



Centre for Women in Governance

ANNUAL REPORT 2020





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ABOUT CEWIGO

The Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO) is a National level, Non-Governmental, non-partisan, not-for-profit advocacy organization that was established in 2006. CEWIGO implements activities at national and local levels in partnership with government line ministries, district Local Governments, parliamentary committees, women councils, women led Community Based Organizations (CBOs) as well as national, regional and international women's organizations and networks.

Our Vision

CEWIGO envisions a world in which society values and cherishes good governance, where women and men equally participate and benefit from good governance.

Our Mission

To mobilize women and build their capacity to influence governance at all levels and to increase awareness that where women and men share equally in the generation and maintenance of good governance, the benefits accrue to all society.

Our Values

- Integrity
- Mutual respect
- Excellence
- Equity
- Commitment
- Innovativeness



OUR PROGRAMMES

Programme Area 1: Women's Leadership Development (WoLD) Programme

The objective of the Women's Leadership Development Programme is to strengthen the role of women and men in promoting and engaging in good governance. An important milestone under this program has been the training of women leaders including parliamentarians at national level and local councilors at district and other lower local councils to strengthen their capacity and increase their effectiveness. We engage political and technical leaders for gender responsive legislation, planning and budgeting. The program also focuses on creating a positive mind set by engaging communities, spouses of women leaders, religious leaders, cultural leaders and civic leaders to improve their appreciation and support for women's political leadership at all levels.

Programme Area 2: Women's Rights Advocacy Programme (WRAP)

The purpose of the Women's Rights Advocacy Programme is to advocate for conditions that promote the protection of women's rights. Under this program, CEWIGO increases public awareness of women's rights, strengthens the capacity of women's rights focused organisations/institutions and advocates for the formulation and implementation of gender responsive laws, policies and programmes

Programme Area 3: Citizen's and Community Empowerment Program (CEP)

The Citizen's and Community Empowerment Program aims at empowering citizens to demand for accountability and good governance. Under this program, CEWIGO supports community members to understand their rights and duties and facilitates feedback platforms for interface between leaders and the citizenry for effective accountability.

Strategic Objectives

- To strengthen women's leadership and capacity to influence positive change at national, local and grassroots levels.
- To advocate for conditions that sustain women's peace and security for good governance.
- To take lead in influencing the integration and delivery of key aspects in national civic education programs that support women's participation in governance.

OUR APPROACHES

- Capacity building to enhance women's capacities to effectively participate in the governance agenda. Public awareness on the value of women's political leadership, service delivery and rights and duties of citizens and the state.
- Working with Local Governments to influence decision making in favour of women's rights and good governance.
- Male involvement (engaging with religious, cultural & opinion leaders and spouses of women leaders).
- Partnership with key stakeholders at National, Local and community levels
- Advocacy on women's rights including Women, Peace and Security



Aspiring women
councillors
brainstorming on
balancing family and
public life

Community leaders
after discussing
the importance of
having women in
decision-making
processes



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

CEWIGO, just like all organizations worldwide, went through numerous challenges in 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic, coupled with disruptions in funding caused untold suffering to our staff and beneficiaries. I applaud our staff members who endured all the challenges and embraced the new modes of work and continued serving our communities despite the limitations of movement, assembly and funding. We also appreciate the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF) who kept the staff in office by funding staff salaries and basic administration expenses during this difficult time.



We are grateful to African Women's Development Fund (AWDF) for their support which enabled us to train women councilors in Western Uganda, specifically in Mbarara City and Fort Portal City. This funding enabled us to build the women councilors' capacity to participate in political leadership and decision-making processes. This funding also made it possible to engage community leaders, both men and women, to enable them understand the importance of having both men and women in leadership, so that they can sensitize community members and get their support. As far as institutional development is concerned, we are grateful to Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), for their support. In order to serve our beneficiaries better, we needed to have the capacity at the personnel and institutional levels. GIZ took the staff through a series of training, including communication, information management and monitoring and evaluation; and also equipped the organisation with furniture. We thank them for this generosity and hope to continue working together for the good of our communities. On behalf the Board of Directors, I pledge our commitment to continue supporting management to impact our women and men for a more inclusive and tolerant society. It is with great pleasure that I acknowledge the Board's support in 2020. Thank you Team.

Margaret Akello

Chairperson, Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVEDIRECTOR

We bring you the 2020 CEWIGO Annual Report, covering the highlights of the year. I am grateful to God for His protection during a very difficult year. His mercies are indeed new every morning, and they never come to an end. To be able to produce this annual report for the year 2020 is a testimony to His goodness. The onset of Covid-19 brought a lot of pain and confusion to the organisation just as it did elsewhere. I am grateful to my colleagues who, despite the confusion and uncertainty, remained true to CEWIGO and what it stands for. Special thanks to Ms Bonnie Kiconco Mutungi, who held the position of Executive Director until 31st August 2020.



The year 2020 found the country preparing for the general elections which were scheduled for January 2021. CEWIGO's main niche being women in political leadership, was also preparing to carry out planned activities that would see a good number of women assuming elective positions. We thank God that despite the pandemic, some activities were still carried out. This was made possible by the generous support of DGF, AWDF, UAF, GIZ.

We bring you the year as it was, implemented activities and their impact on the targeted beneficiaries, both direct and indirect. These activities were carried out in ten districts. We were able to prepare aspiring women councillors for campaigns and the resulting elections, lobby communities, leaders to support both men and women, and desist from divisive propaganda. We believe this was necessary to get suitable leaders into office and promote inclusive decision-making processes. This report highlights some of the major projects that we were able to implement guided by our Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Goal; *"To mobilise women and build their capacity to influence governance at all levels and increase awareness on the participation of women in the governance agenda of their communities and country at large"*.

Jocelyn Ekochu

Ag. Executive Director

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

In 2020 the outbreak of COVID-19 was declared a pandemic and most countries put up strict lockdown measures to control the spread of the deadly virus. Prevention measure in Uganda did not differ from other countries except in regard to the levels of strictness and modes of implementation.

Preparations for the 2021 political campaigns were seriously affected by the strict lockdown, which changed the whole landscape and adversely impacted the conditions under which campaigns were carried out. Campaigns were expected to be done through a hybrid of “scientific” physical meetings and virtual ones. This requirement meant that only a small number of people would be allowed to meet physically, while others would participate virtually. This arrangement did not favour our beneficiaries (aspiring women councillors) the majority of whom did not have access to online meetings

The campaigns were mostly online, a situation that did not favour those who did not have smart phones, those with smartphones but could not afford internet charges and those who did not know how to use the online campaign tools. Other challenges, most of which are highlighted in our Covid-19 Situational Analysis Report were still prevalent. This report can be accessed at <https://cewigo.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/CEWIGO-COVID-19-Situational-Analysis-Report.pdf>.

Nevertheless, we were determined to help our beneficiaries, the women leaders, and therefore we persevered and found ways to support them in the campaigns through training and advocating for a fairer political environment using a scientific approach. The organisation adopted to new virtual strategies of implementation such organising Tweet chats and online conferences among others. This was achieved through building staff capacity hence enabling them to be more adaptive to improving technology.



CEWIGO staff
after a meeting on
how to support
beneficiaries
in a restrictive
environment

2020 IN NUMBERS

Number of funding partners

In 2020, we were able to acquire more grants in addition to DGF. CEWIGO through continued resource mobilization managed to reach out to more project districts and expanding and more administrative units. The 2020 newly acquired grants include AWDF, GIZ, WSR, UAF. All the acquired grants have helped in promoting and engaging in good governance.

Number of administrative units.

CEWIGO was initially implementing its project in the 9 districts. After acquiring more funds, CEWIGO expanded by one more district, bringing the number to 10.

Number of beneficiaries.

CEWIGO under different projects has managed to reach out to a number of beneficiaries that included women political leaders, technocrats, religious and cultural leaders, election observers, women and youth peace advocates, women candidates. Under DGF, we met 2,761 beneficiaries, 403 beneficiaries under Women Situation Room, 1702 beneficiaries under AWDF and 1000 under UAF.



Community
leaders
identifying
issues affecting
them, and
generating
ideas for
solutions

IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS

In 2020, a number of projects were implemented in the 10 districts.

Enhancing the Capacity of Women and Female Youth Councillors to Effectively Participate in Decision Making Processes; and Democratic Space for Gender Equality

In preparations for the expected general elections of 2021, CEWIGO conducted the following preliminary activities;

- ***Training of nominated women candidates in all the project districts:*** The objective of this activity was to equip the nominated candidates with skills in seeking for votes and using media as a campaign platform, since physical rallies were banned.
- ***Training of election observers:*** This training was carried out with the sole purpose of building their capacity to observe the 2021 general elections and highlight areas for improvement. The resultant reports were shared with regional offices of the Electoral Commission.

Implementation strategies were revised in bearing the Ministry of Health guidelines for preventing the spread of Covid-19. In order to observe social distancing, the number of beneficiaries was halved and the number of activity days doubled. Surveys were carried out by telephone and a report was produced and disseminated. Some women councillors were given the opportunity to present their manifestos on radio talk-shows, which helped them to reach more people. Unfortunately, this service could not be accorded all candidates due to funding constraints.

Promotion of Active Participation of Women and Youth in Ensuring Peaceful Elections in Uganda in 2021

- ***The Women's Situation Room (WSR):*** The WSR is an initiative put in place to promote peace before, during and after elections. It was overseen by the Women International Peace Centre and implemented by 15 organisations. In preparation for the 2021 general elections, CEWIGO carried out training of 100 youth and 100 women peace-keepers in Ntungamo and Isingiro districts in Western Uganda.

Assessing the Achievements, Progress, Status and Emerging Issues on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action



Training of youth peace advocates to participate in the promotion of peace before, during and after elections

This was to focus on the priority area of women in power and decision making. This project was conducted in 5 districts as follows;

- A survey was conducted, and a report was produced and disseminated
- A national level dialogue was held with various stakeholders, including government departments and civil society organizations.
- A video documentary was produced, tracking progress of the commitments made, aired on NBS TV and disseminated.
- A position paper was produced for advocacy purposes.

Presentation and discussion of the results from the survey



Institutional Development

Under the GIZ, technical support was extended to CEWIGO in form of building capacity for staff. Activities in this area included;

- Developing a Monitoring and Evaluation framework
- Formulating a Resource Mobilization Strategy
- Training in information management



Members of the Board and staff on a Resource Mobilisation Learning Visit to Kabalore Research and Resource Centre, Fort Portal

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

1. Mid-term Review of the CEWIGO 2018-2022 Strategic Plan.

In March 2018, CEWIGO put in place a Strategic Plan that would span between 2018-2022. This plan has been the bedrock for all operations and project implementation under the vision *“Women and Men equitably participating and benefiting from good governance”*.

September 2020, marked the midpoint of the Strategic Plan (SP) implementation and as a result the Mid-Term Review (MTR) to assess progress was commissioned with financial support from AWDF. The MTR sought;

- To understand whether the organization was on track with set objectives
- To know if projects and activities were still relevant to the current environment;
- To assess the extent of progress on the milestones indicated in the strategic plan
- To ascertain CEWIGO’s relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of the programmes.

2. Annual staff retreat.

CEWIGO conducted a staff retreat with the purpose of training and equipping them with knowledge and practical skills in the use of online communication platforms like zoom, Ms Teams, and improving in proposal writing, developing policy papers, policy briefs and report writing. And also enhance staff’s social relations and define roles within the team



Members of the staff during the retreat. In addition to enhancing their skills, the activity strengthened their bonding.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Board of Directors has the pleasure to present a belief overview of CEWIGO's financial performance as extracted from the audited financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31st December 2020. The overview shows performance in 2020 as compared to 2019. It focuses on the statement of comprehensive income.

Statement of Comprehensive Income for The Year Ended 31st December 2020

Particulars	2020	2019
	UGX	UGX
	Total	Total
Income from Grant transfers	1,300,700,050	1,171,750,861
Expenditure from Grant transfers	1,472,263,390	1,019,822,046
Surplus fund	(171,493,340)	151,928,815

Performance Highlights

The total grant income, increased by UGX129 Million (11%); from UGX1.17 billion to UGX 1.30 billion. This is attributed to new partners that came on board during the year, namely African Women Development Fund (AWDF), Urgent Action Fund (UAF) and the Women's Situation Room (WSR). These supplemented our already existing grant from the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF).

Total expenses increased by UGX453 million (44%); from UGX1.01 billion to UGX1.47 billion. This is due to many activities that were carried out during the year in relation to 2021 Uganda general elections that involved training of female political candidates, training of election observers among others. The deficit featuring in the accounts was due to activities financed by opening balances from 2019.

OUR TEAM

FOUNDERS

1. Hon. Dr. Miria Matembe
2. Prof. Maxine Ankrah
3. Ms. Maude Mugisha
4. Hon. Sarah Kiyangi Kyama

BOARD MEMBERS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Margaret Akello | Chairperson |
| 2. Albert Mugumya | Treasurer |
| 3. Babra Babwetera | Member |
| 4. Amb. Edith S Sempala | Member |
| 5. Barigye John | Member |
| 6. Algrencia Akwi | Member |

SECRETARIAT STAFF

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Jocelyn Ekochu | Ag. Executive Director |
| 2. Rodgers Ahebwa | Finance Manager |
| 3. Winnie Nabisinyo | M&E Officer |
| 4. Murshid Nsubuga | Program Officer |
| 5. Bajwera Winniefrey | Administration and Procurement |
| 6. Angella Natukunda | Program Assistant |
| 7. Patricia Kirabo Kyamaria | Program Volunteer |
| 8. Charles Ssemuga | Transport Associate |
| 9. Isaac Gessa | Office Assistant |





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