

# OXFAM IN UGANDA



**JANUARY AND FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

## HIGHLIGHTS



**OXFAM IN UGANDA  
BACK ON LINKEDIN**



**OXFAM NOVIB  
DELEGATION VISITS  
UGANDA PROGRAMMES**



**LINKAGES BETWEEN WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT AND CARE  
WORK**



**COMMUNITY RADIOS FOR  
EARLY ACTION**

## NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS YUMBE



Oxfam in Uganda recently hosted a delegation from the Norwegian Embassy in Kampala, headed by H.E Ambassador Anne Kristin Hermansen, the Norwegian Ambassador to Uganda in the Bidi Bidi Refugee settlement.

The team interacted with Unity Savings and Farmers group, in Zone 1, village 13 in Bidi Bidi. The group members shared the achievements gained from the previous phase of the project including saving and buying a grinding mill to handle their post-harvesting as well as saving over four million Uganda shillings which was distributed among the group members.

The project participants also shared the challenges they've faced in the previous phase including the inaccessibility of markets for their produce and lack of access to land.



Oxfam in Uganda in partnership with Uganda Disaster and Refugee Management Council and SEE (Social, Economic, and Environmental) Impact are implementing the 27-month project 'Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment and Resilience under Leadership, Empowerment, Access, and Protection (LEAP II) project. The project focuses on Refugee and Host Community Women and Girls Affected by Conflict, Severe Drought, and Forced Displacement in the refugee hosting districts of Yumbe, Terego, and Kyegegwa.

The project is aimed at ensuring that refugees and host community women and girls affected by crises live, participate in, and benefit from the humanitarian response and recovery.

## MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KITS HELP GIRLS TO KEEP IN SCHOOL



When we left South Sudan for Uganda in 2014, we were settled in Rhino Camp Settlement in Madi Okollo District. I live with my aunt, my sister and my three brothers. Because of competing needs at home, using sanitary pads is a luxury. I was using pieces of clothes as my menstrual towel, which I would wash on a daily basis – every evening. An opportunity for me and other girls came when Oxfam team visited our school. The head teacher and our matron registered the girls who had started menstruating and we later received many items from Oxfam, which I later learnt were menstruation hygiene kits. [READ MORE](#)

## OXFAM IN UGANDA ORGANIZES FEMINIST PRINCIPLES TRAINING

The Gender Justice and Women Rights team recently organised training for staff and partners to enlighten them on feminism principles.

Oxfam is committed to transforming unequal gender and power relations. This means ending sexism so that women are free of political, social, and economic oppression and exploitation. To advance this commitment, all its work is guided by 11 feminist principles.

The principles are; sharing power, challenging behaviour, supporting the feminist movement, feminism is for everyone, there is no justice without gender justice, there is nothing about us without us, championing diversity, valuing safety, having a supportive environment, freedom of expression, and eliminating gender-based violence.

The 2-day training conducted in the various Oxfam locations, including Kampala and Mbale was attended by a cross-section of staff, partners, and district leaders. The activity was a building block to the 16 days of activism actions that were conducted at the end of 2023 under the theme 'Invest to Prevent Violence

*against Women & Girls'.*

The training was facilitated by the Gender Justice and Women's Rights team led by Jane Ocaya-Irama, the Women's Rights Coordinator, Peace Immaculate Chandini, and Wilson Senyonyi, the Gender and Protection Coordinator.

Eunice Musiime, a feminist lawyer and women's rights activist, covered in-depth topics on feminist approaches and how they can be integrated into humanitarian work.

Through group presentations and peer learning, the training delivered actionable commitments. Among other pledges, the trained participants committed to applying the feminist principles in all interventions, passing on the knowledge to their colleagues, and conducting a risk assessment on integrating the principles in humanitarian work.

Speaking at the close of the training in Mbale, Steven Olupot, the Mbale Area manager, commended the Gender Justice and Women's Rights team and implored the staff and partners to use their newly acquired knowledge in their daily work



## IST HOLDS CONSULTATIVE AND AWARENESS DIALOGUE ON THE NEW MARKET ACT REFORMS WITH MARKET VENDORS IN SOROTI CITY

The Institute for Social Transformation (IST), with support from Oxfam in Uganda, held a two-day public consultative and awareness dialogue on the new Markets Act reforms, fiscal and gender policy with market vendors in Soroti City.

Together with different civil society organizations (CSOs), the participants developed advocacy actions, including translated IECs for awareness creation, policy briefs, and media engagements to influence the effective formulation and implementation of the market's regulations.

In 2023, President Yoweri Museveni assented to the Market Act, 2023, replacing the 1942 Market Act, which did not provide for the management of vendors,

in the affairs of the markets and vendors registration.

One of the key objectives of the market regulations is to operationalize the law relating to establishing and controlling markets in Uganda and to ease the processes of establishing and managing markets by local governments and private persons.

Sophie Nampewo, Finance for Development Coordinator, noted that 'there is a great need to focus on women in business and cross border trade, helping women to improve their businesses, compliance, creating record systems and enabling fairness to bring justice.



## LEAP 1 IMPROVES POSITIVE COPING MECHANISMS IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN ISINGIRO, KISORO, KAABONG, AND MOROTO DISTRICTS.



***Some of the activities such as establishing tree nurseries, opening roads that have been implemented***

[The Leadership Empowerment Access and Protection \(LEAP\) project](#) has shown positive coping mechanisms amongst the vulnerable communities where it has been implemented in the Karamoja region and Southwestern Uganda.

Funded by UN Women, the short-term project has been implemented by Oxfam in Uganda in consortium with the National Association of Women's Organisations in Uganda (NAWOU), African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD), and Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL).

The project focused on women and girls affected by conflict, severe drought, and forced displacement in Moroto, Kaabong, Isingiro, and Kisoro districts of Uganda through activities that improve their livelihood and resilience to disasters and shocks.

Project participants were engaged in activities that mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change as well as strengthen their food and nutrition. These include kitchen gardening, establishing tree nursery beds for agroforestry, making energy-saving cooking stones, and community-based integrated early warning systems to enable communities to identify disasters such as floods, and drought for disaster risk reduction.

The communities were also engaged in cash-for-work activities. Cash for work provides short-term work while providing the participants with means to sustain themselves. It ensures the rehabilitation of community assets while maintaining the dignity of the communities.

In Karamoja, the focus was on desilting one of the dams to ensure water availability for farming and animals and opening an access road. In Isingiro and Kisoro, the focus was on opening new access roads that connect the communities to key facilities like schools and health centers.

Additionally, the communities adopted the training on making energy-saving cooking stoves using local materials due to their various advantages. These include reducing the time women take to collect firewood, providing an alternative source of income to women through selling stoves, and environmental protection.

During one of the monitoring visits, the UN Women Resilient Livelihood thematic lead indicated that they were impressed with the project's progress and the immediate outcomes within such a short implementation period. They were equally happy with Oxfam and partner engagement with the various stakeholders, including the local leaders and authorities.

The hope is that the community and local leadership will sustain these interventions for improved recovery and coping mechanisms in the face of disasters.



## LOCAL HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP IN CAPACITY BUILDING

Oxfam in Uganda recently conducted a consultation meeting that brought together Refugee Led Organizations (RLOs), Local Non-Governmental Organizations (LNGOs) and Refugee Led Networks (RELON). This aimed to identify the capacity gaps of RLOs, LNGOs, and networks from their perspectives and later generate capacity-strengthening plans for the different supports.

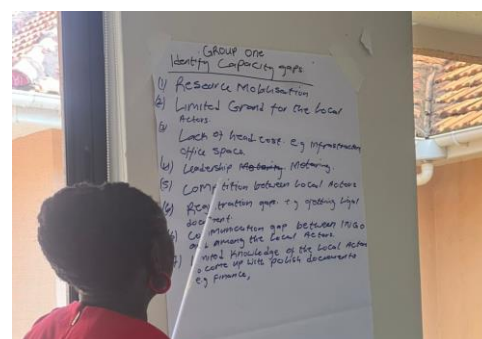
The workshops organized in Arua and Fort Portal cities brought together over twenty-five participants, from different RLOs and LNGOs that Oxfam in Uganda works within its programming across the West Nile and Southwestern Uganda region.

“Through the consultation workshop, we wanted local and national actors to take lead in deciding what works for them during their leadership in humanitarian response.” Geoffrey Owino, the Local Humanitarian Leadership Coordinator at Oxfam in Uganda.

The participants identified gaps for capacity training. The required areas of learning identified include organizational management and governance, fundraising and proposal development, project management, partnership principles, communication, visibility management, and digital rights training.

The workshop was organized under the Refugee and Local Humanitarian Leadership and Advocacy project funded by the Hilton Project, which seeks to advance Oxfam’s commitment to the localisation agenda by putting local and national humanitarian actors at the forefront of humanitarian response.

The outcomes and gaps identified from the consultation meeting will inform Oxfam’s future capacity-strengthening plans for the respective partners.



## TIME TO BRIDGE THE DIVIDES: NAM, G77, AND WEF CAN COLLABORATIVELY FIGHT INEQUALITY



In a world marked by increasing complexity, the powerful meetings happening this month in Uganda and elsewhere in the world, like the World Economic Forum in Davos, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), as well as the third South Summit for the Group of 77, present unique opportunities for collaboration and collective problem-solving on pertinent global issues of concern, including climate change, poverty and inequality, gender inequalities, barriers to regional integration, refugee influx among others.

These seemingly disparate entities must recognise their shared responsibility in addressing global concerns that pave the way for innovative solutions that benefit ordinary person, writes Sophie Nampewo Juba – Finance for Development Coordinator at Oxfam. [READ MORE](#)

## ACTORS CONVENE TO NAVIGATE CHALLENGES AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES IN UGANDA'S OIL LANDSCAPE

Civil society and government actors from the ministries of Finance and Energy convened at Onomo Hotel in Nakasero for the Anti-Corruption workshop in the oil sector organised by The Embassy of Norway in Kampala from 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.

Opened by Hon Betti Kamya, the Inspector General of Government, Hon Betty stressed the significance of the anti-corruption work as Uganda prepares for its first oil.

The workshop addressed anti-corruption efforts with sessions that featured discussions on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), the challenges and opportunities for addressing corruption and oil development, prioritizing actions for coordination and effectiveness across government, civil society, and donors.

The training was facilitated by a team from the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre comprised of Senior Researcher Dr David Aled Williams and Dr Sofie Arjon Schuette who works as a senior advisor at the Norway-based research center.

Siraji Magara Luyima, Oxfam in Uganda's Extractives and Energy Coordinator, said the workshop brought together the different stakeholders in the extractives industry to address challenges emanating from corruption that threaten to turn the oil blessing into a curse.

"It was important to bring everyone together to coordinate and effectively aim towards reducing corruption tendencies in the oil and gas sector," He added that issues of corruption, if not addressed possess the risk of the Ugandan Oil becoming a resource curse."

Magara also noted that the workshop was an opportunity for stakeholders to strengthen their capacity to use the knowledge gained to empower community members to hold stakeholders accountable and ensure that the oil benefits the communities.

The workshop built on U4's research and engagement on anti-corruption effectiveness in the extractives sector, contributing analysis, insights, and discussions of the relevance to supporting international cooperation for Ugandan oil governance.



*"It was important to bring everyone together to coordinate and effectively aim towards reducing corruption tendencies in the oil and gas sector, the issues of corruption, if not addressed possess the risk of the Ugandan Oil becoming a resource curse," - Siraji Magara Luyima - Extractives and Energy Coordinator - Oxfam in Uganda*



## OXFAM IN UGANDA REPRESENTED AT THE 'GIMAC' CONFERENCE

The *Gender Is My Agenda* Campaign (GIMAC) recently convened its 40<sup>th</sup> Pre-summit Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Consultative meeting under the theme: 'Educational Transformation for Gender Equity and Sustainability' in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The meeting from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of February brought together over 300 participants from about 55 national and international organizations from different African countries. It aimed to create a space for civil society to monitor the implementation of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA).

The GIMAC Network led CSOs to examine the gender interplay in various thematic areas including human rights, governance, peace and security, economic empowerment, education, climate change and health under the AU theme of the year - *Educate an African Fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa*.

Oxfam was represented by a team made of Peace Immaculate Chandini, the Gender and Women's Rights Coordinator, and Phillip Taremwa, the Education project Coordinator, who were participants in the discussions that revolved around the Pan African Feminist Alternatives to financing a Resilient Education System for Transformative Learning of Women and girls in Africa.

The highlights of the event were panel discussions, keynote presentations, and the awarding and recognition of African women at the forefront of the gender equality campaign through the Africa Women Gender Award (AWGA) with the efforts of renowned gender advocates like Dr. Vera Songwe, Ms. Awa Ndiaye Seck and Ms. Karen Ondwasi being recognized for their efforts.

The deliberations also sought to identify gaps, provide recommendations, and offer a space for strategic engagement with organs of the African Union and other key actors.

Since its formation in 2002, with the maiden convening in Durban, South Africa, the GIMAC Network has influenced the African Union's Policy and Normative framework so that it could be gender sensitive and responsive by providing guidelines for mainstreaming gender at all levels of the AU, RECs, and member states.



## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT BEGINS AT HOME - TAKING ON ROLES TRADITIONALLY LEFT TO WOMEN



Ochana Geoffrey is a male champion of gender equality. He is the District Gender Officer of Lamwo District Local Government. He shares his thoughts on importances of sharing gender roles.

"This is something I learned during the trainings that have become a part of my life. If you visit my home, you'll find that I help do most of the work. There is nothing like "work for a woman" and I even cook when I need to, nurture the children and wash their clothes, and fetch water when it isn't there. I would consider myself a role model to other men in the community. [READ MORE](#)

## 'COMBATING FOOD INSECURITY' PROJECT – A VISIT BY ELLEN EIDE FROM OXFAM IN DENMARK

Ellen Eide, the Oxfam in Denmark (ODK) Senior Program Manager and Food Security Advisor, visited the NORAD funded ['Combating Food Insecurity' project](#) in Zombo and Terego districts. The 12-month project is implemented by Oxfam in Uganda in consortium with Agency for Community Empowerment (AFCE), Youth Social Advocacy Team (Y-SAT), and International Foundation for Recovery and Development (IFRAD)

During the 5-day visit with Oxfam and partners, she visited the different project components in the poultry value chain, such as the two installed hatcheries per subcounty in the Paidha and Odupi sub-county in the districts of Zombo and Terego. These will supply participant households with Kuroiler birds.

They visited climate-smart agriculture activities implemented by IFRAD to support small-scale food production by promoting horticulture and kitchen gardening in Rhino Camp refugee settlement.

They also visited Imvepi refugee settlement, where cash for work activities were implemented with participants opening access roads connecting to key infrastructure such as health centers. For example, the project participants have opened a 4.5km road in Eden Zone, Rhino Camp refugee settlement, that will link the settlement to the nearest health center. The cash for work has not only provided the participants with income but also enhanced cohesion among refugees.

The Oxfam team followed up the west Nile visit with another bilateral meeting with Ms. Kjersti Lindøe, the Norwegian embassy's Head of Development Cooperation, and other embassy representatives. Here, they made a presentation on the project's progress.

Below is her visit in pictures





## OXFAM AND PARTNERS ESAFF, PELUM, AND NARO PRETEST SCHEDULE X

Oxfam and partners, PELUM, ESAFF and NARO, conducted a two-day farmer field activity in Soroti and Amuria to pre-test Schedule X in the farmer field schools through engaging farmers to provide information on their varieties to determine if they meet the criteria for registration.

Schedule X is a set of guidelines introduced by NARO to support the registration of farmer seed varieties in local communities.

Although farmers have made significant contributions to the development, management, and conservation of a diverse range of crop varieties, national seed regulations typically focus only on crop varieties produced by the formal seed system.

Initiatives such as Schedule X help farmers in seed production, conservation, and marketing.

Enshrined in Article 9 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), it recognizes farmers' contributions to the conservation and development of plant genetic resources and states that national governments are responsible for protecting farmers' rights in accordance with their needs and priorities.

**“For seed varieties to be registered and sold on the market, it should meet a certain criterion. Schedule X guidelines enable small-scale farmers to produce and conserve seeds that meet the market requirements,” Anna Ruyondo – Seed Rights Coordinator, noted.**

Oxfam and partners have been working with small-scale farmers through farmer field schools to promote climate and resilient farming practices in communities and enhance quality seed production in West Nile, Northern Uganda, and Eastern Uganda.

In Soroti and Amuria, Oxfam and partners conducted a Schedule X pretesting in beans and ground nuts.

Most farmer groups have been involved in seed production and conservation. However, without registration, the seeds cannot be sold on the market. Schedule X pretesting helped the farmers to follow the criteria to ensure that the seeds are acceptable for marketing.

Discussions were held with three farmer field schools and suggested recommendations on how best farmers can be supported to have their varieties registered. They included;

- There is a need for the breeders/research center to do variety trial tests to compare with farmers findings and the unique traits with other varieties.
- Breeders should support farmers to identify the distinguishing factors over time
- There is a need to test varieties in different agro-ecologies to determine the stability rate.
- The Team recommended for public awareness on variety of registration.



## ACODE AND OXFAM DISSEMINATE WEE AND CARE KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS



Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), in partnership with Oxfam in Uganda on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024, organized a workshop at Protea Skyz Hotel to disseminate newly developed Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) and CARE Knowledge Products.

The knowledge products were compiled by a team of researchers working with ACODE from the available information, surveys conducted by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), Ministry of Education and Sports, Uganda Time Use Survey, and the Uganda National Panel Survey, among others. The products analysed Economic empowerment (Education Enrolment and Unpaid care), Political Empowerment (Political Participation), and Social Justice.

Under economic empowerment, statistics on unpaid care indicated that 45% of women take care of children, the elderly or people with disabilities all the time compared to 12% of men.

The same inequalities were revealed under political empowerment, with key findings indicating that women occupy only 34% of parliamentary membership and only 45% of cabinet positions, while similar figures were seen in local government leadership, with less than 30% of the women being represented in the Local Government structure leadership.

Socially, the statistics indicated a close link between violence and education showing that intimate partner violence reduces by increase in education, with educated women experiencing few cases of partner violence (8.7%) compared to uneducated (54.3%) women who experience violence more often.

While making the presentation, Dr Susan Kavuma, a research fellow, at ACODE called for the collective effort of all stakeholders in changing the trends revealed in the knowledge products and championing empowerment.

Renowned women's rights activist Dr Miria Matembe spoke about the need to empower women economically. "If you're not empowered economically, you're not empowered at all," she said, adding that political empowerment was equally important

to bring women to the decision-making level.

The event which convened women's rights activists, private sector players, policy analysts, and economists aimed at strengthening capacity of key WEE policy actors to utilize relevant data on care work.

Dr Arthur Bainomugisha, ACODE's Executive Director underscored the progress made by the different actors in the fight for equality for women, such as affirmative action that led to the 1.5 extra points for all female students joining public universities.

These gains notwithstanding, Dr Bainomugisha acknowledged that more still need to be done to advance gender equality and equal rights for women and girls, noting that women were still held back by cultural, social, economic and political barriers.

Charles Opiyo, the Resilient Livelihoods Manager who represented Oxfam's Country Director, commended ACODE for compiling the knowledge products, adding that the products will strengthen the capacity of key policy actors to utilize relevant data and evidence on WEE and care work.

"These products are critical in effectively communicating the importance of Women's Economic Empowerment and Care work to the public. I call on you to uptake these products and use them to influence, support, and inform practice and policy processes and actions aimed at enhancing WEE and tackling Unpaid Care in Uganda," he added.

With funding from [International Development Research Center \(IDRC\)](#), Oxfam in Uganda and ACODE are implementing the '[Strengthening Capacity for Effective Women's Economic Empowerment and Care Interventions in Uganda](#)' project in a bid to increase the effectiveness of WEE and care work policy solutions and programmes by policymakers in Uganda.



## COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE AT THE HELM OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE IN MT ELGON REGION

With funding from the European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), Oxfam in Uganda, in a consortium of Catholic Relief Services, Caritas Tororo and Uganda Red Cross Society are implementing a project '[Strengthening Community-led and locally owned Disaster Preparedness Actions](#)' – also referred to as ECHO DP.

The project aims to address disaster preparedness, both at local and district levels in five districts of Bududa, Butaleja, Mbale, Namisindwa, and Sironko in the Mt Elgon region. ECHO DP aims to ensure that local communities mitigate and prepare for disasters. **MORE IN THE STORIES BELOW:**

- **Leveraging on community structures and indigenous knowledge to strengthen disaster preparedness and response:** Communities are not only victims but are the first responders when disasters strike. They are the first to evacuate and house the victims, identify the hot spots. In the Mt Elgon region, community structures are at the helm of de-risking the disasters. Mt Elgon is one of the regions prone to disasters such as landslides, mudslides, and floods, which destroy property, lives, and livelihoods, leaving the communities devastated. [READ MORE](#)
- **Meet Henry, delivering early warning messages for early action and nurturing passion through community radio** - At the helm of the Nambiti community radio is Sirengo Henry, a charismatic and warm-hearted community radio presenter. Henry stands behind a wooden table with a red microphone in hand. He makes some announcements in his native Lumasaaba language, used across the Mt. Elgon Region in Eastern Uganda. [READ MORE](#)
- **River gauges providing early warnings on floods to communities in the Mt Elgon region** - The river gauge was installed to help communities get early alerts on possible flooding. A gauge is a simple device used to record the water level. It is an enameled metal plate with number values measured in meters installed at a particular point on the river bank. This specific river gauge takes readings up to 200 meters. [READ MORE](#)

## THIS WAS MY FIRST TRIP TO AFRICA. SO, WHEN YOU THINK OF A FRESH PAIR OF EYES, MINE WERE THE FRESHEST! – MELLISA NARRATES



Mellisa Cooke – a content Coordinator at Oxfam Ireland visited Uganda last year in November for two weeks to collect content from project participants in Karamoja and attend the Irish Civil Society Partnership (ICSP) gathering. Mellisa shares her experience.

“Another wake-up call for me in my Irish naivety was how far away everything is! Kampala, where the Oxfam Uganda office is, is a nine-hour drive or two-hour flight to Karamoja. It would take just over eight hours to drive from the top of Ireland to the bottom of the country. It really hit home with me how important it is for Oxfam to work with local organisations who are located or have offices in Karamoja”. [READ MORE](#)



Oxfam and partner, Civic Response on Environment and Development (CRED) presented unresolved concerns from project-affected persons (PAPs) by the Tilenga and East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) projects to Total Energies.

Together with CRED, Oxfam has been working with communities impacted by extractives activities in a broad range of programs, including community awareness raising, research, community-based human rights impact monitoring, advocacy, and legal aid to affected communities.

Over the last 7 years, Oxfam has partnered with different organisations to undertake a range of interventions in Bunyoro and the Greater Masaka regions concerning the TILENGA, Kingfisher and the EACOP projects.

Oxfam and partners constructively engage the duty bearers (oil companies) as well as the authorities in the government to address the concerns. Some of the unresolved issues from PAPs include legal action against victims and unfair hearings, human rights abuses, delayed compensation for remaining PAPs.

‘It is true that over 95% of the project-affected persons (PAPs) of Tilenga and EACOP projects have been compensated. However, there are still outstanding concerns by the remaining PAPs who have not been compensated. The further delay in compensation is extremely affecting their livelihoods, and therefore Total and other stakeholders should endeavor to address their concerns and speed up the compensation process so that it does not further affect the PAPs,’ Siraji Magara Luyima – the Extractives and Energy Coordinator at Oxfam added.

Total Energies team committed to look into the recommendations to address the issues in the interest of the PAPs. Some of the recommendations include;

- ❖ Total Energies and contractors should expedite compensation of remaining PAPs and ensure they are able to go on with new life after displacement. Total Energies should collaborate with relevant government agencies to support PAPs missing land titles, letters of administration and national identity cards to access them and have them compensated without further delay.
- ❖ Total Energies should profile the remaining complaints and act on them promptly and re-value, compensate and restore livelihoods of PAPs that have failed to have their grievances acted upon for the last 4 years. PAPs whose graves were not compensated, orphaned land not compensated, and churches, as well as community water sources, should be henceforth considered for compensation.
- ❖ Total Energies should re-assess the PAP houses and identify those that are extremely unsuitable to accommodate household members putting in mind gender considerations and upgrade them by increasing the number of bedrooms to cater for both boys and girls.
- ❖ This ongoing audit should hear from the directly impacted communities especially those aggrieved by the compensation process such as the 42 PAPs that recently lost the case in court.
- ❖ Total Energies should audit the land acquisition process with a view of identifying the shortfalls and compensating the project affected persons the loss they have suffered.
- ❖ Total Energies goes beyond rhetoric by investigating human rights violations done under its name and taking decisive action.



## OXFAM IN UGANDA LAUNCHES THE 5TH PHASE OF A PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE RECOGNITION OF UCDW

Oxfam in Uganda and partners Uganda Women's Network (UWONET), Girls Forum International (GAFI) and Mission Uganda recently organized an inception meeting for the 5th phase of the Women's Economic Empowerment and Care (WE-Care) project in Kampala.

The WE-Care phase V project which was launched in September last year is an Oxfam flagship initiative to increase women's and girls' time and choice to participate in social, economic, and political life by transforming how unpaid care and domestic work (UCDW) is valued, shared, and invested in.

The new phase of the project will have a strong focus on African women and girls gaining greater autonomy over their lives and time through enhanced recognition, reduction, redistribution, reward, and representation of their unpaid and paid care and domestic work, which will increase their ability to live their lives to the fullest and enjoy better social, economic, political, and cultural rights.

The two-day inception from 5th – 6th January meeting brought together different players including implementing partners, government representatives, women's rights activists and civil society stakeholders.

During the launch, the implementing team provided an overview of the project unpacking the Results Framework (Targets, Tools and expectations), presented the work plan and lessons learnt from previous Phase of the project (WE-Care phase iv) to improve ways of working, reporting Channels, Coordination and Complementarity.

According to the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC), women in Uganda provide up to 20 hours per week of unpaid care work—twice as much time as men and boys which statistic the WE-Care program has sought to address from the time the first phase of the project was launched in 2013.

The multi-country project is being implemented across the four African countries including Uganda, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya with funding from the Hewlett foundation.

Its objectives are laid out in the 4Rs;

- ❖ To Increase the recognition of care, so care is considered valuable work, and women's and men's care roles are more visible.
- ❖ Reduce the drudgery of care work so poor families spend fewer hours on care tasks.
- ❖ Incidences of stress and overwork are reduced, so women and men can choose to spend more time on other activities.
- ❖ Redistribute responsibility for care more equitably between women and men, and between households and the state/employers, and facilitate the representation of carers in decision making and policy making, to raise care on the agenda.





## WELCOMING OXFAM NOVIB DELEGATION IN UGANDA

Oxfam in Uganda was recently honoured to host Peter Huisman, the Country Relations Manager, and Sonia Garbi Gomez from Oxfam Novib. Accompanied by our Country Director Francis Shanty Odokorach, the team traversed project implementation locations in Yumbe, Zombo and Nebbi districts, where Oxfam is partnering with Community Empowerment for Creative Innovation (CECI), Agency For Community Empowerment (AFCE) and Lugbara Kari implementing a peacebuilding component under the DANIDA Strategic Partnerships project and WASH in schools project in the refugee settlements.

They also visited Yumbe District Local Government Officials and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) in a bid to understand how the different components interact. The one-week visit climaxed with a luncheon organised at the country office appreciating the team especially Peter Huisman, for his long-standing relationship and support to the country office.





## OXFAM IN THE PRESS

- World's richest men double fortune since 2020 – Oxfam: [Link](#)
- Wealth of 5 Richest Men Doubles Since 2020 as 5 Billion People made Poorer in “Decade of Division” [Link](#)
- 7 Richest Africans Have More Wealth than the Poorest Half of the Continent’s Population: [Link](#)
- Why the rich get richer [Link](#)
- Fair Share: A tax system with an equitable tax burden and broad tax base: [Link](#)
- Women Civil Societies Call for Transparent Review of Recent Presidential Pardons for Defilement Convicts [Link](#)
- NAM, G77, and others can collaboratively fight inequality [Link](#)
- ACODE Spearheads Initiative to Empower Women, Redefine Gender Equality in Uganda [Link](#)
- ACODE Spearheads Transformational Initiative to Empower Women, Redefine Gender Equality in Uganda: [Link](#)
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Compiled by Dorah Ntunga, Sarah Mazirwe and Ivan Rackara  
Photos – contributed by various programme teams