OXFAM IN UGANDA



SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

HOW SPORTS BROUGHT SIGULU ISLAND CLOSER TO SRHR SERVICES



In September 2026, community members from Sigulu Island villages, including Matolo, Bububi, Buhwanga, Bulagaya, Butanira, Bumayindi and Butamala, gathered at Bulagaya COU Primary School in Sigulu Sub-county, Namayingo District, for an outreach that paired sports competitions with provision of health services.

Football, netball and volleyball brought together more than 1,500 participants, who took part in the games and could also receive free health services including cervical cancer screening, HIV testing and counselling, Menstrual hygiene management and family planning services, which were offered in collaboration with medical professionals.

Organised by Oxfam and partners, the outreach is part of the Stand Up for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) project that seeks to increase the enjoyment of SRHR among marginalised and vulnerable populations, particularly adolescent girls and young women.

The project uses outreaches like these to bring information and services closer to people who are often left out. The project's midterm assessment found that this approach improved SRHR knowledge and access to services.

Participants were not only able to access health services but also demystify key myths about SRHR information by interacting with peer who helped to dispel myths and misconceptions surrounding teenage pregnancy and misconceptions about methods of preventing conception.

After the outreach, Oxfam and partners referred several cases to nearby health centres for treatment. These cases will be followed up with the health service providers to track how far the outreach improved awareness of teenage pregnancy, menstrual hygiene management and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention, and use the findings to shape future interventions.

To consolidate the progress from the outreach, peer educators keep the conversation going, raising awareness on STI prevention, menstrual health, gender-based violence, family planning, antenatal care and referral options, which helps reduce misinformation, fear and stigma around seeking care.

Stand Up for SRHR is a 6.5-year, Global Affairs Canada-funded initiative to improve the sexual and reproductive health and rights of marginalised and vulnerable people in Uganda, particularly adolescent girls and young women. It is implemented by Oxfam, Reproductive Health Uganda, CEHURD and Makerere University School of Public Health in the districts of Mayuge, Namayingo, Nebbi, Madi-Okollo, Terego and Arua.

OXFAM PRESENT AT FAIR FINANCE INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA



Pauline Agnes Apolot making a presentation at the General Assembly in Bogota, Colombia, 2026.

From 7 to 10 September 2026, Fair Finance Uganda (FFU), through Oxfam Uganda, joined Fair Finance coalitions, Oxfam teams, partner organisations and the Fair Finance International (FFI) Secretariat from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America at the 2026 FFI General Assembly in Bogotá, Colombia.

The gathering gave the global Fair Finance network a platform to reflect on progress, share experiences, examine emerging challenges in the financial sector, and strengthen collective strategies for influencing financial institutions, companies, regulators, and policymakers.

It also allowed FFU to take stock of its work on bank policy assessments, research-based case studies, advocacy, and engagement with financial institutions, while learning from the wider network

The Oxfam in Uganda team was represented by Agnes Pauline Apolot, the Governance and Accountability Programme Manager and Alfred Karugonjo, the Project Assistant, Business and Human Rights, who were in the company of Moureen Wagubi, Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Social Transformation (IST), a partner under the FFI.

Through their participation, Oxfam in Uganda contributed to international conversations on responsible finance and brought home lessons that can strengthen financial-sector advocacy in Uganda.

Across plenary discussions, thematic sessions, regional breakouts and public engagements, participants examined issues such as energy transition biodiversity, agribusiness, digital finance, consumer rights, artificial intelligence, gender justice, business and human rights, transition minerals, conflict financing, development finance institutions and shrinking civic space.

Key emphasis was put on the increasingly vital role of financial institutions and investors in determining which economic activities receive financing, under what conditions, and with what consequences for people and the planet.

The Assembly covered a broad range of themes in the financial sector, where discussions on the transition away from fossil fuels examined how financing can deliver equitable outcomes, drawing on the experience of Just Energy Transition Partnerships, while other sessions looked at biodiversity and the banks and investors financing agribusiness value chains.

A session on digital finance weighed the opportunities for financial inclusion against the risks of abusive commercial practices and exclusion, with Fair Finance Uganda's Moureen Wagubi sharing Uganda's Market Garden App, an e-sales and payment platform for market women.

The Assembly also considered the influence of multilateral development banks and development finance institutions, with Pauline Agnes Apolot representing Fair Finance Uganda on a panel discussion on how civil society can engage them.

Overall, the assembly reinforced the value of bringing together technical evidence, policy assessments, research and community experiences with the consensus that when financial-sector evidence is complemented by credible experiences from affected communities, advocacy can better demonstrate why financial policies and practices matter in people's lives.

Under the FFI coalition, Oxfam in Uganda and partners implement the Community Voices for Sustainable and Equitable Finance Project to strengthen civil society action and collective advocacy for financial systems and companies that are responsible, transparent, inclusive, sustainable, and respectful of human rights.

UGANDA'S MINING REVENUE IS UP NEARLY SIXFOLD, DESPITE LEAKAGES



A newly released report on Uganda's extractives sector found that mining revenue grew from UGX 13.2 billion in 2019/20 to about UGX 78.1 billion in 2023/24. Yet the country still captures only part of its potential.

Uganda has more than 50 known minerals, led in economic importance by gold, iron ore, limestone, phosphates, copper, cobalt, nickel, graphite, rare earths and uranium. If managed well, they can support industrialisation, exports, beneficiation and increased government revenue.

Francis Shanty Odokorach, Oxfam in Uganda's Country Director, highlighted that they can also create jobs and earn foreign exchange, and urged capturing the full public value of this wealth. He further underscored the importance of the sector as underscored in the national Tenfold Growth Strategy and Vision 2040.

Released in Kampala to an audience that included tax experts, CSOs, government, media and academia, the Revenue Potential of Uganda's Mining Sector was produced by Oxfam in Uganda, SEATINI Uganda and UGEITI with support from Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NORAD.

The report examines mineral production, tax compliance, tax and non-tax revenues and, among other things, opportunities for mineral beneficiation and value addition in the extractives sector between the 2019/20 and 2023/24 financial years.

It assessed revenue generation and leakages in Uganda's mining sector by examining the roles of key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), mining companies, miners and local governments across major mining districts in Uganda, and identified challenges and recommended reforms to improve government revenue from mineral resources.

The report also points to under-declaration of production through under-reporting, undervaluation, smuggling and manipulated weighing as avenues where revenue is lost. Few certified laboratories exist in the country, so most samples go to South Africa, which the report says distorts valuation and royalties.

Also highlighted is the importance of gold to Uganda's mineral economy, despite its royalties being currently waived. Oxfam and partners recommend

that the government review the waiver and set a fair, predictable fiscal regime that balances responsible investment with the public's right to an appropriate return.

During the report launch, a plenary session involving CSO representatives, Mining industry representatives and govt to discuss the findings of the report also called for an integrated digital mineral-information system linking production data, licences, exports and revenue payments across agencies.

SEATINI Uganda's Executive Director, Jane Nalunga, urged tracking how much reaches artisanal miners, communities, local governments and the national government.

Her sentiments were re-echoed by Odokorach who said that the extractive sector should promote transparency through meaningful citizens' participation and an equitable share of mineral revenues to uplift the socio-economic wellbeing of people living in mineral rich areas, citing the Karamoja region as an area that is rich in minerals yet marked by deep poverty

Read the report here

WOMEN LEADING CHANGE IN THE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT



Kalenda Jane Florence, a farmer from Bududa District, is among the women farmers applying soil conservation methods, savings practices, contour digging, and land management skills to better protect their gardens and household livelihoods.

Farming in the steep hills of Bududa often requires patience, strength, and a constant effort to work with the land.

Many women farmers had limited knowledge about controlling runoff, protecting soil, or managing gardens during heavy rains.

While the slopes were fertile, they were also fragile, and farmers were often affected by heavy rains that damaged crops, reduced household incomes, and left many families uncertain about how to recover after periods of severe weather.

For Kalenda, this uncertainty once felt inevitable as she relied on traditional knowledge passed down over time, but with a limited understanding of how to protect the land as rainfall grew more intense. She planted and hoped for the best, yet hope alone could not prevent erosion. Read More on Our Website

GALS TRAINING EQUIPS KARAMOJA COMMUNITIES TO DRIVE GENDER EQUALITY AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE



In communities in the Karamoja Sub-region, persistent challenges such as unequal gender norms, limited women's control over household resources, unequal decision-making power, high levels of unpaid care and domestic work, and restricted economic opportunities often undermine livelihoods and community resilience.

A 5-day Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology Phase II training brought together 31 participants, including Trainers of Trainees (ToTs), members of Agro-Pastoral Farmer Field Schools, project teams and district Community Development Officers (CDOs) to address these issues under the project.

Since 2007, Oxfam in Uganda has used the GALS methodology, a community-led empowerment framework based on social and gender justice, inclusion, mutual respect, and women's rights to address these issues and foster equitable relationships between women and men.

Under the 3-year Karamoja Agro-Pastoral Resilience and Empowerment Project (KAREP) implemented by Oxfam and Warrior Squad Foundation in Kotido, the GALs methodology promotes joint household planning and decision-making, strengthens women's economic empowerment, and supports positive social change.

The second phase of the GALS training addressed gaps that emerged after the Phase 1 rollout: inconsistent use of GALS tools, limited facilitation skills among some ToTs, misconceptions about certain tools, and weak cascading of the methodology to the wider APFFS membership.

Participants deepened their understanding of advanced tools, including the Increasing Income Map, Market Map, Value Chain Map and Resource Map, and reinforced Phase 1 tools such as the Vision Road Journey, Gender Balance Tree, and Challenge Action Tree and covered household planning, gender relations, income, market engagement, value chain development, and resource mobilisation.

As a result, participants improved their practical facilitation skills, corrected misunderstandings in the methodology, gained stronger market and value chain analysis skills, and developed clearer plans for integrating GALS into KAREP interventions and cascading the learning to other community members.

Following the training, participants demonstrated a deeper understanding of how GALS tools connect household visioning with practical livelihood, market and income-generation strategies and now better understand the importance of income diversification rather than relying on a single livelihood source, and the value of collecting market information before selling produce.

''Before this training, I mainly relied on brewing Ebutia for income. The Increasing Income Map challenged me to think about other opportunities that can contribute to my household vision," said Anna Ruth Iteba, ToT/APFFS Facilitator, underscoring the importance of the training.

The next step post-training will be for the ToTs and APFFS facilitators to cascade the Phase 2 tools to other group members and households within their respective communities. They will also develop and implement training schedules, facilitate practical sessions, and support APFFS members to apply the introduced tools.

The training reinforced the role of GALS as a foundation for achieving the broader project outcomes to promote Climate Smart Agriculture and Women Economic Empowerment (CSA-WEE) by enhancing climate-resilient food production, improving access to agricultural inputs, and integrating climate-resilient value chains. Learn about KAREP

OXFAM SUPPORTS LOCAL CAPACITY TO ADVANCE INCLUSIVE AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE EDUCATION



From 14 to 17 September 2026, Oxfam and its partners, the Youth Social Advocacy Team (YSAT), the Refugee-led Organisations Network (RELON) and Community Empowerment for Creative Innovation (CECI), held the second progress check-in for the Community Action for Transformative Gender Justice and Organisational (CAT4GJO) self-assessment tool.

Developed by Oxfam Canada, CAT4GJO is a participatory framework that helps civil society organisations evaluate and strengthen their internal policies, culture and programming to advance women's rights and gender justice. Under the Geared for Success (GFS) project, refugee-led organisations (RLOs) are using the tool to strengthen their work on inclusive, equitable and gender-responsive education.

The process puts partners at the centre of their own development. They assess their progress, identify capacity gaps and draw up action plans across six gender justice domains, then receive technical support tailored to their priorities. This check-in followed capacity assessments in July 2025, with action plans approved in September 2025.

The visit found significant progress across all three RLOs in leadership, systems, organisational culture, programmes and advocacy.

YSAT strengthened its policies and systems on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), human resources, gender equality and protection. It also set up a resource mobilisation team and developed a strategy to promote inclusive and accountable partnerships, women's leadership and shared decision-making.

CECI improved its feminist Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) systems and introduced policies and procedures on inclusion, safeguarding and diversity. With Oxfam's support, it developed a new strategic plan and resource mobilisation strategy and became a regional refugee-led organisation, expanding its work to include education, protection and peacebuilding, environmental conservation and energy, and livelihoods.

"The capacity-strengthening support CECI received through CAT4GJO has allowed the organisation to expand its scope of work and set a strong foundation for our growth and sustainability," said Taban Rashid, CECI's Programme Manager.

RELON made progress on networks, inclusion and safe programming. It has mapped feminist networks, developed engagement and communication

strategies, strengthened collaboration among RLOs, and advocated for greater recognition of RLOs and for women's participation in decision-making spaces. It is also strengthening risk-responsive programming, women's mentorship, feminist MEAL systems, safeguarding and compliance with Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) standards.

Group reflection, practical exercises, role plays and simulations during the check-in helped turn learning into action.

Oxfam's West Nile Area Manager, Arnold Okello, said the tool advances the localisation agenda: "The CAT4GJO process demonstrates Oxfam's commitment to locally led capacity strengthening by supporting partners to identify their own priorities, strengthen their systems and leadership, and build the capacity required to deliver sustainable, gender-responsive change."

The progress shows that when organisations set their own priorities and strengthen their systems and leadership, they are better placed to champion inclusive, gender-responsive education. Geared for Success is a five-year initiative implemented by Oxfam, War Child Canada and Oxfam Canada with local organisations in Uganda and South Sudan. Funded by Global Affairs Canada, it aims to improve equitable and inclusive learning outcomes for refugees, internally displaced persons, and host-community children and youth, particularly girls.

OXFAM IN THE NEWS

- Uganda losing out on full mining revenue potential, report finds
- Oxfam Report Calls for Greater Transparency to Unlock Uganda's Mining Revenue Potential
- Uganda Mining Report Highlights Transparency as Key Revenue Potential
- Launch of Uganda's Mining Potential Report
- Launch of Uganda's Mining Potential Report
- Has Uganda's gold tax incentive run its course?
- Mining Revenue Report Calls for Review of Gold Tax Waiver
- Is Uganda reaping the economic value from its vast minerals
- GOLD ROYALTIES: Government urged to review gold royalty waiver
- NPA urges diverse financing to power energy transition.
- Climate shocks rising prices deepen families' food crisis.
- Uganda's hottest districts revealed as heatwave bites
- Will Uganda's NIN tax push deliver more revenue?

OXFAM

OXFAM Plot 3459, Tank Hill Road, Muyenga

P.O. Box 6228, Kampala, Uganda
Email: kampalaoffice@oxfam.org

Website: uganda.oxfam.org
Follow: Oxfam in Uganda

Compiled by Dorah Ntunga, Sarah Mazirwe & Ivan Aboga Rackara
Photos – contributed by various programme teams