



The program Manager and Program Officer CEWIGO, meeting with the Mayor of Rubaga Division, Her Worship Joyce Sebugwawo after briefing her about the new project

CEWIGO was visited by the African Women's Development Fund (AWDF) representatives for due diligence as part of their proposal review processes. The exercise was successful and an agreement was reached. Implementation of the project Democratic Governance for Gender Equality will start in January 2020 and will be in the districts of Mbarara and Kabarole.

SUCCESS STORIES

I am aspiring for a higher leadership position because CEWIGO has empowered me



participate in training of Community led Gender Advocacy Groups and the Annual training of Women and female youth councillors in Kween. According to her, majority of the women councillors now understand the council proceedings guided by the rules of procedure, the Local Government Act and the Constitution. She further states that mentors are playing a big role in supporting Women Councillors to address the challenges they have been facing for example language barrier that was hindering them from understanding the council procedures.

As a result of these engagements, Hon. Joseline feels that she has gained confidence in public speaking, mobilization and sufficient knowledge on how to address barriers to women's participation in politics. This has motivated her to express her interest in contesting for the Woman Member of Parliament seat for Kween district in the 2021 General Elections. As for now, Hon. Joseline is actively involved in working with the Binyiny Community Gender Advocacy Group to advance gender equality in her community and encourage women to participate in politics.

A quote from a beneficiary

"I thank CEWIGO for empowering women to take up leadership positions. I have learnt a lot from the trainings conducted by CEWIGO especially leadership skills. This has made me stronger and confident. As we talk now, I am going to contest on a direct seat for Mayor once Mbarara becomes a city in 2020. With the skills I acquired and by God's grace, I know I'll win."

Doreen Natamba, Councillor, Kakoba division, Mbarara Municipality

Hon. Chelimo Joseline Cherotwo (left) is the District Speaker for Kween district and a Mentor for Binyiny Sub County Women Councillors Caucus. She is among the pioneer women councillors that were trained by CEWIGO in 2018 under the Strengthening the capacity of women leaders to effectively participate in decision making processes project. She attended various leadership trainings and capacity building workshops which focused on topics such as; understanding leadership, gender and equity concerns in leadership, accountability in leadership, Local Government structure, Local Council procedures and Advocacy and Lobbying for positive action.

In July 2019, CEWIGO invited her together with other local leaders to



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 Contact us:
 Plot 212 Nsalo Road, Off Gadaffi Road,
 Near Old Kampala Police Station.
 P. O. Box 844, Kampala, Uganda.
 Tel: +256 414 532 382
 Email: info@cewigo.com,
 Website: www.cewigo.com

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"WOMEN INFLUENCING GOVERNANCE AT ALL LEVELS"



Welcome to the 1st issue of the CEWIGO newsletter, the purpose of which is to update you with information about our key activities, major results achieved and events conducted under our programs that is;

- I. Women's Leadership Development Program
- II. Women's rights Advocacy program
- III. Citizens and community Empowerment Program.

One of our major HIGHLIGHTS was CEWIGO signing a contract with Democratic Governance Facility with effect from July 2019 to April 2022 in 9 districts. The Project is titled "Creating an enabling environment for increased representation and effective participation of women councillors in decision making processes".



The Executive Director CEWIGO and Board Chairperson receiving the three years contract from DGF

selected mentors expressed enthusiasm to work with the female and provide guidance to them on effective political leadership.

3 council sessions were attended by staff in Kakooba division (Mbarara), Kigorobya Sub County (Hoima), Kapsinda Sub County (Kapchorwa). Staff were able to observe the council proceedings and came up with recommendations on how to enable Women Councillors improve their quality of debate and presentation during council meetings

Enhanced civic awareness on the importance of women's participation in political leadership.

One-hour regional radio talk shows were held on selected radio stations in the districts of Jinja, Mbarara, Hoima and Kampala. They were used as a tool for creating mass/public awareness on the importance of women's participation in politics. According to feedback from listeners, there was appreciation for issues discussed and a call for expansion of the project to other districts.

32 Community Gender Advocacy Groups were formed and trained and they also developed Gender Development Action Plans per Sub county/Division. The categories of participants included Sub County/Division Technocrats, Parish Chiefs, women's & youth group representatives, Police Officers, Health Workers, teachers and Religious leaders among others.

The purpose of the trainings was to form Community Gender Advocacy Groups and to train them on their roles in advancing gender equality in their respective communities.

The specific objectives of the project are;

- To strengthen the capacity of women and female youth leaders to influence decision making processes for gender equality by 2022.
- To enhance civic awareness on the importance of women's participation in political leadership by 2022.
- To increase the number of women and female youth political leaders in targeted districts by 2022

We shall also be sharing our experiences and some success stories from our interventions with our project beneficiaries this year.

Enjoy your Reading

Strengthened capacity of women and female youth leaders to influence decision making processes for gender quality.

In the trainings, we reached 308 women and 56 youth councillors and were conducted in all project districts in September 2019. As a result, Women caucuses for each sub county/division were formed. They also developed action plans on the key issues like Fighting school dropouts they will address in their caucuses.

21 Role models including influential female politicians and Community Development Officers were identified and fully attached to the Women Councillors in their respective sub counties/urban councils. The role models were selected by CEWIGO based on the selection criteria in consultation with the local leadership and the women councillors. The

PARTNERSHIPS/COLLABORATIONS

CEWIGO hosted the Head of the Democratic Governance Facility Mr. Wim Stoffers where the Board of Directors and the Founder shared the bigger picture of CEWIGO and discussed project operational issues.



Mr. Wim Stoffers, Head of DGF Facility having a discussion with the CEWIGO Board members on effective collaborations of DGF AND CEWIGO

CEWIGO established a working relationship with GIZ under the Civil Society in Uganda Support Program (CUSP). Once a funding agreement is signed, the organization will be supported to strengthen its institutional capacity in the areas of Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Resource Mobilization.



Reflection meeting on Women, Peace and Security with development partner (GIZ) represented by Ms. Patience Ayebazibwe the Gender and Youth Adviser at GIZ.

The CEWIGO Executive Director represented the Uganda Gender Consortium on SDGs with support from Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE) and UN Women at the High Level Political Forum on SDGs in New York.



The Executive Director CEWIGO Ms Bonna Kiconco, and other delegates from Uganda being welcomed at the Uganda UN Mission in NEW York.

CEWIGO represented by the Program Manager is a member of the National Steering Committee that is currently developing NAP III on UNSCR 1325. So far, CEWIGO has shared experiences on coordination, localisation, and monitoring that informed priorities at the design stage for appropriate effective WPS interventions. In addition, the relationship with the MGLSD and UN Women and other strategic partners like EC, MoLG and MoS have been strengthened.



Cewigo program manager Ms Prudence Atukwatse with UN Women and Ministry of Gender Officials at the drafting of NAP III

Partnership building meetings were held with partners including Ministry of Local Government, National Women's Council Secretariat and American Embassy to improve CEWIGO's visibility and to initiate collaborations. We also introduced the project to the new districts and sub counties