the Plea bargaining training.

7.4 Mediation & Psycho-socio Skills Enhanced

LASPNET in partnership with Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) held a training on Mediation and Conflict management on 7th, 8th and 10th June 2016 at Piato Restaurant. The training intended to equip advocates, student lawyers, and paralegals to learn the practical skills, strategies and techniques necessary for competent mediation practice. The two and a half day training brought together over 40 advocates, students, paralegals and psychosocial personnel from among the LASPNET member organisations. As a result of the training, participants acquired knowledge and skills in mediation on how to deal with emotions of both the mediator and the clients; the contents of an opening statement; the styles of mediation; the benefits of mediation; the BATNA principle in mediation and its applicability; how to deal with deadlocks and power imbalances; causes of conflict; how to separate the person from the problem; ethics in mediation among others. They also gained hands on skills in mediation and negotiation as well as the necessary communication skills required to facilitate a successful mediation process and skills required in counseling and psychotherapy, necessary for their day to day work.



Role play on the Mediation and Negotiation process.

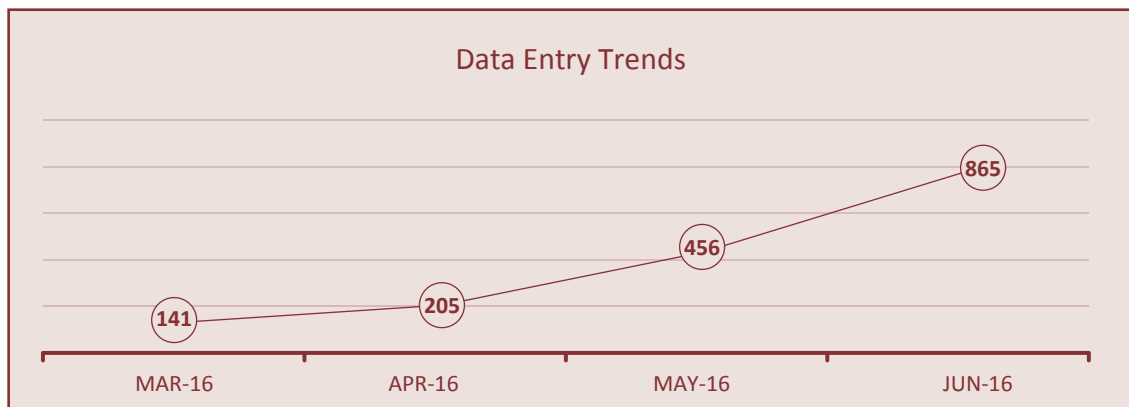
7.5 IIMS Training on practical knowledge and skills on the utilization by LASPs.

Following the redesign of the Integrated Information Management System (IIMS) to make it more functional and user friendly, a training of 40 LASPs was conducted on 15th & 16th February 2106 at Fairway hotel. The redesigned IIMS currently features the Client management, Basic Case management, Collaborative Case Management, Analytics and reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation and Client's satisfaction module. The training oriented LASPs on the redesigned IIMS, allowed them to contribute to its further improvement and the importance of its utilization. The training was hands on and involved training staff on all the functionalities of the IIMS. This has resulted in increased utilization of the IIMS. Training on IIMS utilization has continued with regular backstopping provided to the users like Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) , Public Interest Law Clinic(PILAC), Association of Women's Lawyers(FIDA); National Union of Disabled Persons in Uganda(NUDIPU); and Law Development Centre-Legal Aid Clinic (LDC-LAC). Prior to the redesign of the IIMS in August 2015, LEAP partners (Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) Human Rights Center Uganda (HRCU) were trained on 9th September 2015 and 24th of August 2015.



Practical sessions during the IIMS on 15th & 16th February 2016.

The system indicates that since training February to end of June a total summary of 865 cases had been entered into the system.



7.6 Monitoring and Evaluation Training

A Training of Trainers and Programme based training on Monitoring and Evaluation for 33 LASPs and key stakeholders who are Programme Officers' Project managers, M&E Officers and officers charged with tracking results was held on 30th November – 3rd December and 7th – 9th December 2015 respectively at Silver Springs hotel.

7.7 Other Trainings

A training for Legal Aid service providers on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights was held on Wednesday, 23rd March 2016 organized by LASPNET with financial support from one of its member organizations JURIA in partnership with CEHURD at Piato Restaurant.

A Programme based training for LASPs on Financial Management and Governance was held on 30th March 2016 at Piato Restaurant. The Training was facilitated by Ruth Hoffman from EDES Associates and Rita Kabatunzi. They provided their expertise free of charge courtesy of identification and good relationship with the Canadian intern Anna Du Vent who was hosted at LASPNET for 6 months under the SAJCEA Programme.

8.0 STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF LASPNET

LASPNET in the reporting period worked towards addressing issues affecting the effective functioning of members and the secretariat to deliver on their respective mandates. Below are some of the key achievements:

8.1 Enhancing the Capacity of Legal Aid Service Providers to Deliver Quality and Standardized Legal Aid Services

During the reporting period, an Organizational Capacity Assessment of 44 LASPs was conducted to ascertain existing capacity gaps and identify key interventions to improve service delivery. This process led to the development of a report and Capacity Development Strategy to support LASPs deliver action oriented and quality interventions. The Capacity Assessment report inclusive of a capacity building strategy and action plan were developed and validated on 28th October 2015 at Piato Restaurant which was attended by representatives of LASPs, Judiciary as well as development partners. The report and strategy were approved and adopted by the LASPNET Board on 6th November 2015.

8.2 New Strategic Direction for LASPNET

A new Strategic Plan for the period 2016-2020 was developed and validated on 8th October 2015 at Silver Springs hotel. The Strategic Plan was approved by the board on 2nd December 2015. Unlike previous strategic plans, it focuses on outputs rather than outcomes. Consequently, the theory of change is now focused on as an output of LASPNET as a diverse membership organization, a champion for legal aid that galvanizes and coordinates LASPs and other stakeholders to conduct evidence based policy analysis and advocacy on a holistic spectrum of issues affecting access to justice and leverages members' strength for increased collective impact on policies and practices related to access to justice.

The new plan also provides a restructuring of the organogram and creates new positions of Director Finance and Administration, Director Programmes, Lobbying and Advocacy officer, Research and Knowledge Management Officer, Networking and Partnership Officer, M&E Officer and Internal Auditor.

An ICT officer was recruited in February 2016 to manage the IIMS by supporting members on various IIMS modules. This was to support the Information, Communication and Documentation officer (now the Networking, Coordination and Partnership Officer) and Research and Advocacy officer (now the Research and Knowledge Management Officer) recruited in September in 2015. The recruitment process for the Director of Programmes has been finalized.

8.3 Subscription to Online Library:

In a bid to support LASPs access acts, regulations, case law and other relevant information, LASPNET renewed subscription to the Uganda On-line law library for all LASPs. It is envisaged that the usage of this platform will result into improvement of quality of service provided and also provide information for policy influence.

8.4 Support Supervision of LASPNET Members

The Secretariat conducted its annual peer review and monitoring visits to LASPs, their

branches and like-minded organizations. The year's visits were conducted between 12th April and 15th June 2016 and they sought to identify good practices, innovations and concerns on access to justice and legal aid, track progress and provide support on IIMS installation and utilization and provide a report to inform LASPNET's advocacy. The visits were eye opening and some of the key issues emerging included the challenges with internet connectivity; communication by LASPs with their branches and the need to consider holding regional trainings amongst others. Furthermore, views of members on board diversification and gender mainstreaming at the Board level were gathered. Overall, the majority of the LASPs believe that there should be a constitutional amendment to address the issue of gender representation at board level.



Demonstration of the IIMS to Staff of NUDIPU, Iganga, during membership visit held on 26th May 2016.

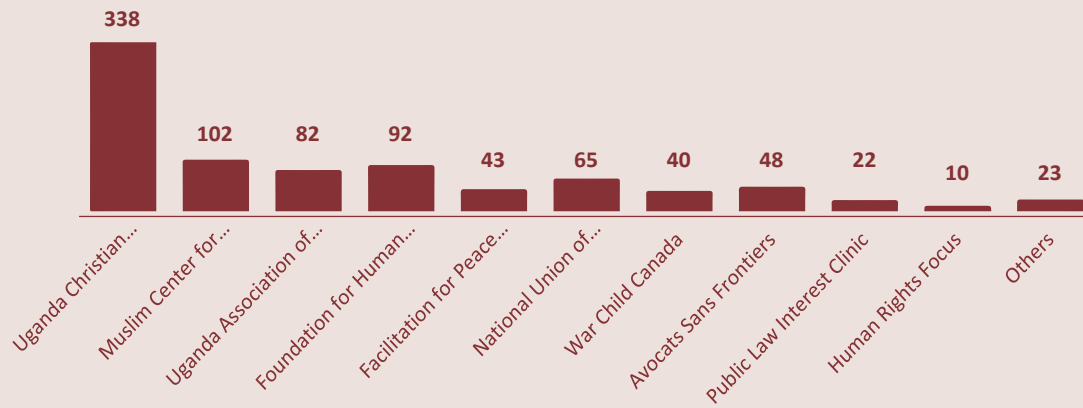
8.5 Monitoring and reporting enhanced through roll out of the upgraded IIMS

Following the feedback on the challenges with the use of the IIMS, the system was redesigned and upgraded to include secondary components to enable advanced information sharing, clients satisfaction collaboration and coordination among LASPs. These components include case management; refer case module analytics, reporting, the clients' module and clients' satisfaction module and the GIS driven M&E module that will help users to view, understand, question, interpret, and visualize data in form of maps, globes, reports, and charts and many ways that reveal patterns, trends and interrelationships that would be more difficult to discover using ordinary data structures. The new face of IIMS has been well received by many organizations that have enrolled and enter data. There is a general acceptability based on informal and formal feedback received from the users with 34 LASPs and LEAP partners currently enrolled and 12 being active users of the system. Furthermore, an application for the copyright registration of the IIMS has been granted by the Uganda Registration Services Bureau.

Below are demonstrations of some of the functionalities of the IIMS as of June 30th 2016:

Tabular Summary Recommendation Action						
Gender	Mediation	Negotiation	Legal Advice	Abitration	Reconciliation	Total
Male	36	3	76	0	1	159
Female	16	3	31	0	1	54
Total	53	6	107	0	3	215

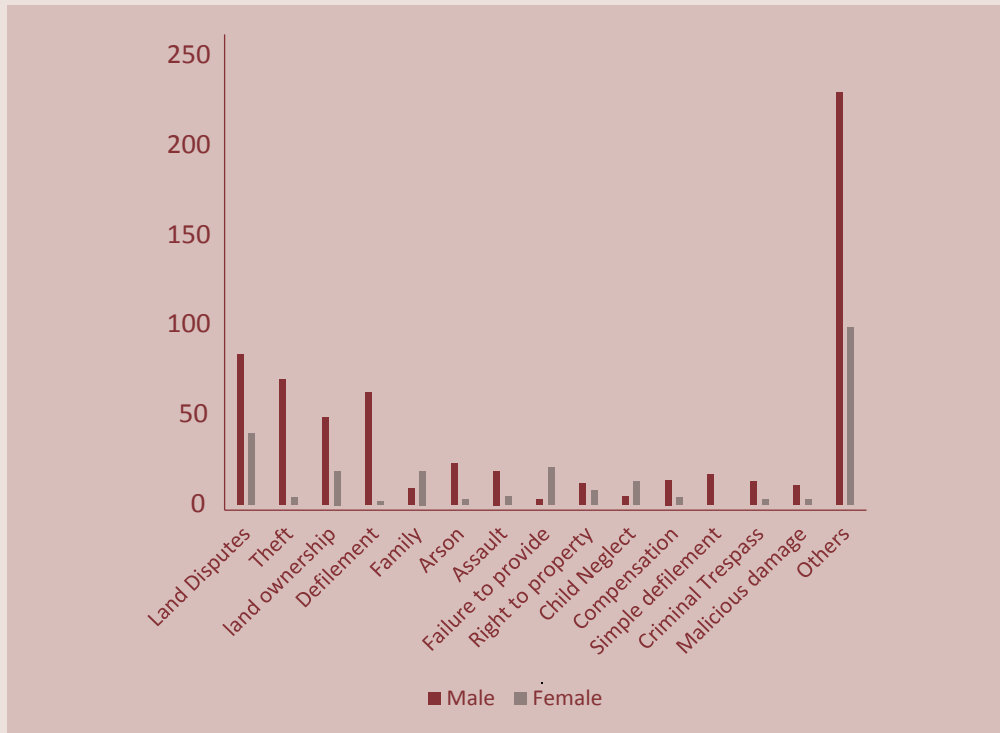
Active Member Organisations



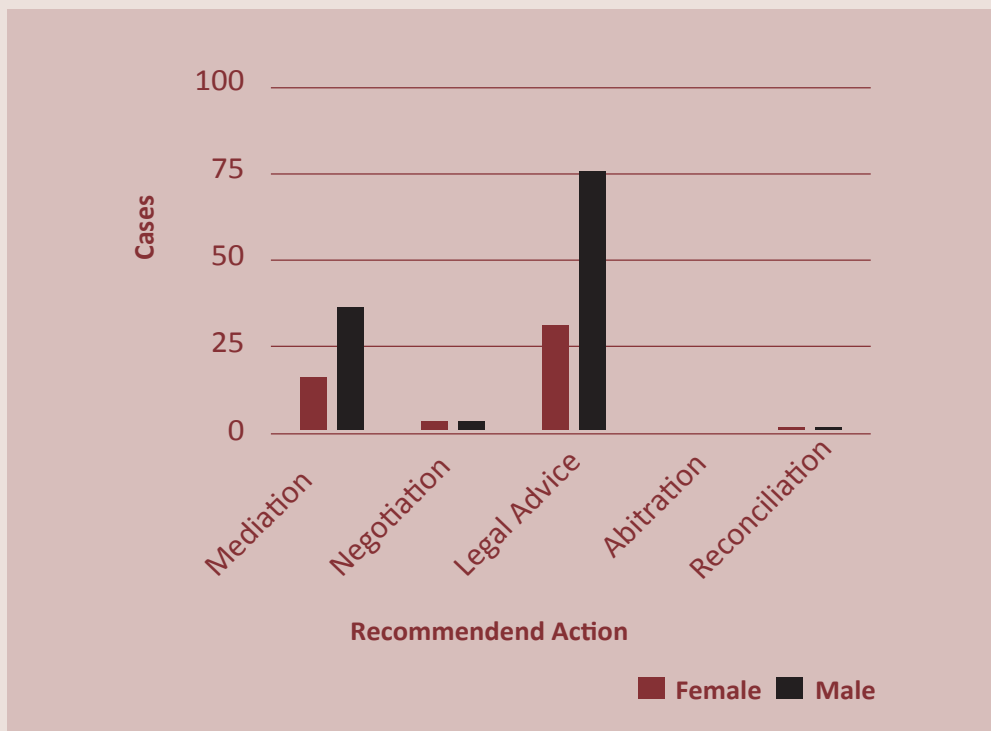
Case Nature of Cases Handled

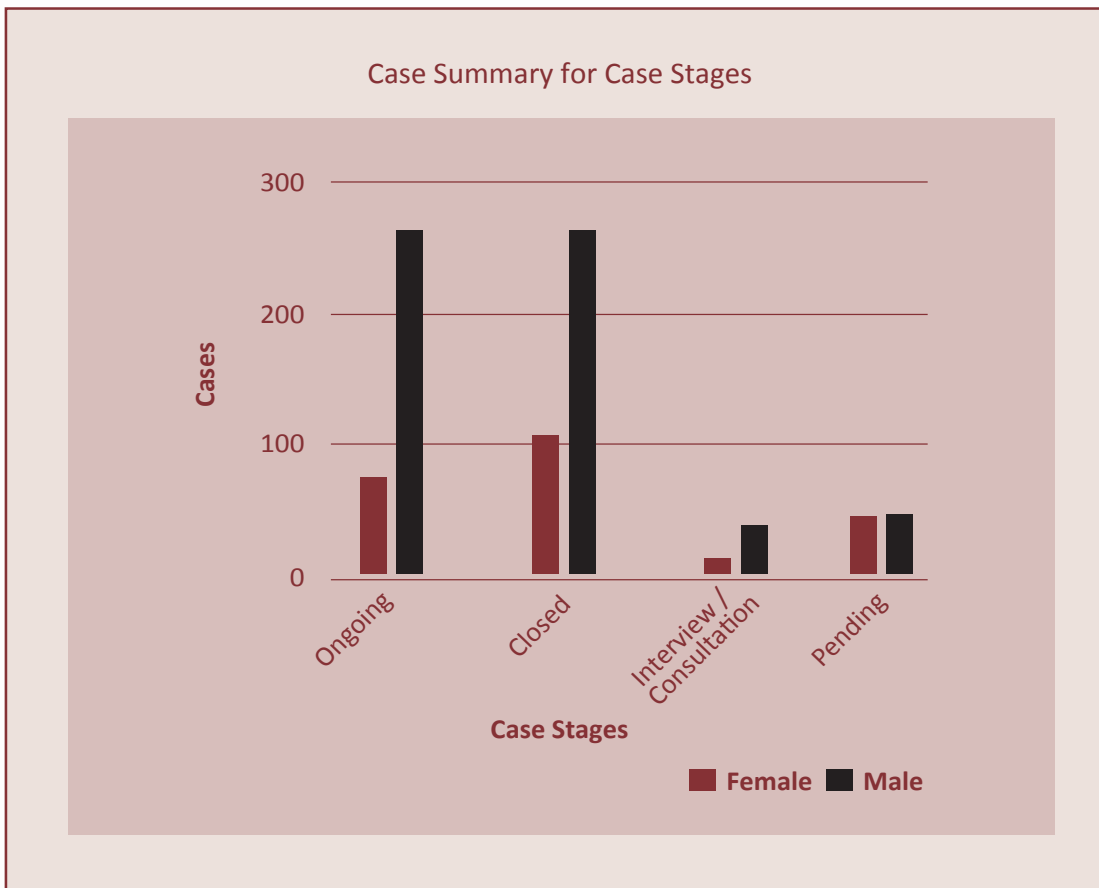
Nature of Case	Male	Female	Total
Land Disputes	84	40	124
Theft	70	4	74
land ownership	49	19	68
Defilement	63	2	65
Family	9	19	28
Arson	23	3	26
Assault	19	5	24
Failure to provide	3	21	24
Right to property	12	8	20
Child Neglect	5	13	18
Compensation	14	4	18
Simple defilement	17	0	17
Criminal Trespass	13	3	16
Malicious damage	11	3	14
Others	230	99	329
Grand Total	622	243	865

Case Nature of Cases Handled



Case Summary for Recommend Action





8.6 Institutional Building through Capacity Development of Staff

Team Building: The Secretariat was trained on team building, research and advocacy, financial management and accounting, project planning and management, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, from the 9th – 11th September 2015 at Esella Country hotel to boost their capacity to serve the membership. Team building also served as an orientation for the newly recruited Information Communications, Documentation Officer (now the Networking, Coordination & Partnerships Officer and the Research & Advocacy Officer (now the Research and Knowledge Management Officer).

New Year Planning Staff Retreat: The Secretariat held a retreat from 31st January-2nd February 2016 at Garuga Resort. One of the key sessions was facilitated by John Jacobs a performance management consultant and motivational speaker. The retreat also provided an opportunity for the staff to develop the programmes and financial work plans which were incorporated into the LASPNET annual work plan and budget that was later approved by the board.

Using Technology to Build Capacity of the Board: The board and staff on the 3rd of March 2016 had a skype training on Board Governance at the LASPNET secretariat. The training was facilitated by Terry Carter from Carters Professional Corporation an expert with vast experience on board governance issues in Canada. The training was organized with support from the Intern from the Canadian Bar Association.

8.7 LASPNET Board and Committees

The outgoing Board of 8 Male and 1 Female was elected on 21st November 2014 and they have provided tremendous support to the members and the Secretariat. Following the resignation of Mr Phillious Karibwije the Eastern regional representative from the Board; Ms Priscilla Aling from LEMU was elected as the Eastern regional representative at the AGM held on 23rd October 2015 at Serena Hotel. A total of 7 Board meetings against the planned 4 have been held to discuss policy and management of programme related issues during the period under reporting. And a total of 8 committee meetings have been held to provide oversight to programmes, activities finance, supervision of recruitment, attending to membership issues as they emerge.

Board Pictorial



Mr. Samuel Herbert Nsubuga
Chairperson



Mr. Gard Benda
Vice Chairperson



Mr. Fedrick Walulya
General Secretary



Mr. Anthony Mutimba
Treasurer



Mr. Paul Kavuma
Central Region Rep.



Mr. Fred Kaahwa
Western Region Rep.



Ms. Priscilla Aling
Eastern Region Rep.



Mr. Samuel Baker Odong
Northern Region Rep.



Ms. Dora Kiconco
Member on Merit

8.8 LASPNET Staff



Executive Director

Ms. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa

She provides strategic and technical leadership to the Secretariat and ensure smooth administration and day today running of the Secretariat .She is also the link of the Network to external partners and stakeholders.



Finance and Administration Officer

Mr. Geoffrey Lutaaya

He provides comprehensive financial management and administrative support to LASPNET that includes: monitoring of funds; production of regular management accounts and reports; preparation of budget annual and quarterly budgets, management of income and expenditure; maintenance of financial systems and procedures and support for strategic improvement.



Networking, Partnership and Coordination Officer

Ms. Jamidah Namuyanja

She is responsible for maintaining and developing existing memberships and partnerships through communication and information sharing ,plays a leading role in capacity development of membership as well as liaising with partners and members to develop, deliver and evaluate network's needs, supports the development and validation of progress reports and plans along with Programme implementation, coordination, documentation and multi-channelled communication.



Research and Knowledge Management Officer

Ms. Violah Ajok

She coordinates action research in key areas vital for LASPNET interventions and Programme development. She undertakes research on behalf of the organization and disseminate the results to relevant parties. She also takes the lead in implementing the organisation's Knowledge Management Strategy within the employed structure and advise the Executive Director and the Director of Programmes on research, knowledge management and information systems.



Information Technology Officer

Mr. Godfrey Baluku

He is responsible for managing and maintenance of computer systems within LASPNET. He is more specifically responsible for smooth running and functioning of Integrated Information Management System of LASPNET(IIMS), oversee its installation, ensure back-up systems operate effectively, take lead in the purchase Computer hardware and software, provide ICT technology infrastructures for LASPNET and Contribute to organizational policy regarding quality standards and strategic planning.



Accounts and Administration Assistant

Mr. Barnabas Barango

He provides support to the Finance and Administration Officer in financial accounting and reporting standards, logistics and Administration. He therefor assists the Finance and Administration Officer in making timely payment of all accounts including supplier invoices, re-imbusement to staff, bank transfers, payroll liabilities in line with LASPNET policies, procedures and authorizations. Maintain petty cash and proper filing system for all transactions, within assigned responsibilities, for audit and accounting purposes



Driver /Messenger

Mr. Leonard Kaye

He is responsible for providing reliable and safe driving services. He is also in-charge of maintaining the assigned vehicle(s) in excellent working condition, logging, mileage and keep track of fuel consumption and vehicle servicing.



Program Assistant

Mr. Kiirya Tadeo

Mr. Kiirya Tadeo provides support to the programmes department, front desk management, and other administrative functions as assigned at the Secretariat. He holds a bachelor's degree in development studies (Honors) and a certificate in gender project planning and management both from Makerere University.



Volunteer lawyer:

Ms. Achen Daphine

A lawyer by profession and Advocate of the High Court of Kenya, she provides direct support to the programmes department under the supervision of the Networking Partnership and Coordination officer. She is also supporting the FGG Project funded by Action Aid.



Volunteer Lawyer:

Ms. Natembo Aisha

She supports the Lwengo legal aid project as well as the programmes department under the supervision of the research, Knowledge management officer. She holds a Bachelor's degree in law from the Islamic University in Uganda and a postgraduate Diploma from the Law Development Centre.

8.9 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 23rd October 2015 at Serena Hotel. It was well attended with over 60 participants. Key of the outcomes of the AGM was the resolution that increased the annual subscription fee from 100,000 to 200,000 to support efforts towards sustainability.

9.0 LESSONS LEARNT, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The year July 2015 to June 2016 has provided many lessons and challenges which LASPNET has exploited as opportunities. The strength of networking, and building coalitions has been vital to achieving success. The Network built on the engagement of active members and donor technical and financial support.

However, the critical challenges including it being an election year, prohibitive legislation which limited timely execution of activities and effective results in advocacy. Also, the narrowing space of NGOs, office breaks-ins, political will, increasing impunity and the new leadership at the time of high momentum of the legal aid policy. Some of the challenges turned out to be lessons for opportunities such as below:

9.1 CHALLENGES

Election period: One of the key challenges was the election period as political aspirants focused on mobilization of funds for their political aspirations. Due to this factor, it was not easy to align LASPNET's strategic goals in access to justice with the sector priorities and ensure timely feedback and conclusion on matters arising.

Furthermore, the nature of cases handled during the elections were sensitive and it was difficult to get information and deploy advocates who would be interested in representing such victims in hot spots like Rwenzori region. The strategy has always been to work with and within the systems, identify champions and agents of change and use them to reach out to the gatekeepers since it's not easy to deal with institutions and or individuals.

Integrated Information Management System (IIMS): Acceptability of the IIMS by the membership was initially slow and seen as a tool for investigating organizations. However with further engagements, participation, redesigning of the system and training the users in addition to highlighting the benefits, the level of acceptability and utilization of the system has greatly improved.

Additionally, most of the organizations that log onto the system consistently face a challenge of internet access. During the monitoring visits, a key critical outcome and recommendation from the members was the development of an offline version of the IIMS. A system that will work without necessarily connecting to the internet, a recommendation the secretariat is working towards.

Demand for LASPs: Many LASPs are increasingly being called upon to support many poor, vulnerable and marginalized persons yet the demand is not commensurate with resources to enable them effectively provide services.

Competing Priorities: Implementation of activities during the year especially in the second quarter January to March were often affected due to competing priorities of the membership in addition to the election period's numerous activities.

Absence of streamlined communication: Staff members in some of the branch offices of LASPs have limited knowledge about LASPNET and its activities despite their secretariats in Kampala being highly involved in LASPNET events. This showed the existing gaps in communication within those particular organizations and for the Network as well.

CEO and Chairpersons forums: During this project period, the CEOs and Chairpersons

forums were not conducted. However, upon consensus it was agreed that the challenges as discussed should be shared in subsequent advocacy forums such as the access to Justice Conference for a wider stakeholders input.

9.2 LESSONS LEARNED

The reporting period has provided an opportunity to learn certain lessons to inform future interventions:

Strategic Partnerships with Government: While lobbying and advocating for policy changes, it is important to rally government support at all stages of development of the statement or research. This increases ownership of the interventions and easier acceptability by the government. This approach has been adopted for advocacy for formulation of the NLAP.

Collaboration with Media: Rallying efforts of the membership and Media (print and social media, visual) especially in advocacy and policy engagements increases ownership and justification to the causes. This has been the approach for the development of the NLAP through the Access to Justice Campaigns which was used to popularize the need for the NLAP and Legal aid Bill as one of the priority legislation for the 10th Parliament.

Synergies and Coalitions: To amplify voices on issues of access to justice especially for those considered sensitive, there is need collaborate, create synergies and coalitions. The collaboration with International Governance Alliance (IGA) and FIDA-Uganda, the CSOs amicus curie application under CEON- U are examples of such coalitions and collaborative efforts. The formation of the task force to support the passing the National Legal Aid Policy a week prior to the launch helped build momentum before and after the launch of the research report on the cost benefit analysis of the NLAP and Law. Consequently, LAPSNET will work towards documenting and costing an advocacy strategy to ensure that the NLAP policy and law are passed.

Evidence Based Research: Comprehensive researches are vital to inform and support in-depth advocacy strategies. This was the key recommendation from the research on “Poverty, Marginalization and Vulnerability in the context of access to Justice “It is suggested that more in-depth research on where the poor are found and impact of poverty on their lives would lead to targeted interventions.

10.0 WAY FORWARD

LASPNET will build on the achievements and use the lessons learned in the previous year to research, advocate on legal aid particularly the passing of the National Legal Aid Policy and Law, highlighting issues of access to justice. This will be undertaken by exploring new advocacy initiatives, documenting issues in access to justice and leveraging the use of technology particularly the IIMS. In addition, LASPNET will explore avenues for cost effective and sustainable legal aid. To ensure sustainability and explore cost-effective ways of service delivery, LASPNET together with r DGF and selected LASPS who include FIDA- U, PILAC, BFL, explored initiated a with the Lwengo District Local Government. As a result, an introductory visit was done on 26th January 2016 and one radio programme conducted on 20th June 2016 on CBS FM to inform the public on this intervention. Plans to start implementation are under way. In addition, the Network will work towards enlarging the Secretariat to cover up the human resource gaps. In the next year, the access to justice research, and monitoring corruption in the justice system amongst other innovations will be the key focus.

Furthermore, LASPNET will gear efforts toward building partnerships with likeminded institutions and intensify efforts towards raising resources from likeminded development partners in addition to complement the tremendous support from the Democratic Governance Facility.

11.0 LASPNET IN PICTURES



Participants at the launch of the Child friendly manual.



LASPNET members after the training on Financial Management held on 30th March at Piato Restaurant.



M&E Secretariat Northern Region visit to the ACTV office in Gulu on 17th May 2016.



LASPNET Board Members and Staff after the Board Governance and Management training via Skype.



Breakfast Advocacy task force meeting for the Access to Justice Campaign week to discuss implementation of the campaign held on 29th April 2016 at Namirembe Guest House.



Civil Society Stakeholders at the Press Conference to condemn office break-ins held on 23rd May 2016 at HRAPF offices.



Above: Staff of the Secretariat at the Staff retreat at Garunga Country Resort.

RIGHT: R-L: Ms Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa ED LASPNET, Ms Irene Ovonji Odida ED FIDA-U AND Mr Mohammed Ndifuna ED HURINET-U leaving the Supreme Court after the filing the Amici Curiae application.





1. Ms. Anna Du Vent (2nd from left) shows off her plaque of appreciation from LASPNET during her farewell dinner held on 24th March, at Mediterraneo restaurant Kampala. Looking on is Justice Okalany (extreme left) Ms. Jennifer Khor, CBA International initiatives Director (2nd from right) and Ms Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa LASPNET Executive Directors.

Group photo of the Chief Guest His Worship Jamson Kalemani, Chief Magistrate Buganda Road Court, Justice Advocacy Africa faculty and Trial Advocacy Trainees.

2. Members of CEON with Eng Badru Kigundu (in blue checkered shirt), the Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission after a meeting to express their concerns regarding the conduct of the general elections on 18/02/16.



3. R-L Mr. Crispy Kaheru, the Coordinator of CCEDU, Ms. Jamidah Namuyanja, the LASPNET Network Coordination and Partnership Officer and Ms. Priscilla Kimono, a LASPNET Volunteer at the launch of the "Topowa - Honour Your Vote" campaign held in September 2015 in Kampala.



Participants at National Dialogue on Execution of court orders held on 27th May 2016 at Hotel Africana.

12.0 OUR MEMBERSHIP IN FOCUS

LASPNET members are organized under 6 areas of thematic interest of Land Justice, Gender Justice, Traditional/transitional Justice, Child Justice, and Criminal Justice. Below are some key highlights of the work done by twenty one member organizations. A lot was done that cannot be reflected in the network annual report hence the few highlights given.

African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV)

Legal Advisory & Support: ACTV provided support to 176 persons of whom 121 received legal advice, 53 were referred, 2 cases filed as cases of public interest. Legal advice was given in both office and prison to survivors of torture on how to institute criminal proceedings against the perpetrators of torture and on how to lodge formal complaints before court against those who have violated their right to freedom from torture.

The 2 Public interest litigation cases filed were of: Jasper Natukunda Vs AG & Christopher Ruhunde HCCS 2/15- & Yahaya Lukwago & 4 others Vs AG HCCS 226/15 were filed of torture by police officer and Torture in prison custody.

Also witness protection was offered to survivors of torture whose insecurity on their persons was being threatened. Field investigations were conducted in June, 2015 investigation was on torture of Yahaya Lukwago & 4 others above in prison custody in Jinja & May, 2016 on torture in Walukuba police station leading the death of one the suspects.

Capacity building: 3 trainings were conducted on the anti-torture law. The trainings were held for state attorneys, lawyers & criminal investigators training intelligence officers at muhooti barracks, training of counter terrorism UPDF soldiers & officers at Singo barracks.

Other key activity: Advocacy efforts were undertaken in the cases of : Mulindwa Mukasa V Julius Caesar Tusingwire- torture of a journalist by a police officer & Issa Wazemba Vs AG HCCS NO. 154/2016--a violation of freedom from torture by the UPDF.

Association of Human Rights Organizations (AHURIO)

Legal Advisory and Support: AHURIO supported 106 clients through referral, and legal aid provision. They coordinated key stakeholders in the post electoral geo- ethnical and political violence experienced in the region. Some of the key stakeholders included; Kabarole District Justice Chain Linked Coordination Committee, UCLF in Kasese. Justice Centers, the Uganda Prison Paralegals, UHRC and WVU. AHURIO also participated in rapid legal response during the election period.

Community sensitization: They conducted sensitization on Plea Bargaining at Katojo Government Prison aimed at reducing prison decongestion and court case backlog. Community sensitization dialogue meeting and radio programs on torture prevention and the anti-torture law.

Capacity building: AHURIO provided support to the women prisoners' crafts and soap making livelihood skilling program, capacity building training of 250 Human Rights Defenders in the seven districts of the Rwenzori region and participated in peace building and conflict resolution training with support from International Alert. They also conducted research on economic effects of Hima cement mining operations on the health and environmental impact on the population.

Centre for Legal Aid (CLA)

CLA is the largest public interest human rights LASP in Uganda, at least in terms of both pending and completed civil liberties and human rights cases in recent times.

Categories of Persons supported with Legal Advisory Services: CLA clients are dissenters, protesters and “rebels”, especially political opposition and civil society activists, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender and queer people who are essentially unpopular, controversial or critical people who express themselves in public in ways that are regarded by the majority as intolerable, outrageous or offensive. Some are routinely placed under surveillance by the State and prevented from exercising their constitutional rights simply because of who they are or what they believe in.

Strategic/Public Interest Litigation: CLA is the only LASP to have taken the Law Council to Court for denying CLA’s the renewal of licensed status for the years 2014 and 2015. Officially known as High Court Miscellaneous Cause No. 87 of 2015 – Centre for Legal Aid v. Attorney General, the determination of this case will hopefully improve the operating environment for all LASPS.

Strategic Impact Litigation success story: In the Milk Case, officially known as High Court Miscellaneous Cause No. 113 of 2015 – Uganda National Dairy Traders Association Ltd v. Dairy Development Authority & Attorney General, CLA represented the umbrella group of over 50,000 dairy traders who successfully challenged a ministerial order banning the marketing and vending of “unpacked” and “unlabeled” milk in cities and municipalities. This case – decided on 21 April 2016 – is significant for two reasons. First, the Court departed from its earlier decisions in which it had declined to quash ministerial regulations having been successfully persuaded by our legal team to adopt a progressive approach to democratic accountability and social justice. Secondly, the Court – in very strong terms – registered its condemnation of the undemocratic practice of “secret lawmaking” by government agencies mandated to regulate businesses of the rural poor. We have therefore protected the right of Ugandan people to be consulted before subsidiary legislation is passed by their public bodies.

Center for Public Interest Law (CEPIL)

CEPIL aims at upholding the principles of good governance and democracy; and human rights by ensuring that every citizen in Uganda has equal access to social, economic, and political opportunities.

Legal Advisory and Support: CEPIL has handled ten public interest cases in the reporting period. These matters are still ongoing in the Constitutional Court. One such matter is CEPIL V Attorney General Constitutional Petition No 20 of 2016, that seeks to challenge the acts and conduct of Parliament (which are set out in the petition) in debating and passing the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2016 as are inconsistent with and/or in contravention of Articles 92, 93 (a) (i), (b) and 79(1) of the Constitution.

Another such matter is; CEPIL Vs AG, Constitutional Petition No, 40 of 2015 that seeks to challenge the Constitutionality of the sub judice rule. The Petitioners also aver that the act of denying the Petitioner information concerning the interview process, together with the results of all the candidates interviewed for the position of the Deputy Chief Justice and the recommendation to the President on the appointment on the basis that such information is sub judice as a result of pending court proceedings is of the deputy Chief Justice is inconsistent with Article 29(1) (a), 41(1) and 43(1) of the Constitution.

Child Rights Empowerment & Development Organization (CEDO)

Legal Advisory and Support: CEDO through the community land rights for peace has been able to support 251 (66 M, 85F) clients of whom 110 (48M, 62F) were walk-in clients, while 41(18M, 23F) were supported during field support and follow-up visits to victims community dialogues. Additionally, another 110 (47M, 63F) clients were reached using the CEDO legal helpline. Out of these, 49 (20M, 29F) received legal aid online support; while the other 61(17M, 44F) mainly needed clarifications on legal issues. 54 (44M, 10F) other disputes were addressed through counseling and boundary opening while 7 pending cases were also resolved through mediation. By the end of the reporting period, only 13 cases (08M, 5F) were pending at the CEDO legal desk.

Community sensitization: CEDO has actively been conducting various community awareness on human rights and land rights by working with a network of human rights defenders and police community liaison officers in Masindi, Buliisa, Kiryandongo and Hoima Districts. These sessions helped with securing release on bond for 35(31M, 4F) suspects from Hoima and Masindi districts alone.

Facilitation for Peace and Development (FAPAD)

Legal Advisory and Support: 14 cases of land and 1 case of theft were successfully concluded through legal representation. Further monitoring visits and follow up were done in 12 land cases and 42 mobile legal aid clinics were conducted for the same cause. Also, FAPAD conducted 82 mediation sessions benefiting 5000 people. These were specifically done for 42 land cases, 20 child cases, 10 GBV cases and 10 other property rights.

Community sensitization: FAPAD carried out 62 community dialogue policing from which 10000 members of the community benefitted.

Capacity Building: 126 people were trained on human rights issues and FAPAD staff attended 10 capacity development trainings on M&E, resource mobilization, integrated information management system, mediation, advocacy, and litigation skills.

FIDA (Uganda Association of Women Lawyers)

Case Management: In the reporting period: FIDA supported 1026 (299 males and 727 females) persons with legal advice and 300 cases were resolved satisfactorily. FIDA is more inclined to using ADR as opposed to court representation given that it is cheap, takes less time to attain justice. 757 cases were registered for ADR with 472 of them being resolved with memorandum of understanding signed. Of the 117 cases filed in courts only 13 of them were concluded. In an effort to support women and children better, FIDA Uganda intends to create family justice centers. These centers will bring services closer to the people and this will in turn not only widen the scope of clientele but also to widen the scope of operation of FIDA as a whole.

Capacity building: FIDA trained and empowered women to be self-reliant through the economic empowerment/livelihoods activities that were done using the Self Actualisation Model (SAM). Women were trained in handy skills such as costing, quality assurance and marketing for their items. They were also trained in individual coaching sessions in which the women were sensitised on their roles and obligations towards their children and the need for economic empowerment and independence of the mind as a whole. As a result, women have started up income generating activities through which they are applying the skills learnt.

Other key highlights: FIDA Uganda was able to set up an institutionalized monitoring

and evaluation framework where the M&E officer provides guidance on the timelines of implementation, analysis of data and trends that inform the programming as well as highlight the outcomes as a result of our interventions. Through this framework FIDA has noticed that the legal education activities conducted in the past year have improved public legal awareness of the law and the legal framework for the protection of women's rights. FIDA has also registered an improvement in documentation in all its offices as a result of the same.

FIDA Uganda also launched a new website which was a major event for the institution. The website is now more frequently used to post updates on the FIDA activities as well as the best practices and success of FIDA as an institution.

Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)

Legal Advisory and Support: FHRI supported a total of 726 victims of human rights abuse cases (376 male and 350 female). Out of these, 472 (241 male and 231 female) walked into FHRI seeking legal assistance while 254 (135 male and 119 female) were reached through legal aid camps run in 5 districts. Furthermore, through the toll free phone facility another 1,868 clients (1,345 male and 523 female) received legal advice.

Community Sensitization: Legal rights awareness sessions that reached a total of 2,719 community members (1,705 males and 1014 females) were conducted. Also 196 local leaders (135 male and 61 female) in the target districts were trained. FHRI was hosted on two radio programs i.e. Jinja: Basoga Bainso 87.7FM on 14th September 2015 and on Radio Kira FM 16th November 2015 in Jinja. Masaka: 96.2FM on 24th August 2015 and Buladde FM 100.7FM on 9th November 2015 in Masaka district.

Other key activities: The escalating election violence prompted the FHRI Legal Aid Unit in collaboration with CEON-U, PILAC and UCLF to proactively assemble a rapid response legal team to provide immediate legal assistance to victims of election violence. The response team, through a call center set up at Hotel Africana on 18th and 19th February 2016, assisted a total of 370 callers (349 male and 21 female) across the country. The legal officers provided legal advice to callers on cases of unlawful arrests and detention of voters. The team also alerted the Uganda Police and the Uganda Electoral Commission of potential violence triggers such as cases of alleged vote stuffing, voter bribery and missing names on the National Voter Register that had been reported to the call center. Also a report on the State of Human Rights in the Elections report was launched.

Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF)

Legal support and advisory: HRAPF provided legal aid to 448 cases, during the reporting period. The beneficiaries included: 281 indigent women, 103 men, 96 persons living with HIV, 62 elderly with land challenges and 2 children from central Uganda. The nature of cases included; 86 trespass, 48 inheritance, 67 illegal eviction, 33 family disputes, 12 illegal transfer, 31 Will making, 23 Child neglect, 5 quarry destruction of property, 8 domestic violence, 4 banishment from the village, 3 discrimination due to HIV status, 8 employment disputes, 8 criminal trespass, 6 refusal of banks to hand over sale agreements and 17 other cases. Also legal aid services were provided to 262 cases of LGBTI persons and sex workers these cases covered 62 were child neglect matters, 49 criminal arrests without prosecution, 20 criminal arrests with prosecution, 23 organizational matters, 18 assault cases, 8 blackmail cases, 9 asylum cases, 10 cases of threatening violence, 10 educational matters, 8 property matters, 2 sexual harassment cases, 8 family rejection cases, 6 cases for change of name, 5 employment matters, 3 abortion cases, 2 cases of theft and 10 other cases.

Capacity building: Four trainings for a total of 230 local council court executives in Nakasongola district were conducted on the procedure and decision making of their courts as described in the Local Council Court Act of 2006. Also, two paralegal trainings of, 17 new paralegals from the LGBTI community were held and 5 paralegal sharing sessions where paralegals share their experiences were held.

Community sensitization: Paralegals supported by HRAPF lawyers were able to resolve 132 cases. HRAPF also conducted 28 awareness sessions and reached out to 1250 persons with information on laws and human rights as result 58 cases were concluded and 35 cases referred to the clinic. Furthermore 16 legal awareness sessions on the human rights principles and basic human rights, land laws, Will making and patient's rights in Central Uganda which were attended by 995 participants (531 were men and 452 and 12 were children) who were sensitized on the human rights principles and basic human rights, land laws, will making and patients' rights. Thirteen radio talk shows were held on Sun FM, Kingdom FM, Buwama FM, Family FM and Mboona FM radio stations in which issues of different human rights concerns were discussed. 38 people called in and 32 cases were registered as a result of the talk shows.

Islamic Women Initiative for Justice Law and Peace (IWILAP (Formerly Ashah Razyn Foundation))

Legal advisory and support: IWILAP supported 410 clients (297 male while 113 were female). Out of the cases registered, 243 were completed in office through ADR while 45 cases were completed in courts of law. 37 cases are still pending in office with 29 pending in courts, 35 cases were referred to pro bono and other legal aid service providers, and 21 cases were closed for lack of merit whereas no file was withdrawn. In addition, IWILAP in conjunction with Anti-Corruption Coalition in Uganda (ACCU) provided legal aid to the people Iganga district and the districts of Moroto, Napak and Nakapiripirit respectively. These were organized as part of the activities organized by ACCU and ARF to mark the 2015 anti-corruption week. The kind of legal aid provided was in the form of ADR through mobile legal aid clinics in both regions.

In Iganga district, 150 cases were registered ranging from domestic violence, land, human, rights abuse, child neglect, murder among others. In Karamoja region, IWILAP registered and handled 101 cases tackling different branches of law ranging from; family, criminal, land and commercial. Some matters reported required urgent attention but due to legal ignorance, the complainants were unaware of what could be done. This called for case follow up by ACCU and IWILAP through initiating mediation between the victims and the accused, opening case files at police and in extreme cases, initiating litigation.

Land and Equity Movement (LEMU)

Case Management: LEMU handled 104 cases related to land grabbing, boundary disputes, contested land sale, contested ownership, and illegal land sale.

Capacity Building: The community of Aketo, Agudu Apac were trained on rules writing and adoption, leaders' training, boundary tree planting while the community in Oding, Apac were trained on rules adoption.

Community sensitization: Three radio talk shows were held in February 2016 in Lira on boundary tree planting, use of Family Land Rights Tree (FLRT) and sketch maps in dispute resolution and the Principles, Practices, Rights and Responsibilities (PPRR), experiences from community members in Bar Odir and Anyomorem, Lira who had resolved their conflicts, identification of traditional herbs and vegetables that existed in Lango in the past to document their names, collect seeds and multiply them; and tenure systems in

Uganda, the Land Act and its implications on customary tenure, existing loopholes in the laws and how to overcome them and LEMU's findings from the widow's research. In addition, LEMU held a Lango Regional National Land Policy Implementation Committee meeting. This meeting was held in Lira in March 2016 to share and approve the messages in stickers for the Global Call for Action to protect community and family lands.

Advocacy Meetings: Advocacy meeting with National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) in Lira on March and April 2016 on communities living in wetland areas. Another Advocacy meeting was held with Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD) in March 2016 to share the Global Call to Action, Community Land Protection Guide and Process and how the ministry can adopt it for the World Bank grant on community land titling. The meeting was attended by Commissioner Land Regulations and Compliance and the Senior Policy Analyst from MLHUD and NAMATI, LEMU's partner. Also at the Northern Uganda Land Platform (NULP) meeting held in Gulu on April 2016 held where LEMU shared its work on CCOs and CLAs during which various issues and recommendations were raised. Also, a meeting with faith based leaders was convened in Lira in April 2016 to discuss documentation of Biblical and Quran scriptures on land related issues and how they can be used to impact on lives of people.

Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities (LAPD)

Legal Advisory Services: LAPD handled 53 cases out of which 13 were land disputes, 9 cases on administration of estates, 2 on child neglect, 7 on compensation, 5 on unlawful dismissal, 15 on civil, and 2 on defilement. A training of paralegals in Northern Uganda in Arua, Amuru and Lira was conducted. This activity was carried out in conjunction with the Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society and was aimed at equipping persons with disabilities with the knowledge on identifying human rights violations, mechanisms through which to challenge such violations, roles of different stakeholders especially the police, local council courts, and the judiciary and also make them understand some laws that impact on their day today living like the succession and inheritance law, defilement and rape and marriage and divorce law.

National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU)

Legal advisory and support: In reporting period, NUIDPU provided legal advice, ADR and legal representation to 548 (295 males and 253 female) people. As a result, 354 cases were concluded and 194 cases are still pending. In addition, 36 community paralegals were recruited to act as grass root cadres in supporting PWDs to access legal redress.

Community sensitization: NUDIPU empowered 1,178 (729males and 449females) PWDs and indigent on their rights. Through 72 community sensitization meetings and 18 rights awareness seminars 542 (335males and 207 females) PWDs received rights and legal information. Furthermore, media outreach programmes were conducted with 19 radio talk shows and 16 spot messages aired out 420 times on 6 radio stations in the project areas of Kampala, Gomba, Iganga, Namutumba, Lira and Dokolo districts.

In an effort to ensure practice change, 14 advocacy, lobbying and network meetings were held with key actors in the formal justice sector at district and sub county level to respond to key disability needs in the legal process.

Platform for Labour Action (PLA)

Legal Advisory and Support: PLA provided legal aid to 4,089 (1,266 female and 2,823 male) including legal advice, counseling, mediations/negotiations meetings with their

employers and representing them in Labour Courts where amicable means of settlement failed. Majority of the clients attended to were farmers, peasants followed by teachers from private schools, security guards, casual labourers, domestic workers, cleaners, masons, sales representatives, boda-boda riders among others. Consequently, PLA managed to secure ugx 276,946,324 on behalf of 376 workers including 129 female and 247 male as unpaid wages, terminal benefits, workers' compensation, gratuity, unpaid annual leave and compensation for unfair termination through amicable means of settlements.

Furthermore, 5,065 (2,378 female and 2,687 male) poor vulnerable and marginalized workers and community members were reached with human and labour rights information and other cross cutting issues such as land and domestic violence through work based awareness and community outreach sessions. As a result of addressing crosscutting issues such as land, domestic violence and family disputes especially in the districts of Amolatar, Dokolo, Iganga, and Bugiri, a total of 178 women were supported and represented resulting into retaining, acquiring, using and controlling properties including land, matrimonial homes, family assets, money and assistance such as basic needs, school fees for their children.

Additionally, a total of 5 child domestic workers from Kamwokya, Bweyogere, Lira and Bukoto were rescued from exploitative domestic worker, recovered their wages and reunited them with their families in Iganga, Bushenyi, Otuke, Apac and Sironko districts in partnership with police. All these children were victims of internal child trafficking who been promised better employment, education but later deployed as domestic workers and one was being forced into child prostitution. The perpetrators are still being prosecuted.

Sensitization: 27 Radio talk shows and 5 television talk shows were held on different radio Stations including: Voice of Africa; Bukedde Radio and Bukedde TV; NBS Radio and NBS TV; Beliv TV, Dembe FM, Baba FM, Dokolo FM and Voice of Lango, the topics discussed included among others; Rights and responsibilities of workers and employers, Procedure for workers' compensation, Trafficking in Persons, content of ILO convention on Decent Work for Domestic Workers, Succession issues, Domestic violence among many others. A study on assessment of the law and practice on workers compensation in Uganda was also launched during this period.

PLA was recognized for its commendable work in promoting awareness against trafficking in persons through the media campaign by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Uganda, Director Interpol and the chairperson of the National Task Force on Trafficking in Person Ministry of Internal Affairs. As a result of the campaign, government banned and halted the bilateral agreement with Saudi Arabia to send Ugandans to work as domestic workers following CSOs including PLA raising concerns including maltreatment, poor working conditions and abuse of the women in Saudi Arabia to the Speaker of Parliament.

Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC)

PILAC seeks to promote a hands-on experiential learning as well as exposing students to live cases of individuals who have been confronted by the law in its varied manifestations.

Student led legal education: PILAC has established a Clinical Legal Education programme, which is a hands-on learning programme, intended to equip law graduates with public lawyering skills, the Community Law Programme and Mobile Clinic and the Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL). Also, PILAC partnered with the LASPNET secretariat to conduct a training for 50 people (24 males and 26 females) on mediation and conflict management skills.

Legal Advisory and support: During the reporting period, PILAC handled 132 cases through counseling, mediated 6 cases and offered court representation to 54 Ugandans. A mixture of civil, criminal and domestic cases have been handled with the biggest percentage of cases being civil. In a bid to extend legal awareness sessions beyond Katanga, Kikoni, Kikubamutwe and Kivulu, PILAC also conducted community outreach to churches and schools.

PILAC partnered with the LASPNET secretariat, Barefoot law, FIDA-U and Lwengo local government to pilot a sustainable model for providing legal aid.

Refugee Law Project (RLP)

The Refugee Law Project (RLP) provides legal aid and psycho-social support to asylum seekers and refugees in Uganda.

Legal Advisory and Support: Between July 2015 and June 2016, RLP provided legal aid to 4,242 clients. Legal representation before court and other administrative bodies was extended to 927 clients and legal advice to 1,374 clients. 835 (out of 865) successful mediations were conducted; 41 cases for resettlement were prepared assisting the most vulnerable clients to plead their case for the chance to build a more dignified life in a third country of destination; 255 legal documents were drafted for clients; 452 police follow-ups were conducted. Additionally, psychosocial support was extended to 1,052 forced migrants who presented with distress, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), anxiety, sleep disturbances, nightmares, isolation and suicidal tendencies. 12 child-friendly spaces have been established, benefitting 200 children by providing play-therapy for and also providing a chance to identify children with special educational, medical or other needs to appropriate RLP departments or partner organizations.

Mobile courts: 5 mobile courts were held in Nakivale and Kyaka II refugee settlements kicked off which has led to quick disposal of 218 cases and training of 202 police immigration prison, officers on the rights, duties and obligations of forced migrants and the role of police in facilitating justice processes, protecting and promoting rights of refugee inmates.

Sensitization: 13 Information sessions were held to sensitize forced migrants on their rights and obligations. 1,945 forced migrants were reached. RLP together with the Police conducted 13 community policing sessions reaching 1,145 forced migrants. The English for Adults Program registered a total of 2,386 learners from 2015 to June 2016 in collaboration with Respect University, which provides diploma courses through correspondence.

Other achievements: RLP carried out a research on the Informal Justice structures in the refugee settlements in 2015. Another study on the Mental Health state of refugees in Prison, A case of Western Uganda Prison was conducted in November 2015. RLP also received judgement on an earlier petition to the Constitutional court on the fact that

refugees are eligible to acquire citizenship by registration and naturalization under the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda. RLP also contributed to the discussion on the need for inclusion of refugee rights in post conflict situations in the second cycle of Uganda's Universal Periodic review that is to take place in November 2016.

Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF)

UCLF main programme areas include; criminal public defence, civil legal aid, paralegal services and the law students programme majorly in the districts of Kampala, Moyo, Gulu, Masaka, Kasese, Kayunga, and Buikwe. Some of the key achievements in the reporting period include: community sensitization to 5738 people (3009 male and 2729 females) and over 10,000 persons were reached through radio and Tv shows.

Capacity Building: UCLF trained 2,657 prisoners (2,481 male and 176 females) on self-representation and detainee rights. Also 678 juveniles (652 male and 26 females) in the remand homes of Naguru, Gulu and Mbale were trained on self-representation and children's rights.

A total of 756 clients (626 males and 130 females) benefitted from legal representation in criminal matters, 276 in civil matters of which 96 were concluded while 474 people were supported through ADR.

Legal Advisory and support: Through paralegal advisory services 2,016 suspects were assisted at police to access police bond and 60 cases were diverted out of the formal justice system. In addition, a total number of 3,857 people were traced to stand as sureties for petty offenders to get bail and for the other suspects at police station to get police bond. Further in collaboration with PAS, UCLF lobbied for mandatory bail for inmates a total of 84 inmates, 457 inmates were sentenced to community service and 96 capital offenders were referred to advocates for representation on pro bono program.

Key events: To celebrate 10 years of legal aid provision in Uganda, UCLF held a dinner that took place on Friday 13th November 2015 at Protea Hotel with Hon. Lady Justice Stella Arach Amoko, Justice of the Supreme Court of Uganda who represented the Chief Justice as the Guest of honour. She delivered a speech on behalf of the Chief Justice on the theme: "The role of lawyers in national transformation; a case for Legal aid."

Uganda Network on Law, Ethics and HIV/AIDS (UGANET)

Legal Advisory and Support: Through the legal officers spread across the country across five legal aid clinics, 702 patients, PLHIV, prisoners, women and girls, victims of GBV palliative care patients orphans and or other poor and marginalized persons over the Period July 2015 to June 2016 have been supported with legal aid services. UGANET has memorandum of understanding in 15 Hospitals, HIV center's and 10 Hospice units in which its lawyers provides monthly legal aid services. 312 cases of land disputes; 197 Estate and Inheritance Disputes; 38 cases of domestic violence; 35 criminal cases; 45 child protection; 20 cases of stigmatization and 55 others.

UGANET filed a constitutional petition on 14th July 2016, seeking court to declare the said provisions of the HIV prevention and control Act that undermine human rights of persons living with HIV such as the rights to privacy and confidentiality and dignity and autonomy and they have the effect or likelihood of shunning of voluntary testing and access to HIV treatment, support and care, further they have the potential to increase HIV stigmatization and discrimination against and in effect undermine the human rights of persons living with HIV & AIDS.

Uganda Public Rescue Foundation (UPRF)

Legal Advisory and Support: UPRF offered legal aid services which include reconciliation, mediation, follow up of cases within the community, legal awareness to empower the people to represent themselves in courts and clan meetings. This reduced the backlog of cases to 75% in the higher courts and over 100 cases within the Buganda region finalized.

In conjunction with FHRI, UPRF supported an estimated 12000 people within Buganda received coaching on self-representation in village based community courts plus legal awareness campaigns in the districts of Wakiso, Kampala, Masaka on land matters, administration of estates and criminal matters in the area of criminal Justice which was attended by over 2500 people in the district of Masaka and Kayunga attended. Additionally, outreach sessions were held in Kigo, Kayuga, Masaka, Luzira, Mubende, Jinja, Kabasanda, and Kitarya prison where UPRF interviewed inmates for the purposes of legal representation, in these sessions the organization was able to offer legal aid to a numbers of prisoners.

Community outreach: Radio talk shows were conducted on Akaboozi Kubiri, Radio Suubi, Prime Radio and Kingdom FM concerning issues of land and administration of estates. Press conferences were held at Busega, Kabale zone and Buganda Road primary school in relation to provision of legal aid to Ugandans working in South Sudan that were affected by the war.

Further, UPRF conducted several training workshops which were attended by community leaders and members, local leaders, elders, children, youths, indigents in Kayunga, Mukono, Masaka, Mpigi, Wakiso, Jinja and Kampala. During the training, 8200 copies of posters and documentaries illustrating various violations of human rights and legal rights were distributed.

UPRF piloted a scheme where a number of 120 young lawyers within the Buganda region have been trained on how to conduct them in court to ensure justice for all. UPRF also engaged cultural leaders in Buganda to manage and impress upon them the importance of human rights in relation to positive cultural norms.

Uganda Youth Development Link (UYDEL)

Psychosocial support: UYDEL core programs focus on HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support; alcohol, drug and substance abuse prevention; child protection; prevention and rehabilitation of children engaged in worst forms of child labour; adolescent sexual reproductive health; prevention of commercial sexual exploitation of children in the districts of Kampala, Wakiso and Mukono.

Community outreach: 26,624 key young people (14,812 Male and Female 11,812) were reached with integrated SRH/HIV information. Also 40 (22 male and 18 female) child victims of trafficking were identified, rehabilitated at Masooli center and reintegrated with their families; while Identification, rehabilitation, referral, reintegration of 302 children. Out of these 107 were male and 195 were female 331 young people were enrolled for vocational skills trainings at the UYDEL centres. 200 (64 male and 136 female) young people targeted for 2015 were identified, assessed and placed/enrolled for Vocational skills training and rehabilitation services. Also, a total of 3069 young people (male 1543 and female 1526) were reached with information on utilization of SRHR information and services among 3,500 young people aged 13- 25 years in Makindye and Nakawa Divisions of Kampala City.

War Child Canada (WCC)

Legal Advisory and Support: WCC supported 6448 (3424 Females and 3024 Males)

refugees and host community GBV survivors seeking legal aid services through the established legal aid desks and toll free lines. Of these 78% were refugees while 22% were host country nationals. Additionally, 445 protection concerns of which 184 cases (62 child neglect cases, 9 child abuse, 48 domestic violence, 28 physical assault, 1 indecent assault, 2 child to child sex, 3 forced marriage, 14 threatening violence, 1 child custody, 3 child abduction and 13 failure to provide necessities) were registered. Additionally, 250 (88Females: 162Males) callers seeking legal assistance including legal information and advice, case status for already registered cases, where to refer and report protection concerns among others registered and supported.

Community outreach: Thirty five legal awareness events were conducted, which reached out to 3754 (3754 Females: 1663 Males) refugee and host community members within the refugee settlements of Adjumani, Koboko, Kiryandongo and Arua.

WCC conducted a community dialogue with 15 JLOs institutions within Adjumani District to discuss mechanisms on how best to handle SGBV cases for refugee survivors within Adjumani District. In addition, 51 open air awareness events were organized that reached out to 5251 refugee and community members drawn from the refugee settlements of Adjumani, Kiryandongo, Koboko and Arua. Furthermore, WCC hosted 25 legal penal discussions at local radio stations (radio Usalaama 99.7FM in Adjumani, Arua one FM in Arua, Kibanda FM in Kiryandongo and Spirit FM 104.5 in Koboko that was able to register 76 (25 Females and 51 Males) phone calls from both refugee and host community listeners. 6000 GBV legal information brochures in English and local languages of Madi, Dinka, Lugbara, Kakwa, Arabic, and Kiswahili were produced and disseminated to both refugees host community members in the refugee settlements of Adjumani, Koboko, Arua and Kiryandongo.

Capacity building: Judicial officers, Prosecutors on SGBV response procedures and 105 government health workers were trained on medical legal service with particular focus on SGBV legal response and prevention in emergency settings from the refugee settlements of Koboko, Kiryandongo and Adjumani. Also, six local CBO capacity trainings were also delivered and reached out to 200 (117 Females and 83 Males) local CBO members within the refugee settlements of Adjumani.

One court support workers' training of 40 (14 Females: 26 Males) was conducted with refugee community individuals from the refugee leadership settlement structure. In addition, forty refugee women leaders successfully trained on leadership skills training drawn from the refugee settlements of Alere, Ayilo I&II, Nyumanzi, Mungula, Baratuku, Olua I&II, Boroli, Miierye and Dzaip sub-county all found in Adjumani District. In addition, 1142 refugees and host country nationals were trained, community leadership reached in 27 community dialogue meetings organised at settlement level in Arua, Kiryandongo, Koboko and Adjumani. WCC also mobilized 15 women from the refugee settlements of Ayilo I and Ayilo II to come together in a forum to discuss and share protection issues related to women and girls within the settlement. Additionally, four community based protection committees comprising of eighty members from both refugees and host communities to strengthen their capacities to make referrals to emergency protection services.

World Voices Uganda (WVU)

WVU responds to human rights violations, lack of access to justice by the poor, alarming poverty, poor health, rampant corruption and ethnic conflicts that were eating the moral and socio-political fabric of society in Uganda.

Legal Advisory and support: 1677(1,144 male and 533 female) benefitted from legal advisory and support services. 112 (41 male and 71 female) had their cases were referred and 14(9male and 5 female) cases were handled in formal courts and 36(18 female and 18 male) cases of the 68(37 male and 31 female) registered cases were concluded through ADR. 14(9 male and 5 female) cases were successfully concluded in the formal courts, 92 cases (42 male and 50 female) were handled through the Bataka courts.

Capacity building: WVU selected, trained and provided technical backstopping support on human rights promotion and basic laws to a panel of 56 elders, of these 30 were male, 15 female and 11 youth. Also, 31(of these 7 were male, 5 female and 19 youth) community based human rights defenders were trained on their roles and how to effectively amplify access to justice.

Community outreach: Through community theatre plays reaching 531 people of whom 225 were male, 100 female and 206 youth. In addition, 146 people were reached through district and regional legal aid camps, of which 65 were male, 46 female and 35 youth. Through quarterly project meetings/review, WVU reached 77 people and of these, 44 were males, 11 females and 22 youth. Also a total of 106 were reached through media (call-ins during radio programs and press conference), of these 56 male, 16 female, 34 youth.

12.0 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Legal Aid Service Provider's Network Audited Financial Statements and Report for the period ended 30th, June 2016

3.0 MANAGEMENT ASSERTIONS ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30 2016

This section presents LASPNET management's confirmation of its statutory responsibility for information in the financial statements and information provided during the course of the audit.

LASPNET management is required according to its Constitution to prepare financial statements for each financial period that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organization as at the end of the financial period and of its income and expenditure. LASPNET management is responsible for ensuring that disbursements are utilized for the purpose of the organization. Management is also responsible for ensuring that the organization keeps proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy, its financial position. Management is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organization.

Management accepts responsibility for the preparation of quarterly accountability reports submitted to the different donors, which were prepared using appropriate accounting policies and estimates in conformity with the funding guidelines. Management is of the opinion that all the accountability reports for the period ended June 30, 2016 give a true and fair view of its operations and that the regular accountability reports have been used as a basis for preparation of the income and expenditure statement for LASPNET as of June 30, 2016. LASPNET management certifies that there were no irregularities in the administration of the funds and that the financial statements of the organization for the period ended June 30, 2016 are free from material misstatements. Management further accepts responsibility for the maintenance of the accounting records that may be relied upon in the preparation of financial statements, as well as adequate systems of internal controls.

Nothing has come to the attention of management to indicate that the organization will not remain a going concern for at least twelve months from the date of this statement.

This assertion is certified by the management of LASPNET on 26th October 2016..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Chairperson BOD


.....
Executive Director


.....
Treasurer BOD

JR and Associates

x

Certified Public Accountants



Legal Aid Service Provider's Network Audited Financial Statements and Report for the

JR & ASSOCIATES

Certified Public Accountants

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48 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S ASSURANCE REPORT

Report of the Auditors to the Board of Directors of LASPNET

We have audited the Statement of Financial Position of LASPNET as at June 30, 2016, the related Statements of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended and the accompanying notes there on, as set out in pages 1 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of Management

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with financial regulation and requirement of LASPNET. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair representation of the financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an independent opinion on the financial statements based on our audit and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of LASPNET as at 30 June 2016 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended and are in accordance with the Generally Accepted Financial Reporting Framework prescribed by the responsibilities of the International Accounting Standards.

JR & ASSOCIATES

JR AND ASSOCIATES
Certified Public Accountants



JR and Associates

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Certified Public Accountants

OGITTI JOHN - UGANDAN

Email: jocitti2001@yahoo.com

KAYITA ROGERS - UGANDAN

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDER'S NETWORK			
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For The Year Ending June 30, 2016			
	Notes	30-Jun-2016 Amount	30-Jun-2015 Amount
INCOME			
Grants and Donations	7	868,925,336	1,208,531,320
Members' Contributions	7	2,987,500	7,400,000
Other Income	7	-	445,500
Total Income		871,912,836	1,216,376,820
EXPENDITURES			
Salaries and Wages	8	439,746,900	388,172,300
Rental Expenses	9	22,614,100	43,300,000
Enhance capacity of legal aid service providers	10	183,019,230	134,795,490
Strengthen the coordination and synergies among LASPs	11	80,678,300	15,600,000
Influence pro-poor policy reform & standards in access to justice	12	379,944,180	73,194,750
Holding the National Child Justice Convention	13	33,700,000	-
Training and Workshops Expenses	14	166,769,014	38,029,300
General Administrative Expenses	15	79,107,137	35,346,895
Bank charges and commissions exp	15	1,628,134	1,501,140
Total Expenditure		1,485,607,896	733,629,844
Surplus/(Deficit)		(552,685,059)	482,537,176

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDER'S NETWORK			
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As At June 30, 2016			
		30-Jun-2016	30-Jun-2015
	Notes	Amount	Amount
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1	2,521,254	535,206,313
Cash Advances	5	-	-
Rental Security Deposit	4	-	-
Prepayment	5	-	-
Inventory	8	-	-
Subtotal		2,521,254	535,206,313
Non-Current Assets			
Land	2	-	-
Motor Vehicles	2	-	-
Computers and Accessories	2	-	-
Office Equipment	2	-	-
Furniture and Fixings	2	-	-
Subtotal		-	-
Total Assets		2,521,254	535,206,313
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payables	20	-	-
Total		-	-
Contributions and Reserves			
Accumulated Fund b/f	23	535,206,313	52,689,137
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	23	(52,685,059)	482,537,176
Net Worth		2,521,254	535,206,213
TOTAL (Liabilities & Net Worth)		2,521,254	535,206,213
			
Chairperson BOD	Executive Director	BOD Treasurer	
	2		



LASPNET
LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK

A Free and Just Society.