

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2014**



# MENTORING AND EMPOWERING WOMEN TO LEAD

## WHERE WE WORK Buliisa Bushenyi Hoima Ibanda Isingiro Kabarole Kabarole Kasese Kiruhura Kyenjonjo Mbarara Sheema



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## Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO)

## **ANNUAL REPORT, 2014**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACFODE	Action for Development		
AU	African Union		
BPfA	Beijing Platform for Action		
CCEP	Community and Citizen's Empowerment		
CEWIGO	Centre for Women in Governance		
DGF	Democratic Governance Facility		
FOWODE	Forum for Women in Democracy		
GBV	Gender Based Violence		
IEC	Information Education and Communication		
IRCU	Inter Religious Council of Uganda		
LAP	Local Action Plans		
LC	Local Council		
LEU	Living Earth Uganda		
MoGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development		
NAP	National Action Plan		
NED	National Endowment for Democracy		
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals		
UJCC	Uganda Joint Christian Council		
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution		
JLOS	Justice Law and Order Sector		
UWONET	Uganda Women's Network		
WDG	Women in Democracy Group		
WDN-U	Women Democracy Network – Uganda Chapter		
WoLD	Women in Leadership Development		
WORUDET	Women and Rural Development Network		
WRAP	Women's Rights Advocacy		
MOJCA	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs		

# **Message from the Chairperson**

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to share our 2014 Annual Report with you. The year ushered in some changes at CEWIGO as far as governance is concerned, major of which is a new Board of Directors for whom I am the Chairperson.

As a new Board, we held Board meetings and a retreat to reflect on the last seven years since CEWIGO was born. During the retreat, we agreed on a new direction that will focus on building and supporting a cadre of effective and purposeful women to participate in the political leadership and governance of Uganda. This will be done through interesting women in political leadership, peer counseling and guidance and mentoring of young women, to bridge the intergenerational leadership gap.

Ultimately, CEWIGO aims to be a centre of excellence to be consulted in matters of effective political leadership for women and good governance. The new direction that was agreed upon during the Board retreat will go a long way in ensuring this. We also hope to have a home of our own - a physical Centre for Excellence tentatively named Governance House.

One of the areas of focus for CEWIGO is Women's Leadership Development whose objective is to strengthen women's leadership and capacity to influence positive change at national, local and grassroots levels. We have been doing this together in a consortium of five organizations called the Women's Democracy Group and indeed there are milestones that were registered in 2014. However, this has been largely at the District level which is why CEWIGO's contribution to women in power and decision making has remained known to the Districts of operation only. CEWIGO's impact has remained at District level, which is why we want to scale up to national level and see more



women as part and

parcel of the political leadership and governance landscape of Uganda. I am hopeful that from 2015 and on, we will contribute to the change we want to see.

Further afield, CEWIGO has been part of the global development agenda for gender equality and women's rights. This is the basis of our Women's Rights Advocacy work. For instance, we are part of the global civil society initiative that undertakes monitoring of the implementation of National Action Plans (NAP) on UNSCR 1325 annually, in Uganda. This initiative is coordinated by the Global Network for Women Peace Builders. It is by virtue of this that CEWIGO participated in 2014 anniversary of the UNSCR 1325. This opportunity was used as a platform to share our work on women, peace and security with emphasis on the need for women's participation in leadership - one of the pillars of the resolution.

Effective participation of women in leadership requires prevalence of peace and human security. It is unfortunate that the National Action Plan on 1325 has never been implemented the government. by The responsibility also lies with the Ministry of Gender, which is ill-funded. Part of CEWIGO's focus in the coming year will be to lobby the government and other stakeholders to finance and implement the NAP given that we are one of the countries that committed to domesticate UNSCR 1325. This will go a long way in building and sustaining women's leadership to articulate and claim their right to peace and personal



security, a pre-requisite to effective participation in leadership and governance.

CEWIGO is also involved in empowerment of communities and citizens to take lead to influence the integration and delivery of key aspects in national civic education programmes that women's participation support in governance. This has contributed to participation of women especially at the District level in lobby and advocacy for gender responsive service delivery. The women have also called on leaders to account and commit to the delivery of quality social services.

In all, CEWIGO registered significant wins for women in some of the districts where our programmes are implemented. For this we remain proud but mostly energized to continue working towards a society exemplary of good governance and gender inclusive political spaces.

I would like to thank our greatest partners and allies – the women with whom we work, for the belief in themselves to be champions of change. I am grateful to fellow members of the Women's Democracy Group i.e Uganda Women's Network, Forum for Women in Democracy, Women's Democracy Network – Uganda Chapter and Action for Development, for the commitment to democracy and good governance in Uganda. Through funding constraints, we have stuck together. I would also like to thank the ICCO Alliance that comprises Uganda Joint Christian Council and Inter-Religious Council of Uganda – our concerted efforts fetched a number of achievements in 2014.

In a special way, I thank you our development partners for your generous support that has contributed to our work in enhancing women's participation in leadership and governance, peace and security work through lobby, research and documentation, communication and advocacy, community and citizen's empowerment, and institutional development.

For more information on CEWIGO's work, please visit our website http://www.cewigo.org

Sincerely, Maude Mugisha

# **Message from the Executive Director**

Once again, it is with pleasure that we share with you the Annual Report. In 2014, CEWIGO remained committed to advocacy for women's concerns and needs to be integrated into legislation, plans and budgets for enhanced resource allocation. We also contributed to the advocacy momentum on national governance issues as well as international protocols that promote gender equality and women's empowerment. 2014 is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year our 5 year Strategic Plan 2013-2017.

We consolidated women's voices in the promotion of gender equality by publishing a book on "Voices of Uganda Women Leaders".

We worked collaboratively as the Women in Democracy Group comprising of CEWIGO, FOWODE, UWONET, WDN-Uganda and ACFODE to train women leaders at the Local Government level in 50 districts of Uganda. CEWIGO facilitated women LC5 councilors in 10 districts of Western Uganda to enhance their caucuses that were formed in 2013. The women formed a network across the 10 districts to facilitate learning and enhancement of their leadership skills to improve their lives and that of women and girls. We partnered with Living Earth Uganda to train women Community Based Leaders and women councilors in Hoima and Buliisa districts in advocacy and leadership skills.

Once again in 2014, CEWIGO mobilized the 35members of the Uganda 1325 Coalition to participate in the monitoring of the implementation progress of the Uganda Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325, 1820 and the Goma Declaration. The NAP Monitoring report 2014 was launched at national level during a Women, Peace and Security Conference in Kampala and during a Peace Exposition in Busia district organized by Isis WICCE and Institute for Social Transformation. The report once again provides data and recommendations for informed advocacy and action by relevant stakeholders at local, national, regional and international levels. We participated in the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the UNSCR 1325 in New York where findings from NAP monitoring processes in a cross-section of countries were shared.

It was rewarding to evaluate our work with communities in Bushenyi and Isingiro Districts where we completed a social accountability project on improvement in maternal health services and education of girls in four subcounties. The communication and engagement channels so established must be allowed to continue flourishing if we are to see benefits in girls' education and improved maternal health services.

CEWIGO got a new board of Directors during the year commended for their effort to steer the organization into a leading Women's Governance Centre in Uganda. The key areas of focus include building a pool of women with the interest to promote gender equality and women's empowerment through political participation, lobbying governments from the pool of women to influence polices on governance bodies, mobilizing the public to support women leaders and to training women on how to balance public and private roles.

We had a change in staffing during the year notably the departure of the former Executive Director; while we got a few people join the team at CEWIGO. I would like to thank the current members of staff and the outgoing team for their contribution to CEWIGO's achievements for 2014. Bravo!

I thank all our development partners and others who continued to provide financial, technical, and moral support.

Joy Mukisa Ag. Executive Director

## **ABOUT CEWIGO**

The Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO) is a political but non-partisan NGO established in 2006 in Uganda. It is committed to the promotion of effective and equal participation of women and men in all spheres and at all levels of decision making. CEWIGO's office is located in Kampala the capital city of Uganda. The organization's activities are implemented at national and district level. CEWIGO was founded to build a cadre of women leaders with a vision to transform Uganda's politics and governance and thereby respond to the needs of the disadvantaged, majority of whom are women and girls.

#### VISION

#### MISSION

CEWIGO envisions a world that cherishes good governance and where women and men equally participate and benefit from public decision making. To mobilize and build a critical mass of purposeful and effective women leaders with capacity to influence the governance agenda at different levels through training, research, documentation and advocacy.

## **ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

**The General Assembly:** The General Assembly is the highest governing body of CEWIGO and it is responsible for the formulation of major policy decisions and plans. It comprises 6 members. The General Assembly meets once every year.

**The Board of Directors:** The CEWIGO Board of Directors is comprised of 6 members elected from the General Assembly and the Executive Director is an ex-officio member of the Board. The Board meets four times every year (once every quarter). It has got two committees to support the Secretariat namely: the Finance and Administration Committee; and the Programmes Committee. These Committees meet from time to time to help with the implementation of the organization's programmes and Institutional development issues.

**The Secretariat:** This is located in Ntinda, Kampala, Uganda. It is the coordinating unit of CEWIGO, headed by the Executive Director working with 13 staff.

## **REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR 2014**

The 2014 Annual Report of the Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO) provides overview of the organization's an objectives, interventions and results that were registered in line with the Strategic Plan. The report highlights results under the programme three themes namely: Women's Leadership Development, Women's Rights Advocacy and Community and Citizen's Empowerment.

CEWIGO was founded in 2006 out of a desire to make women's participation in politics and governance to go beyond numbers to transform decisions and service delivery for the benefit women and girls given that they are the most disadvantaged. For the last seven years, CEWIGO has remained at the forefront of enhancing women's participation in political leadership and governance especially at the District level.

In 2014, CEWIGO continued to contribute to the advancement of women's human rights while focusing on the political, social and economic landscape of Uganda on the one hand and emerging paradigms such as the post 2015 development framework, on the other hand. The latter focuses on review of the <u>eight Millennium Development Goals</u> (MDGs) which have been a milestone in global and national development efforts.

In our work especially on political participation of women, we noted that glass ceilings remain a deterrent for ascension to key leadership and governance positions. This compelled us to reflect more on what can be done to overcome existent hurdles and forge pathways for development that are much needed to accelerate progress for women's political leadership and governance.

At the District level, by the end of 2014, over 200 women leaders had been mainly reached through advocacy and civic education trainings for their effective participation in leadership and governance. The approach to our work was by working with District Women Caucuses (formed in 2013). All the caucuses received skills trainings and support throughout the year. As a result, the women were able to successfully influence decisions for gender responsive programming and budgeting during council meetings at the District. Overall, the women are now more organized and able to collectively influence decisions at District Council meetings such as prioritization of gender based violence issues, maternal health, education facilities, girl child education, etc.

In terms of support from the political leadership at the District level, CEWIGO's interventions were well received and supported by all stakeholders. For instance, our work on localization of the NAP on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 with focus on gender based violence, was embraced by District leaders. On this basis, results such as GBV Shelters, female headed academic institutions and gender responsive Local Action Plans are in place. The bonus is that some of these initiatives are spearheaded by the District LC V Chairpersons who have decided to be champions of change during their tenure.

Further afield, together with fellow member organizations of the Women's Democracy Group (WDG)<sup>1</sup>, we consulted widely with the women in a total 50 districts on constitutional reforms ahead of the general election. This was done uninterrupted and with overwhelming support from the District leaders and the media. The resultant document was shared with the Speaker of Parliament - Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga.

At National level, CEWIGO was part of campaigns and initiatives all geared towards women's leadership and governance issues. For instance, we commemorated the 16 days of activism against GBV, participated in international peace week, the and commemorated the International Women's Day. These were not just events but opportunities for lobby and advocacy at the District and national level. CEWIGO is also the lead agency for the Uganda 1325 Coalition and the major focus is on the need for women's participation in leadership for their peace and human security. The coalition conducted a research on the status implementation of the National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325, published and disseminated 2000 copies of the research as well as briefing papers in 7 local languages for reference, lobby and advocacy work beyond 2014.

At the global level, since 2009, CEWIGO has been part of a global Civil Society initiative that conducts annual in-country monitoring of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Uganda. This way we have contributed to the global civil society monitoring on the progress of implementation and thereby urged Uganda to prioritize women, peace and security issues.

Uganda has come a long way in creating a somewhat enabling environment for human advancement rights and that is commendable. However, there is need to move beyond mere utterances and well commitments written to practical implementation. There are still glaring gaps in the lives of women in regard to leadership and governance, education, etc, as indicated by the MDGs. The good news that the outcome of the Rio+20 is Conference on Sustainable Development initiated an inclusive intergovernmental process to prepare a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs). There is broad agreement on the need for close linkages between the two processes to arrive at one global development agenda for the post-2015 period, with sustainable development at its centre.

The UN is working with governments, civil society and other partners to build on the momentum generated by the MDGs and carry on with an ambitious post-2015 sustainable development agenda that is expected to be adopted by UN Member States at the Special Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2015.

As CEWIGO urges decision makers and other fellow stakeholders to walk the talk, we have already risen to the occasion to make our contribution in the lives of women in Uganda and as such, in 2015, our planned strategy is to build and train a critical mass of purposeful and effective women to take up political leadership; mobilize the public to support women political leaders; and support women in balancing their life and leadership roles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WDG comprises five organizations namely: CEWIGO, ACFODE, UWONET, WDN-U and FOWODE

# **2014 INTERVENTIONS**

- **1. Women's Leadership Development**
- 2. Women's Rights Advocacy
- **3. Community and Citizen's Empowerment**

#### 1. WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (WoLD)

This is geared towards enhancing Women's capacity for political leadership and good governance

"Women in politics and decision-making positions in Governments and legislative bodies contribute to redefining political priorities, placing new items on the political agenda that reflect and address women's gender-specific concerns, values and experiences, and providing new perspectives on mainstream political issues."<sup>2</sup>

In 2012, WDG began to implement a project titled "Enhancing District Women Councilors' Leadership Roles". The project aims to build the capacities of Local Women Councilors and to facilitate the formation of women caucuses and thereby enhance effective participation of women in Council. The project is being implemented in 50 districts of Uganda. Geographically, the project covers the regions of West Nile, Karamoja, Central, Western, Eastern and parts of Lango sub-region. Each of the members of the WDG has an allocation of ten districts within which to implement their work. So far, Women caucuses have been formed in all the Districts of operation. CEWIGO's Districts of operation are: Ibanda, Isingiro, Kamwenge, Kiruhura, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Sheema, Kabarole, Kyenjonjo and Kasese. We continued to mentor women's caucuses at LC V to influence decisions that improve the lives of women and girls.

Capacity enhancement, mentorship and support of women caucuses to influence decision making processes for improvement of the lives of women and girls in their districts.



A leadership training In Kabarole

Following a series of trainings for the women caucuses in CEWIGO's ten districts, the women registered a number of achievements on various fronts, through their caucuses. Early in the year, the women caucuses were trained in lobby and advocacy, gender budgeting and accountability, communication skills, public speaking and work/family life balance. In October 2014, follow

up of the caucuses was done in Mbarara and Kabarole districts to get feedback on how these skills were being utilized.

### **VOICES:**

"We conducted sensitization meetings for both sub county members and police to curb down on domestic violence in the district. The caucus identified the most affected sub counties by domestic violence and they came up with Ngarama, Rugaga, Kikagate, Nyakitunda, Nyamuyanja and Isingiro Town Council. They budgeted for 20 million to curb down domestic violence in these sub counties and so they agreed to ensure to put the issue in the district work plan. As a result, the action plan on GBV was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Beijing Platform for Action on Women in Power and Decision making

integrated into the district budget through the Community Based Services committee. The 20 million that the women had budgeted to use in their sensitization efforts was approved in the budget. This way, the caucus is able to demand accountability from a documented view point given that they were part of the budgeting process." – **Isingiro Women's Caucus** 

"In one of the Council meetings, we moved a motion to construct maternity wards at the Health Centres to reduce maternal mortality rates. We have taught women and girls the importance of giving birth from hospitals and not at home. We have encouraged women to join Village Health teams which normally sensitize women on issues of maternal health. We have also encouraged women to go for cancer screening at the district Health Centre 4. We have sensitized women about the Community Driven Development (CDD) projects and several groups have joined CDD in their constituencies. We have involved the woman MP to get funds for the Sheema Women Development Association. We also have planted trees in the district, as part of Corporate Social Responsibility." – **Sheema Women's Caucus** 

"Because of the skills I acquired from CEWIGO, I managed to form an association of women with disabilities in Bushenyi district. Formerly we had an association of both women and men funded by NUDIPU. I used the skill of mobilization to gather women with disabilities and formed our own association called Bushenyi Union of women with disabilities. As I speak we have got funding from NUWODU and a project officer. - Justine Burisadi, Councilor representing PWDs in Bushenyi District

# More stories of change can be read from here: -- <u>http://www.cewigo.org/publication/women-</u><u>speaking</u>

#### Documentation of women's leadership experiences



In 2014, CEWIGO documented the voices of 12 women in political leadership and governance positions from 4 sectors of leadership namely: Political leadership, Health, Education, and the NGO sector. The experiences were put together and published in a book titled' "Inspiring Change: Voices of Ugandan Women leaders," and a video documentary. The aim of the publication and the documentary is to inspire young women and those

already in power and decision making positions to be effective leaders. The women role model leaders shared experiences on balancing work and family, gender equality, advice to young women, empowerment, and sexual exploitation. In a regional democracy dialogue for women leaders held in South Western Uganda, the documentary and the publication were launched. The dialogue was attended by 60 women from 5 districts namely: Sheema, Bushenyi, Ibanda, Mbarara and Isingiro. **One participant had this to say:** 

"Having keenly listened to the advice of fellow Women Leaders during the sub-regional democracy dialogue held in Mbarara, I have decided that I will contest for the position of District Chairperson. I have also decided to discard the negative vibes from people around me. I will go ahead and stand for this

position. Initially, i was scared because I was told that this would not be well-received by my bosses. I will not go against my desires anymore." – **LCV Councilor, Mbarara** 

An eight minute version of the video documentary can be watched on CEWIGO's you-tube channel from here: - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNYw2gc81eI</u>

#### Empowering Women and the Youth to benefit from the discovery of Oil in the Albertine region



In 2013, CEWIGO in partnership with Living Earth Uganda (LEU) began to implement the Oil & Jobs Project whose scope is Western Uganda. The project is premised on the need to support poor and vulnerable groups of women and youth to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the discovery of oil in the region. CEWIGO's project focus is

on advocacy and leadership for women. In 2014, a total of 80 women leaders from Hoima and Buliisa were trained in advocacy and leadership and as a result, the women voices have now been amplified about the injustices in the community. In 2015, the women have planned to launch an advocacy campaign messages that will be communicated to decision makers through radio, drama, posters, etc. The advocacy themes are: Access to clean and safe water; Education of children and functional adult literacy; Equal participation in decision making; equal rights to access and control of land; Support of widows to enjoy rights of inheriting their deceased husbands' property; and family planning.

In a feedback session, some of the trained women shared that they are ready to contest for leadership positions in 2016 while others felt that they are more confident to speak and educate their fellow women through functional adult literacy initiatives. A participant shared that following the CEWIGO trainings, she has been able to form groups and get seed funding from World Vision for the improvement of their livelihoods.

#### National consultations for a gender responsive Constitution

In the last quarter of the year, CEWIGO together with the Women in Democracy Group (WDG) conducted countrywide consultations on constitutional reforms from a gender perspective. Consultations were done both at regional and national level and the result of this intensive process is a document that was officially shared with the Speaker of Parliament - the Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.



Ingrid Turinawe shares her opinion during the national consultations on proposed constitutional reforms

One of the proposed amendments is that all electoral commission materials formulated for civic educational programs should address gender stereotypes and discrimination against women. In 2015, the Coalition will continue to lobby for these reforms to be addressed in 2015, ahead of the 2016 general election. *The proposed reforms can be read from here:* http://www.cewigo.org/sites/default/files/publications/ proposed\_constitutional\_reforms.pdf



#### **Training for Political Party Women's Leagues**

Training Women from Political Party Women's Leagues

Despite their importance, Women's leagues are non-existent in some of Uganda's political parties and where they exist, they are not very effective. Against this backdrop, the WDG Coalition conducted a training for political party women's leagues. As a result the women agreed to: form a network trough which to lobby and

advocate for reforms within the political parties; and a fundraising plan.. Ultimately this will lead to equal treatment with male counterparts, resource allocation for women's leagues, and appointment to decision making positions on political party committees. The training ended on a high note, with a press conference during which women from the different political parties unanimously voiced their recommendations to political parties.

### WOMEN'S RIGHTS ADVOCACY

## This was done through advocacy for conditions that sustain women's peace and human security for good governance.

"In addressing the enjoyment of human rights, Governments and other actors should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes so that, before decisions are taken, an analysis is made on the effects on women and men, respectively." – CEDAW

#### Capacity enhancement for the Uganda 1325 Coalition in advocacy and policy influencing

As the lead agency for the Uganda 1325 Coalition, CEWIGO conducted a 3-day skills training for 45 members (*32 female and 13 male*) at the start of the year. The focus areas of the training were: leading engagement with the Central Government and Parliament; Building powerful coalitions; Monitoring and Evaluation of advocacy work; developing advocacy agenda; and using social media as a visibility channel. Subsequent to the training, Coalition members acquired and made use of skills and competencies in research, advocacy, and documentation. Member organizations like GWED-G have increasingly used the competencies to engage their leaders to prioritize women's peace and human security issues.

"My participation in the monitoring process of implementation of the NAP on UNSCR 1325& 1820 and the Goma Declaration has been very instrumental in improving my knowledge and understanding of these human rights instruments. I am now an expert in this area. The participation has helped me to improve my capacity and performance at the work place. I am able to monitor and evaluate different projects. I have also incorporated peace and human security from a gender perspective in some of the projects at GWED-G. I accord the good partnership with Gulu district to the participation in the monitoring processes because the district believed that we were making a unique contribution towards community development. We raised about 69 million shillings from UN Women to disseminate last year's monitoring findings. From this fund, we held inception meetings with the district leadership, conducted 10 radio talk shows and organized 8 community dialogues where communities and duty bearers were reached." Omona Venis Frobisha, Deputy Program Coordinator, Gulu Women Economic Development and Globalisation (GWED-G)

#### Monitoring implementation of the UNSCR 1325 in Uganda



The Uganda 1325 coalition conducted a research n 20 districts<sup>3</sup> of Uganda and research teams were constituted to collect up-to-date information on the implementation of the Uganda NAP on UNSCR 1325, for the period from July 2013 to June 2014. The exercise targeted 20 districts covering Northern, Eastern, Western and the Central regions of the country. The findings were published in a report titled *"Implementation of the National Action Plan for UNSCR 1325 & 1820 and the Goma Declaration in Uganda."* The report provides up-to-date information and data for informed

<sup>3</sup> The 20 districts were:

advocacy on the implementation of the Uganda National Action Plan. Dissemination of monitoring findings on implementation of the Uganda National Action Plan (NAP)



National launch of the NAP Monitoring report on UNSCR 1325

The report on the findings of the monitoring process was published and launched at a high level conference attended by 150 guests. These included Members of Parliament, District Leaders, CSOs, Members of the Academia and the Media. It was launched by Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga – the Speaker of Parliament who called on all stakeholders to use the findings in their work for the betterment of the citizens of Uganda. The key highlight was the commitment from the stakeholders like the Donor (DGF), the Speaker and the Members of Parliament to prioritize financing

implementation of the NAP on UNSCR 1325, given that it is critical for the advancement of women's human rights. Members of Parliament also committed themselves to voice the advancement of women's rights through UWOPA and to scrutinize the Ministerial Policy Statements to prioritize gender issues.

#### Regional launch and dissemination of findings on the NAP

The monitoring report was also launched at regional level in Gulu District during the 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence and during the Peace Exposition held in Busia, Uganda in December 2014. At both events, there were commitments by District leaders to prioritize the gender issues highlighted in the report especially Gender Based Violence (GBV). Participants appreciated the need to have deliberate strategies to address issues of women, peace and security in a more coordinated and proactive manner



Regional launch of the NAP Monitoring report on UNSCR 1325 in Gulu Ditrict

including more funding towards sectors that implement the NAP notably: the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS), the Health Sector and the Social Development Sector.

#### Localization of 1325 NAP on Gender Based Violence Response and Prevention

Lira and Bushenyi Local Governments developed district Local Action Plans for localizing the NAP on UNSCR 1325, with focus on GBV response and prevention. This brings the number of districts with Local Action Plans (LAP) in line with the NAP to three, in addition to Dokolo that developed its district action plan in 2012. The launch of the LAP in Bushenyi registered the attendance of 120 participants (52 female and 68 male) while the launch of the LAP in Lira was attended by 140 participants (78 female and 62 male). Some districts like Kitgum, Pader and Amuru have integrated some of the indicators of the NAP in their district work plans and were committed to developing local action plans. CEWIGO facilitated two 1- day events.

Consequently, reporting of GBV cases has increased and this is attributed to increased public awareness through a number of interventions to increase knowledge on GBV prevention and response undertaken by various stakeholders including CSOs and government. However, the provision of services for GBV survivors needs to be boosted by tackling challenges such as delays in the justice system. *In terms of progress, Lira District had this to say:* 



"I thank CEWIGO and other partners who helped the Lira District Local Government in the processes of developing the Lira District Action Plan in the fight against GBV. As the district leadership, we were vigorously trained and subsequently came up with an action plan that was approved by the District Council. Since then, we have trained fellow leaders and have planned to meet the religious and cultural leaders soon. Where we have done a tremendous job is in the improvement of administration in schools. A reasonable

number of Head-teachers are female because they are not corrupt; there are very few defilement cases when schools are headed by female Headteachers. This is part of our advocacy, following the development of the Local Action Plan. Further afield, Lira District has established a Gender Based Violence Shelter for reporting GBV cases and for counseling. It is functional and being run by very active ladies. I must say that we have been able to fulfill all our commitments indicated in the Local Action Plan. We thank CEWIGO that has been supportive to Lira." -- Hon. Alex Oremo, -- Lira District Chairperson (during the launch of the UNSCR 1325 implementation in Uganda)

#### Media Advocacy

In regard to media advocacy on women, peace and security issues, CEWIGO leading the Uganda 1325 Coalition spearheaded media advocacy interventions targeting 6 districts calling on the public to deliberate on the gaps that still exist in the various sectors The talk shows were held in six districts namely: Gulu, Bushenyi, Kampala, Katakwi Lira and Kasese. During the talk shows, discussions not only focused on the key findings and recommendations of the monitoring process, but also on women's peace and human security issues in general.

#### Dissemination and use of findings on the NAP monitoring report



1,000 copies of the Monitoring report on the NAP were printed together with 3500 copies of translated briefing papers (500 copies per 7 local languages) on the key issues that arose out of the monitoring process. The publications were shared at the national and regional launch events as well as with various stakeholders throughout the year. In the past, the findings of the monitoring report have been used to inform research on women's leadership. For instance, the Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE) 2014 publication entitled; *"Reality Check: Women in leadership positions* 

*in Uganda*" extracted information from CEWIGO's Monitoring Report 2013. *Click here for the full report: -- http://cewigo.org/publication/implementation-national-action-plan-unscr-1325-1820-and-goma-declaration-uganda* 

#### Commemoration of the International Peace Week in Adjumani, West Nile

CEWIGO together with members of the ICCO Alliance<sup>4</sup> participated in the International Peace Week celebrations that took place in Adjumani, Northern Uganda. A series of activities were organized including a Secondary Schools debate on whether Uganda is peaceful; Prison outreach; Sports, a peace vigil; and radio talk show. On the Peace day, members of the Civil Society utilized



the opportunity to call on the government to declare a national day for peace and reconciliation; consider enactment of the Peace Policy; and strengthen mechanisms of addressing Gender Based Violence.

#### Participation in the 58<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW)

The participation in the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the UN CSW enabled CEWIGO to be part of the global advocacy movement on gender equality and women's rights as a critical component of the post 2015 development agenda. CEWIGO attended various parallel events hosted by UN agencies, country permanent missions to the UN, as well as the Africa Women's Caucus meetings every evening. Our participation also presented the opportunity for the organization to contribute to the position paper for the African Women's Caucus.

#### Sharing and learning at the 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNSCR 1325



2014, In October CEWIGO participated in the commemoration of UNSCR 1325 anniversary in New York during which we shared our work on women, peace and security, on behalf of the Uganda 1325 Coalition. This resolution acknowledges the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls. It calls for the adoption of a gender perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls during conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction. The event gave us an opportunity to learn from others how to lobby and advocate better for

implementation of the resolution in Uganda. Some of the lessons learnt were replicated during our own advocacy day during which we urged the government and other stakeholders to prioritize financing of the UNSCR 1325.

<sup>4</sup> The ICCO Alliance is comprised of 3 organizations namely: CEWIGO, Uganda Joint Christian Council and Inter-Religious Council of Uganda. The overall objective of the Alliance is to increase CSO engagement in policy formulation processes for conflict in Northern and Eastern Uganda.

#### **3. COMMUNITY AND CITIZEN'S EMPOWERMENT**

This was done through civic education to support advocacy for social accountability and women's participation in good governance

#### **Through this intervention, Jovelyn Tayebwa, a Councilor from Isingiro District shared that:** "After the creation of Isingiro District, my sub-county – Kabingo - remained without any government secondary school. Therefore I sat with my fellow Councilors and lobbied them to write to the Ministry through the district. As a result, the Town Council was allocated 400 million shillings for construction of a school."



Women singing during a community drama show at Birere sub-county

This programme aims to empower communities, women, men, boys and girls with knowledge and skills to influence public behavior and attitude change that support good governance, and women's participation in leadership and decision making. When citizens know their rights and constitutional responsibilities, they are in a better position to engage electively in their governance, elect leaders of good standing, and ensure that the leaders (elected and holding public office) remain accountable and committed to the delivery of quality social services.

The main intervention under this programme was a project titled "Strengthening of mechanisms for public accountability to improve women's maternal health services and education of girls." This was implemented in two Districts namely: Isingiro and Bushenyi. In Isingiro two sub-counties were targeted i.e. Birere and Ngarama; and in Bushenyi it was Kyamuhunga and Bumbarie sub-counties. During the implementation period, leaders and citizens of all the sub-counties progressively contributed to corrective action that responds to the needs of communities.

#### The results:

#### Improved reporting on health and education service delivery in the sub-counties of focus.

98% leaders of the targeted 134 devised strategies to improve service delivery in health and education. For instance, Ms Anna Baitwababo Kisembo - the District Woman Councillor representing Bumbaire sub-county continuously brought issues raised in the sub-county dialogue meetings to the attention of the District Council during council meetings. As a result she was acknowledged for her work of following up the issues raised by the community in regard to delivery of maternal health services and promoted to Secretary for Health, Education and Community Based Services for the district. The District now has 60 women's representation in the District Executive Committee.

Ngarama Sub-county Councillors together with district councillors passed a resolution to stop school leaders from penalising pupils over failure by their parents or guardians to fulfil the commitments agreed during school meetings. This was overturned by a counter resolution in favour of the pupils, the result of which was a marked reduction in absenteeism by the pupils.

In Bumbaire Sub-county, the head teachers of all public schools and in-charge of Health Centre III participated in sub-county budget and planning meetings, so that critical issues affecting their institutions are included in the plans and budgets. The Bumbaire Sub-county Councillor shard that: "We used to plan for these schools and Health Centres based on guess work, but now that we have monitoring reports of community Monitors, we are obliged to use the information to inform our planning and invite head teachers and in-charges to highlight the most critical needs of their schools and health facilities such that our Plan and budget is responsive to their needs."

In Isingiro district, 2 district Councillors together with 21 Sub-county Councillors in Ngarama working through the office of the Secretary for Education, Health and Community Based Services requested for more rainwater-harvesting tanks for primary schools and at the Health Centres to reduce the burden of children and patients having to go with water during the dry periods. This requirement used to scare expectant mothers who resorted to either going to Mbarara regional hospital or give birth from their homes. The effect of this was the unnecessary infant mortality and maternal death.

Sub-county Councillors in all the four sub counties enforced the regulation of the Ministry of Education to have each primary school and health facility display the names of staff on duty, amount of funds received per quarter from central government, the number of children present and absent per day, and the number of patients attended to per month. This has made it easier for community members to hold those who are absent to account. The Birere Sub-county Chairperson has gone further to display his telephone number on the notice boards at Schools and Health Centres for citizens to contact him directly in case of poor services, or report information was not displayed.

#### The district leaders took action on the following issues:

- In regard to health issues, there was deliberate recruitment of health workers in the two districts of Bushenyi and Isingiro. For instance, in Bushenyi district, there were only nine health workers at Kabushaho Health Centre III but the number has since risen to 21 permanent staff and this has reduced long queues at the health centre.
- The district leaders of Bushenyi reported that they were using the citizens forums established under this intervention to sensitize the civil servants on their obligations to effectively deliver services to the citizens and to address issues that impede duty bearers from performing their roles effectively. For instance, in Kabushaho Health Centre III, the district provided electricity power in the wards and staff quarters, and brought tap water to the facility.
- In Birere Sub-county, district Councillors lobbied for an additional rain water harvesting tank for the health centre. Pipes for gravitational water were also laid to reach the health centre. The construction of the maternity ward at Kasana health centre was also completed.
- In Kyamuhunga Sub-county, the maternity which had a huge crack in the wall posing a threat to the safety of mothers was renovated. This issue was raised during the sub county and district dialogues and the leaders took a decision to repair it immediately. The in-charge of Kyamuhunga has this to say:

"I thank CEWIGO for empowering the community with relevant skills and knowledge; they are helping us in demanding for quality services. They put the area male Member of Parliament to task, to explain why the expectant mothers should share the ward with men and children because the crack in the wall has never been fixed. The member raised the issue with the Chief Administrative Officer and the next day, a team from the district came to assess the crack, and it was repaired a week later. We are now installing water and the ward will open mid June 2014."

#### The following were helpful in registering the results:

- The" baraza" style approach to discuss the issues that affect service delivery in health and education is non confrontational and it led to a friendly working relationship between service providers and the leaders.
- Involving all key stakeholders sub county and district leaders in sub county activities made it easy for them to appreciate the objectives of the interventions.
- Some monitors especially in Kyamuhunga used drama shows as an effective avenue to create and increase awareness of the community members of their rights and roles in ensuring that their leaders and service providers deliver accordingly.

All in all, there is marked improvement especially in increasing awareness of community members and leaders about their roles and rights in promotion of responsive service delivery. The community members are now monitoring the government programmes especially health and education. The leaders now appreciate the project because it has brought them closer to the duty bearers. The two parties are able to meet and discuss the challenges that affect quality service delivery in health, education and other government led programmes and projects.

The intervention also contributed to the self confidence of community monitors as the issues raised by them are still being addressed long after the end of the Project.



A community meeting



A rainwater harvesting tank in Birere Subcounty

#### **COMMUNICATION and ADVOCACY**

This the newest function of CEWIGO aimed at targeted and effective visibility and advocacy in line with CEWIGO's vision and mission. CEWIGO set out to develop an advocacy and visibility plan, produce and share information materials, develop a mailing and distribution plan to share our work especially publications, revamp its website, improve media relations and proactively lobby and advocate for gender and women's rights concerns.

The objectives of the Communication and Advocacy function of CEWIGO are to:

- Increase awareness on the need and effects of women's political leadership and participation.
- Increase visibility of CEWIGO's work through regular engagement with the media.
- Facilitate women with communication platforms through which they can raise their concerns.
- Foster posterity of CEWIGO's contribution to development through effective documentation and sharing of its work with partners and stakeholders.
- Engage with the rest of the world though regular and proactive digital media advocacy.

#### The accomplishments were:

#### A Communication and Advocacy Strategy

In 2014, CEWIGO developed its first ever communication and advocacy strategy, the goal of which is to increase visibility and results of CEWIGOs work as well as integrate evidence-based documentation for lobby advocacy during programme implementation. Implementation of the strategy began, the results of which were as follows:

• A revamped interactive and easily navigable website

The CEWIGO website was given a face-lift and to date it is easy to navigate, interactive given that visitors can mail feedback to CEWIGO, and it is a gateway to our social media platforms including our youtube videos, twitter, facebook and the blog. Click here to visit the website <a href="http://www.cewigo.org">http://www.cewigo.org</a> . Usage of the website was monitored using **analytics** – a website monitoring tool powered by Google.





Production of a quarterly Electronic Bulletin -- This is a colorful 12 paged electronic publication that highlights CEWIGO's work on a quarterly basis. It is shared on our own mailing list and other mailing lists to which we are subscribed. The first two copies were shared widely and uploaded on the website. A quick link to the bulletins is:

http://www.cewigo.org/system/files/attachments/cewigo\_ebulletin\_issue\_no\_1\_.pdf

Mailing and Distribution Lists -- CEWIGO created its own mailing list <u>cewigo-list@cewigo.org</u> and distribution list through which we shared information on our interventions during the year. The lists is managed by the communication officer who moderates messages before they are shared with the rest of members.

#### Production of Information, Education and Communication Materials



Sharing information with the Min. of State for Gender – Hon. Nakadama

As part of CEWIGO's branding and visibility, publishing and dissemination of IEC materials was done in 2014. The materials include 2 banners, 100 copies of the 2013 Annual Report and 100 copies of the Newsletter. We also printed 1000 copies of the UNSCR 1325 Monitoring Report and 3500 briefing papers to accompany the report. The publications were uploaded on the website, shared on mailing lists, and shared during events such as the UNSCR 1325 anniversary, the International Peace Week and the 16 days of activism against gender based violence. Through information dissemination, we reached close to 5,000 stakeholders in 2014.

#### • Media relations

During some of the events, we got print and broadcast media coverage by media houses such as the Nation Media Group and the Vision Group. The two media houses have got country-wide outreach. CEWIGO also held press conferences, radio talk shows and wrote in the papers on topical issues such as the need to increase funding for gender equality. -- <u>http://www.newvision.co.ug/news/662449-kadaga-calls-for-increased-funding-on-gender-issues.html</u>



Press conference by the WDG on proposed constitutional reforms from Women

#### • Social media networking

All of CEWIGO's social media platforms were used to communicate mostly real time updates throughout the year. Our likes went up and so did the traffic and enquiries on how to partner with CEWIGO in its interventions. CEWIGO will continue to use these platforms not just to inform but also for advocacy to get feedback from stakeholders beyond our physical reach and scope of operation. Our facebook link is:

<u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cewigo-Centre-For-Women-In-</u> <u>Governance/212721188754364?ref=tn\_tnmn</u> Our twitter link is <u>https://twitter.com/CEWIGOuganda</u>

And you can read our blog posts from here: - <u>http://www.cewigo.org/blog</u>

### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND HUMAN RESOURCE

#### GOVERNANCE

#### Board Meetings, Retreat and Annual General Assembly

In 2014, CEWIGO got new members of the Board of Directors. The Board met once every quarter to give guidance to the Secretariat where needed. In addition, the Board had a Annual General Assembly and a retreat during which a new direction was agreed upon with emphasis on the need to mobilize and support women to purposefully and effectively participate in political leadership and governance.

### The Board Members



#### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

#### 1. Training

In 2014, staff development undertook short trainings necessary for the accomplishment of CEWIGO's goal and objectives. The trainings were also meant for them to grow personally and professionally, while working with CEWIGO. Some of the training and learning opportunities were:

- The Women, Peace and Security Training Institute in Bangkok, Thailand hosted by Isis-WICCE in August 2014 for selected women peace building organizations from Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nepal, South Sudan and Uganda. The theme of the Institute was 'Women's Agency in Peace Building and Human Security.' One staff member benefitted from this Institute and on return, she took the rest of the team through a lobby and Advocacy replica training.
- **Regional workshop in conflict prevention and transformation** organized by CECORE in Kampala was attended by the Programme Officer Women's Rights and Advocacy.
- **Basic computing** was attended by the Office
- Defensive driving attended by the Transport Associate
- **Financial Management and Reporting** conducted by the UN Women attended by the Finance Officer and Programme Officer (WRAP).
- **Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation**: The Communication and Advocacy Officer attended this one week training conducted for DGF Grantees.
- 2. Staffing



Staff with two founder members – Prof. Maxine Ankrah and Hon. Dr. Miria Matembe

In the course of the year, some CEWIGO Staff moved left the organization. In response, CEWIGO recruited some staff to continue running the programmes. In addition, a number of short contract staff and interns were taken on under the different programmes, to ensure that implementation of programmes remains uninterrupted.

#### 2014 Staff Members

No	Name	Designation
1	Robinah Rubimbwa	Executive Director (Jan – Aug 2014)
2	Joy Mukisa	Ag Executive Director (Aug – Dec 2014)
		Programmes Manager (Jan- Aug 2014)
3	Clare A. Karema	Finance Officer (Jan- Aug 2014)
4	Sylvia Namale	Communication and Advocacy Officer
5	Goretti Komurembe	Programme Officer -WRAP
6	Joanita Davina Kako	Programme Officer - WoLD
7	Edwins Ahumuza	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
8	Prudence Atukwatse	Programme Assistant
9	Ronald Tumuhaise	Accounts Assistant
10	Michael Mukasa	Programme Assistant
11	Goretti Arego	Administrative Assistant
12	Bruce Rwabajungu	Transport Associate
13	Monicah Namwanda	Office Assistant
14	Roy Amani	Security Associate

#### Staff recruited for short term additional support

- Harriet Lisa Acen Programmes Management Support
- Martha Apeduno Support to the WoLD Programme
- Proscovia Ititu Finance Office Support



## **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

The objective of this function is to ensure an adequate system of internal controls necessary for optimal utilization of resources and promotion of compliance with the organization's policies and procedures.