



**GULU DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**GULU DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTION PLAN  
TO ADDRESS  
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE**

**LOCALIZING  
IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS  
1325 & 1820 AND THE GOMA DECLARATION**

**Leb-Acholi**

**Facilitated by**

**Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO)**

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**For more information about this Action Plan, please contact**

**The Chief Administrative Officer  
Gulu District Local Government**

**In partnership with Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO)**

## **Acknowledgements:**

Gulu District Local Government Action Plan to address Gender Based Violence is part of the Localization process on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 & 1820 Goma Declaration. The Local Action Plan was developed as a tool and road map to strengthen women's participation and involvement in the leadership and promotion of peace and security within the context of eradicating gender based violence and ending impunity. The development of the action plan was a process that involved discussions, profound commitment, and experience sharing with relevant stakeholders and required a cooperative multi-sectoral approach that resulted in procedures agreed upon by all stakeholders. The stakeholders involved in the process were drawn from Gulu District Gender Based Violence Working Group, the Local Action Plan Task Force and relevant government departments.

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Thank you for your tremendous contribution.

**Dorothy. M. Ajwang**  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER- GULU**

## **FOREWORD**

Gulu District Local Government is committed to the implementation of the United Nation Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, 1820 and Goma Declaration, instruments ratified by our country Uganda. The district has developed this tool as a mechanism to address GBV, strengthening participation of women in peace and security initiatives as a means to promote peace in the district.

The action plan is meant to address specific gender issues within Gulu district. It is supposed to implement national, regional, global policy and legal frameworks to which Uganda is a party under decentralisation.

The indicators of the action plan have several factors including; availability of funds, information and gender disaggregated data as well as coordination and harmonisation among different stakeholders for effective implementation. The action plan will serve as a guide to all actors implementing action on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and GD in Gulu District for the period 2016/2017- 2020/2021. It is a multi sectoral framework to a holistic approach in addressing GBV prevention and response by all stakeholders.

The action plan is a roadmap for stakeholders and duty bearers to identify specific actions in their areas of mandate and take pre requisite measures within the spirit and context of the action plan. It is also a tool to tap potential opportunities to address sexual and gender base violence on women and girls committed with impunity.

I therefore reaffirm Gulu district Local Government's commitment to eliminate sexual and GBV, increase women's participation in all aspects of peace, security and gender equality. I finally urge all stakeholders and duty bearers to identify activities within the action plan to help in this course.

**MARTIN OJARA MAPENDUZI**  
**CHAIRPERSON GULU DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNEMENT**

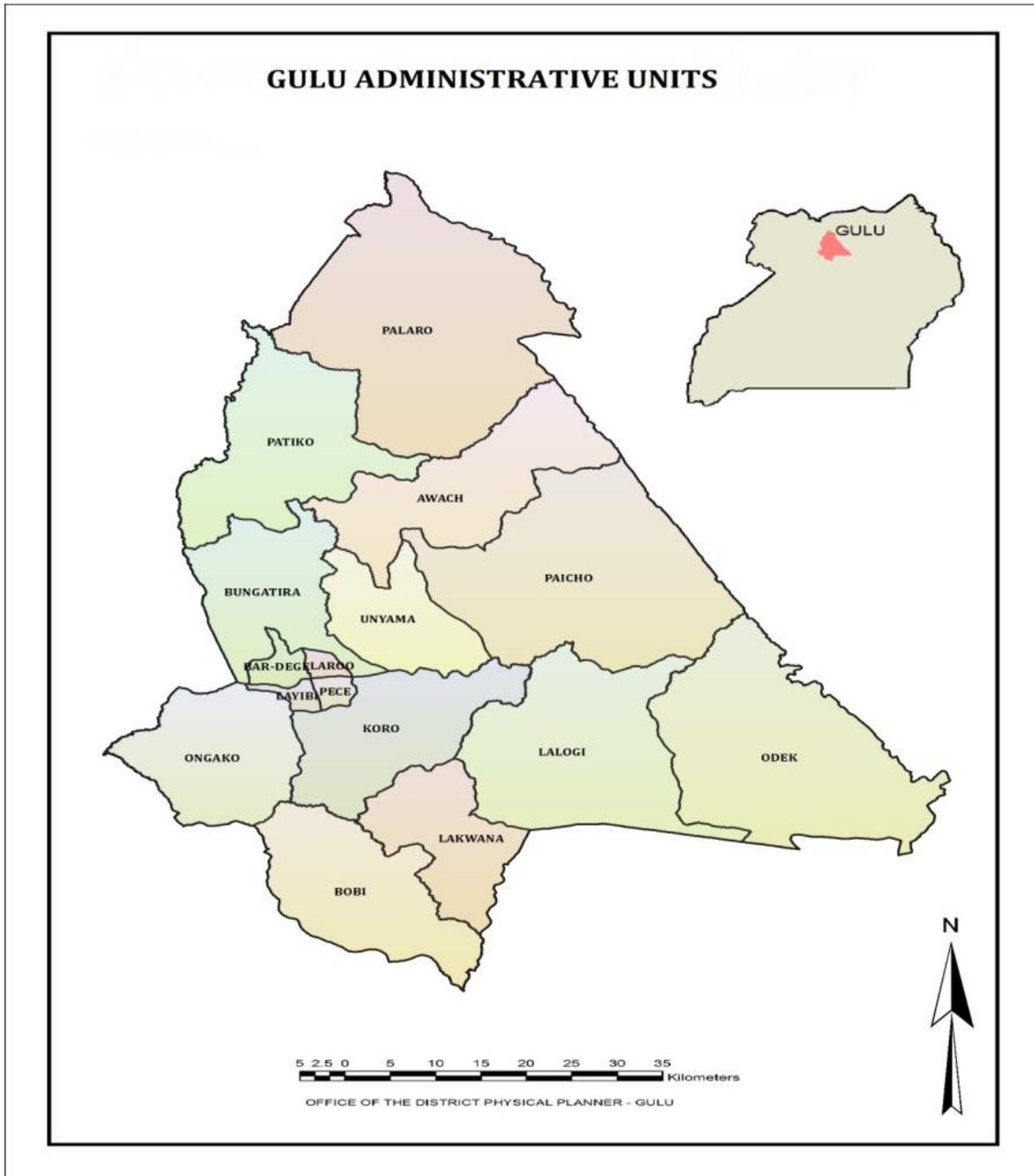
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## **ABBREVIATIONS:**

AAI-U	Action Aid International-Uganda
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CDO	Community development Officers
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
CEWIGO	Centre for Women in Governance
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DAP	District Action Plan
DCDO	District Community Development Officer
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GRRH	Gulu Regional Referral Hospital
IEC	Information Education and Communication
IJM	International Justice Mission
MoGLSD	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisation
LAP	Local Action Plan
UN	United Nations

**GULU DISTRICT MAP:**



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Gulu District Local Action Plan to address Gender Based Violence is derived from the indicators of the Uganda Action Plan on implementing the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 & 1820 and the Goma Declaration. The Gulu District Local Action Plan aims at creating a conducive environment in the district which is GBV free. The action plan outlines the district objectives, with strategies and quantifiable activities.

Chapter gives a background to the action plan, the scope of direction as being a strategic framework for guiding, planning and implementation of GBV prevention and response activities.

Chapter two presents an over view of Gulu district and the background to the development of the district local action plan (LAP) to address gender equality, women's participation and GBV. This is followed by the methodology used in this process. It also articulates the different forms and causes of GBV in the district. Lastly points out the major incidences of GBV reported in the district. Physical violence being the most reported, followed by sexual violence, economic violence and harmful traditional usually few cases are reported, majority are identified from health centres and schools.

The third chapter presents a contextual analysis of GBV in Gulu district and shows why GBV against women and girls is violence against women is a human rights violation. The chapter defines gender based violence as an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. It explains GBV as a global pandemic that is inflicted upon men , women and children as presented in the 2015 NGBVBD with women and girls being the most at risk. It high lights the mechanism the district has put in place to enhance elimination of GBV. The chapter represent the legal and policy framework that provides for the protection of women and girls against GBV. Lastly interventions by various actors and challenges experienced at implementation and community level.

Chapter four has the district local action plan with its priority areas, objective and actions

## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 Background to the development of the Local Action Plan**

#### **1.1 The process of developing the Local Action Plan**

The development of Gulu's 5-year Local Action Plan (LAP) to address Gender Based Violence is linked to the Uganda Action Plan on implementation of the UNSCR 1325 and 1820 and the Goma Declaration. The process followed a Memorandum of understanding between Gulu District Local Government and CEWIGO in December 2015. Participatory approach was used as a means to develop the Local Action Plan. Key Heads of departments and sections, political leaders, religious leaders, cultural institutions and civil society Organisations (CSO) were called for a 2 days sensitisation meeting on the (UNSCR) 1325 & 1820 and the Goma Declaration as a basis for coming up with the Local Action Plan on (UNSCR) 1325 & 1820 and the Goma Declaration. During the sensitization meetings, a task force of 20 participants were selected to draft the Local Action Plan (LAP). The Task force was trained for 2 days to develop the LAP. The process involved several discussions, consultations and meetings by the taskforce to develop the draft document. The draft LAP was validated by key stakeholders at a Town Hall meeting in Gulu district. The draft was improved and edited for translation and finally produced.

#### **1.2 Scope of Direction**

The Local Action Plan (LAP) is a strategic framework for guiding, planning and implementation of GBV response and prevention activities by all GBV and child protection actors in the district to reduce occurrences of GBV at the district. This LAP aims to increase interventions by the district and its partners in response and prevention of GBV, reduce GBV by at least 10% and effectively provide a holistic case management care to survivors of GBV.

#### **1.3 District Vision:**

“A district with quality life, sustainable and holistic development”

#### **1.4 District Mission:**

A violence free district with quality services through a coordinated holistic approach to a sustainable GBV prevention and response.

#### **1.5 District Goal:**

To serve the community through a coordinated service delivery system focused on local and national priorities that contribute to promoting quality of life.

#### **1.6 Strategy:**

The plan shall adopt Public, Private and People partnership (PPPP) in the delivery of services to the affected population.

## CHAPTER TWO: OVER VIEW OF GULU DISTRICT

### 2.0: Overview

Gulu district is located in northern Uganda between longitude 30-32 degrees east; altitude 02-4 degrees north. It is bordered by Amuru and Nwoya district in the west and southwest respectively, Lamwo district in the north east, Pader district in the east, Lira district in the south east and Oyam district in the south

The total land area of Gulu District is 3,428.42 sq km (1.44% of the Uganda land size). 96.9 sq km (0.8%) is open waters. The District headquarters is 332 km by road from Kampala and through the Great North Road gives access to the Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Table1: Showing the Population distribution by counties and sub-counties/divisions by sex in Gulu District**

County	Sub-County	Population as of Census 2014		
		Male	Female	Total
ASWA	Awach	9,274	10,228	19,502
	Bungatira	15,924	17,024	32,948
	Paicho	12,586	12,586	24,306
	Palaro	6,735	6,775	13,510
	Patiko	9,014	9,526	18,540
	Unyama	8,345	8,664	17,009
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>61,878</b>	<b>64,803</b>	<b>125,815</b>
MUNICIPALITY	Bar-dege	17,397	17,619	35,016
	Laroo	16,079	16,331	32,410
	Layibi	17,977	18,468	36,445
	Pece	22,579	25,826	48,405
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>74,032</b>	<b>78,244</b>	<b>152,276</b>
OMORO	Bobi	15,152	16,104	31,256
	Koro	14,154	15,223	29,377
	Lakwana	9,445	10,022	19,467
	Lalogi	14,735	15,382	30,117
	Odek	15,765	16,453	32,218
	Ongako	11,315	11,892	23,207
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>80,566</b>	<b>85,076</b>	<b>165,642</b>
<b>Gulu District Total</b>		<b>215,610</b>	<b>228,123</b>	<b>443,733</b>

*Source: census 2014 Gulu District Planning Unit & UBOS*

As seen in Table 1.3.2, Omoro County has the largest population (165,642) compared to Aswa (125,815) and Gulu Municipality (152,276).

### 2.3 Administrative Structures of Gulu District

Administratively, Gulu District is composed of 16 Lower Local Governments (12 Sub-counties and 4 Divisions). Other administrative units include 2 counties and 1 Municipality. There are of 70 Parishes (54 parishes in the rural sub-counties and 16 wards in the divisions) and 294 villages as shown in the table below

**Table 2: showing the Administrative Units and land areas in Gulu District**

<b>County</b>	<b>LLG</b>	<b>Size(KM<sup>2</sup>)</b>
<b>ASWA</b>	Awach	249.32
	Bungatira	186.51
	Paicho	454.69
	Unyama	140.15
	Palaro	515.84
	Patiko	268.64
<b>GMC</b>	Gulu MC	55.11
<b>OMORO</b>	Bobi	230.90
	Koro	214.31
	Lakwana	156.15
	Lalogi,	336.97
	Odek	419.57
	Ongako,	200.26
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3428.42</b>

## CHAPTER THREE: CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

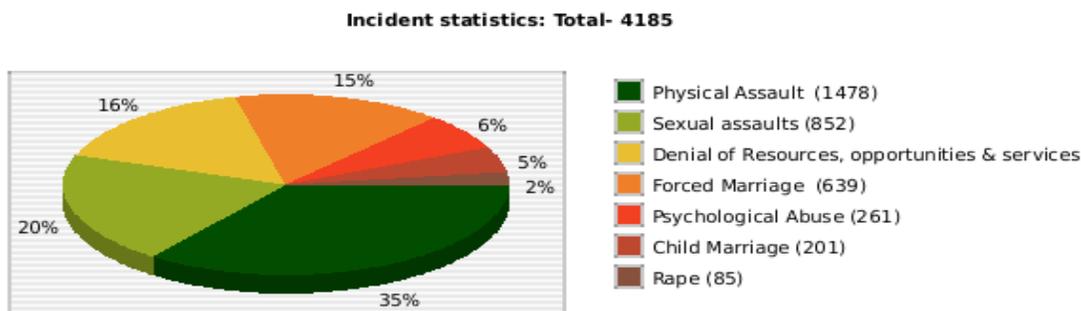
### 3.1 Introduction

While several legal instruments and policies have been enacted with intent to make Uganda violence free, women and girls continue to statistically make the majority of victims of gender based violence in Gulu district. Gender-based violence (GBV) is a life threatening, health and human rights issue that can have devastating impact on women and children in particular as well as families and communities. A report on the final evaluation of GBV (2014) mentions Uganda as one of the countries in Africa where Gender Based violence is high. The Uganda Demographic health Survey (UDHS) results of 2011 reveals that 56% of women (or about 1 in every 2 women and/or girls) in Uganda have ever experienced physical violence at some point since the age of 15 years; 28% of women aged 15-47 have ever suffered sexual violence; 16% have endured violence during pregnancy; and approximately 24% had their sexual encounter was a forced one (UDHS, 2011).

The 20 year old war and the displacement of community in camps left the people of Gulu with post traumatic disorder, the post conflict period is characterised by increased gender based violence in the community committed with impunity and land related conflict due to the long displacement period. In 2015 Gulu district registered over 1,478 cases of physical violence, 852 cases of defilement, 840 cases of child marriages and forced marriages, 261 cases of psychological violence and 85 cases of rape in the National Gender violence Data Base (NGBVDB). Of the 852 cases of defilement majority are ages 14 and below.

### GBV reported cases from January – December 2015

**Diagram 1**



#### Incident Type

#### Number of Victims

Child Marriage	201
Denial of Resources, opportunities & services	669

Incident Type	Number of Victims
Forced Marriage	639
Physical Assault	1478
Psychological Abuse	261
Rape	85
Sexual assaults	852
Total	4185

**Diagram 2**

**GBV- Gender Graph Reports**

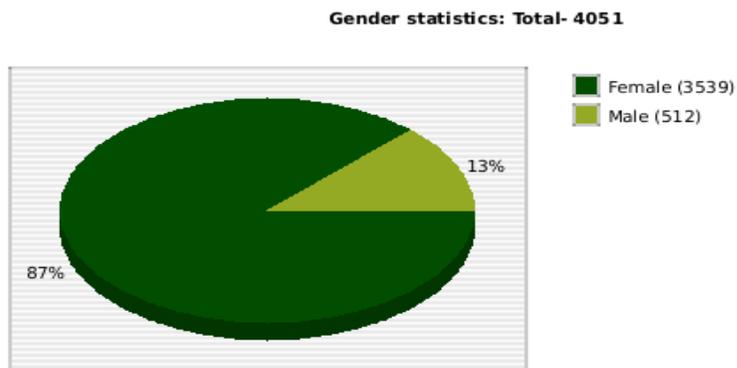
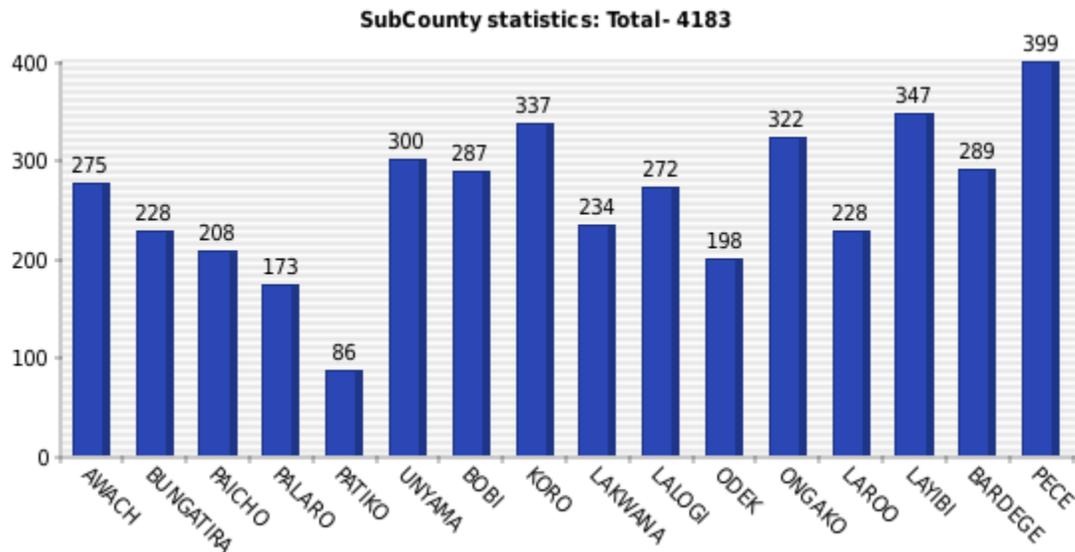


Diagram 3

## GBV- Sub county Graph Reports



The above has resulted into chronic pain, physical injuries leading to disability or even death, drug and alcohol abuse, psychological trauma, post-traumatic stress, fear, anxiety and depression. Female and child survivors of physical and sexual abuse are at risk of getting unwanted pregnancies, STIs, suicide, gynaecological disorders including fistula and other adverse pregnancy outcomes (WHO, 2005)

**Gender-based Violence** is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. Acts of GBV violate a number of universal human rights protected by international instruments and conventions. The term "gender-based violence" is often used interchangeably with the term "violence against women." The term "gender-based violence" highlights the gender dimension of these types of acts. It is important to note, however, that men and boys may also be victims of gender-based violence, especially sexual violence (IASC, 2005)

In addressing GBV, there is need to strengthen existing referral mechanism in place such as the police, the lower local government (LCI to LC III), CBOs, health centres II, III and IV, JLOs institutions, the GBV/child protection working group, staff of CSD and CDOs to enable each and every one of them play their roles effectively.

### 3.2 Interventions by the district and partners

**TASO:** Provide post violence care including PEP, HIV Aids testing and counseling and post abortion care.

**ASSIST:** Provide quality assurance in health service delivery through the Ministry of health and Ministry of Gender Labour & social development.

**WORLD EDUCATION BANTWANA:** The organization looks at Economic strengthening of Adolescents ages 15 to 17 years engaged in health hazardous work or child labour.

**IJM:** International Justice Mission (IJM) Uganda is working to eliminate property grabbing in Uganda.

**GUWODU:** Advocate for girls and women with disabilities with emphasis on equal rights and economic empowerment.

**RHU:** Advocates for sexual reproductive and health rights of women and girls.

**CEWIGO:** is a non-partisan, not for profit non-governmental organization committed to the promotion of effective and equal participation of women in politics and decision making.

**GWED& G:** A women's rights organisation established to undertake social and economic interventions

**AAI-U:** An international organization, working with over 15 million people in 45 countries for a world free from poverty and injustice.

**Care International:**

**KKA:** This a cultural institution that covers the current 7 districts of Acholi sub region and strives to achieve its strategic objectives that includes cultural preservation, peace building and reconciliation, community empowerment and inclusive governance.

**Care International in Uganda:** Aims at creating a GBV free society where women and children are treated with dignity and respect by reducing social tolerance for GBV, ending impunity for sexual violence offenders and supporting survivors of GBV access high quality survivor-friendly response services.

**FIDA:** Provide for gender equality and access to justice for women and girl in relations to GBV and land rights

**Thrive Gulu:** provide trauma healing services for community of Layibi division, VSLA and adult literacy programme

**ACORD:** works and focuses in four thematic areas namely, Livelihoods; Food Security and Economic Development, Peace Building; Civil and Political Participation; Human Rights and Gender and Women Empowerment; HIV/AIDS, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

**Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law society:** 'Ensure Indigent, Vulnerable and Marginalized Persons Access Justice' Through Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism such as; Counseling, legal advice, mediation, negotiations, reconciliations and arbitration and Legal representation in Courts of Law.

**SOS:** strengthen capacities of families to provide care for children in schools, improve education performance of children and provide access to quality health care service for children and women in reproductive age.

**UWAP:** Their interventions are in three thematic area, GBV and sexual reproductive health of women, child protection and human rights and women recovering from armed conflict.  
Every Child Ministry: They provide education, pscho social support to orphans and vulnerable children and their guardians.

**CRR:** Provides prevention, legal and psychosocial support to survivors of GBV including war victims.

**Watoto Living Hope:** They strengthen care and provide economic support to women living with HIV/AIDs and their children.

**ACTV:** the provide treatment, legal and psychosocial support to tortured and unlawfully detent victims

**Straight Talk Foundation:** Provide adolescent friendly services such as counselling, testing for HIV/AIDs and STIs, recreation services for the youth

**Hope for humans:** Provides treatment, psychosocial support and economic empowerment women experiencing violence, special attention to withdrawal of girls from prostitution.

**JRP:** Promotes forums for advocacy and document of concerns of war victims and offers psychosocial and economic support to formally abducted women.

**Hope for Humanity:** provide psychosocial support, treatment, care and education for children with nodding syndrome and their families

**World Vision:** Provide capacity building for community structure preventing and responding to child protection concerns in the community and provide economical support to vulnerable households.

**HURIFU:** provide legal redress to cases violation of all human rights and empowers community with knowledge of their rights such right and the legal instruments that protect human rights

### **3.3: Challenges in addressing GBV**

Much as the district has tried to put some measures in place to address GBV as discussed above, the district still faces a number of challenges in prevention and response to GBV which includes the following:

1. Inadequate funding for GBV programmes at the district.
2. Political interference in handling GBV cases especially at lower local governments.
3. Inadequate capacity of staff directly responsible for addressing GBV at all levels.
4. Mismanagement of GBV cases.
5. Delay in prosecution of GBV cases in court leading to loss of interest in follow up by survivors.
6. Lack of specialised court in handling sexual gender based violence cases.
7. Poor record keeping and documentation.

### **3.4 Challenges at community level**

- Bad cultural beliefs and practices.
- Poverty
- Ignorance of the legal provisions and procedures
- Illiteracy

## **Chapter Four: The District Local Action Plan**

4.1 **Goal:** To eliminate GBV prevalence in Gulu district by 2021

### **4.2 Specific objectives**

1. To increase the number of reported cases of GBV from 3% to 50%
2. To reduce the number of GBV cases from Gulu by 40% by 2021.
3. To build the capacity of institutions to effectively and efficiently prevent and respond to GBV by 2021.
4. To increase the level of financing to all sectors and institutions mainstreaming GBV in Gulu by 5%

### **4.3 Strategies and Actions:**

Priority area 1: **Eliminate all forms of GBV in Gulu district**

Objective: 1: **To build community and institutional capacity in prevention and response to GBV in Gulu district**

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Capacity building of key stakeholders in prevention and response to GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Strengthened referral pathway.</li> <li>-Skilled personnel trained to respond and prevent GBV.</li> <li>-Key stakeholder knowledgeable on GBV prevention and response</li> <li>- Asset inventory improved</li> <li>-GBV action plan integrated the district plan and sub counties Plan.</li> <li>- Plans and budget of the district and sub counties are gender responsive.</li> <li>-New elected leaders/technical personnel and sub counties sensitized</li> </ul>	<b>Budget UGX 277,860,000/=</b>
Advocacy campaigns on GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Community members aware of GBV prevention and response</li> <li>-Strengthened network among GBV working group</li> <li>-Increased reporting of GBV cases.</li> <li>-Reduction of SGBV</li> </ul>	<b>Budget UGX 422,060,000/=</b>
Documentation of GBV issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Updated status of GBV cases at the district</li> <li>-evidence based planning and budgeting for GBV.</li> <li>- collected data , compiled stored and analyzed</li> </ul>	<b>Budget UGX 142,856,000/=</b>
Strengthen Coordination and networking of stakeholders handling GBV related issues in Gulu district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Improved and quality service delivery and implementation of GBV plans at the district and sub counties.</li> <li>-Gaps and emerging issues identified for future planning</li> <li>-Strengthened referral pathways at district and sub counties.</li> </ul>	<b>Budget UGX 54,050,000/=</b>

**Priority 2: Legal and Policy frame work**

**Objective 2: To improve performances of different actors involved in prevention and response to GBV in Gulu District**

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Capacity building of GBV actors	-Strengthened capacities of law enforcement officers -Improvement coordination and case management of GBV -Action points generated and implemented	<b>Budget UGX</b> <b>225,780,000/=</b>
Enactment of by-laws and Enforcement of existing ordinances and policies	-Enacted of bylaws and ordinances -Enacted by- laws disseminated -Increased awareness of the ordinance and by laws	<b>Budget UGX</b> <b>401,280,000/=</b>

**Priority areas 3: Improve access to medical, psychosocial and protection services for GBV survivors.**

**Objective: To increase access to holistic, appropriate health, psychosocial and protection services for GBV survivors and their family**

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Capacity building of medical staffs in GBV response and clinical management of rape and management.	- Health staff managing and filling of police forms and testifying in courts as expert witness -Trained medical staff in providing quality services to GBV survivors -Timely service delivery by trained health and social service providers -.	<b>Budget UGX</b> <b>80,000,000/=</b>
Strengthen access to Services	-Availability of services at the referral pathway in health center II, III and IVs. - coordinated GBV services provided at the shelter - survivors are provided with psychosocial support services according to the National Guidelines for Psychosocial support to GBV survivors	<b>Budget UGX</b> <b>80,000000/=</b>
Safety and security of GBV survivors in Gulu District.	- Relieve and healing of psychological distress of survivors - Minimize risk to exposure to reoccurrence of violence. - Awareness raising. - Activists of change.	<b>Budget UGX</b> <b>91,090,000/=</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attitude and behavior change.</li> <li>- Strengthened capacities of stakeholders to mobilize resources and advocate to eliminate GBV.</li> </ul>	
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**Priority areas 4: Women in leadership and decision making**

**Objective: To increase women’s participation in leadership, peace building and decision making**

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Mediation and reconciliation Sensitization of leaders on the importance of gender equality Lobbying Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased number of women actively involved in leadership and peace building processes.</li> <li>-Increased participation of women in peace building and decision making</li> <li>-Strengthened capacity of DRPT and cultural leaders to prevent and respond to conflicts.</li> </ul>	<b>Budget UGX 168,120,000</b>