

UPLIFT UGANDA

Transforming people to transform society

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



About UPLIFT UGANDA

UPLIFT Uganda, is a non-profitmaking organization, operational since 2001, It enables the illiterate adults and vulnerable youths to transform their individual and community lives through literacy training and promotion of social and economic empowerment. UPLIFT is a registered NGO and is working in Zombo Town Council, Warr, Nyapea, Atyak and Abanga (Zombo District), and Parombo, Ndhew, Kucwiny and Atego (Nebbi District).

Vision

Improved quality of life in rural areas through a programme of literacy and numeracy training, combined with individual empowerment and community development activities.

Mission

To promote adult literacy, social and economic empowerment and transformation in West Nile region, Uganda

UPLIFT Activities

Community meetings

Community meetings were conducted by UPLIFT officials in the presence of Local Government official between January and February 2017 to provide information about the programme, ensure community support and participation, identify new mentors, enroll new learners, and make decisions on the venues of classes. 1512 learners were enrolled, 7 individuals were identified and recommended by communities to be trained as mentors, and 32 venues were identified as suitable for the literacy classes.

Training of mentors

7 trainee mentors were trained through in-service training, by teaching classes side by side with experienced mentors during the year. There were 6 new mentors in Zombo District and 1 new mentor in Nebbi District. Out of the 7 trainee mentors, 6 of them completed with certificates.

Refresher courses were held on a quarterly basis conducted by the programme officer and the programme director. These courses are vital for encouraging and raising the spirit of voluntarism among the mentors and the coordinators. One of the inspiring quotations studied was about service:

He profits most who serves best

We must give to receive and serve to lead, for a person cannot be great without becoming a great servant. For a person is not honoured for what he receives instead he is honoured for what he gives.

The quotation taught the participants the principle of process over structure. They learnt that for a person to achieve he must work very hard.

Coordinators meetings

This year 4 coordinator meetings were held with the Programme Director and the Programme Officer. During these meetings coordinators' activities were reviewed and challenges were discussed. Mr. Rukidi John was recommended and appointed by the UPLIFT board as the new coordinator for Nebbi district, replacing Mr. Ocaya Charles who was relieved of his duties as a coordinator in the previous year.

Integrated Literacy training

A total number of 1512 individuals were identified and registered as literacy learners. 32 literacy classes were initiated in the sub- counties of Zombo Town Council, Warr, Nyapea, Atyak and Abanga (Zombo District), and Parombo, Ndhew, Kucwiny and Atego (Nebbi District), with 1441 (95%) learners completing the course and 1360 (90%) learners graduating with certificates. The number of learners graduating with certificates was lower in percentage (90%) compared to last year's 94%. This was because the exams set this time were a bit harder and also in Nebbi there were some misunderstandings between the learners and the former coordinator Mr. Ocaya Charles which affected their attendance in classes.

The percentage of women enrolled was 72%.

Proficiency Tests (exams)

Proficiency tests were carried out in 32 centers in both districts. 1417 learners out of 1441 learners who completed the course, attended the proficiency tests – 688 from Nebbi District and 729 from Zombo District. Proficiency tests were supervised by UPLIFT mentors, coordinators and government officials from each of the respective sub counties.

Graduation

A graduation ceremony was held at Atyak Primary School where local government officials and other dignitaries attended. 1360 Learners and 6 Educators were awarded with certificates presented to them by the guest of Honour with UPLIFT officials and Friends of UPLIFT.

In the same ceremony, a cup donated by Friends of UPLIFT was presented to the best performing Sub County and this time it was given to Nyapea Sub County.

Resource centers

The availability of a resource centre at Agwok has continued to play its vital role of providing a point of local contact for course participants and others, storage of supplies and library services. Both learners and Junior youths have continued to utilize Agwok resource centre and its facilities as a meeting and activities-planning centre.

Local Associations

This year 4 new CBOs were formed in Zombo District. Through these CBOs learners have been able to acquire more skills in money saving, development activities, loan management, they have also promoted unity and cooperation among the learners.

CBOs have continued to work with UPLIFT and also network with other development agencies and local government to support continuing education and development. In Zombo, Atyerokuma Group in Atyak sub county was contracted by the Local government to maintain the Atyak – Angol road section; Tholith UPLIFT group in Zombo TC was given 2 hypha cows by CEFORD; and Ajere group and Gotilau group were given Irish growing project and 24 goats respectively by NAADS.

Junior Youth Programme

500 junior youths were enlisted, 250 were from Zombo District and 250 youths were from Nebbi District majority of which are between 12 and 15 in both areas. Most of the youths have an education level between P.1 and P.7

The youth programme has continued to help the youths shape their lives by realization of the importance of education, many youths who had left school due to peer influence and neglect of advice from their parents have now started going back to school after attending the junior youth programme.

The Tailoring programme

The tailoring Programme helps youths to gain vocational skills and prepare them for a sustainable life. 6 young youths were supported by UPLIFT and undertook a tailoring course from both Zombo and Nebbi District and successfully completed the course with certificates.

UPLIFT collaboration

UPLIFT has collaborated with diverse partners who have greatly helped it realize its goals.

The Friends of UPLIFT

Friends of UPLIFT have continued their support towards the activities of the programme. UPLIFT is forever grateful for the generosity of friends in Norway as well as Canada, and for the voluntary work done by FUP Norway.

The Local Government

The government has continued its collaboration with UPLIFT in a number of ways. Many CBOs have been included in Local Government programmes like NAADS, CDD and others; local authorities participated in the evaluation of

the exam papers and co-signed UPLIFT certificates awarded to both mentors and learners.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2017 UPLIFT registered a number of achievements:

- 1441 learners became functionally literate (see Appendix 1) and are enabled to apply the skills they gained from UPLIFT, to transform their lives
- UPLIFT conducted a successful graduation ceremony on January 12th 2017 in which 1360 learners graduated.[*Appendix 1.*]
- The Junior Youth Programme is successfully established, bringing the number of enlisted youths to 500 this year.
- 6 junior youths were sent for a tailoring course and successfully graduated
- Over 5000 trees were planted for environmental protection
- Local Government has continued to partly depend on UPLIFT for the supply of skilled personnel. Both mentors and learners have been appointed by local government to several positions in different administrative posts.
- 4 CBOs were formed by UPLIFT learners in Zombo. Most of these have been incorporated into government programmes. These CBOs have also continued to promote a culture of saving among the people since many groups have started saving schemes where they pool money together and lend it to members for development activities.

CONCLUSION

UPLIFT has played a significant role in transforming communities, which has greatly impacted on the lives of the adults and junior youths in the West Nile districts of Zombo and Nebbi.

Appendix 1 : LITERACY PROGRAM STATISTICS SUMMARY (2001 – 2016)

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LITERACY PROGRAM STATISTICS SUMMARY 2001 - 2015

KEY INDICATORS	Current classes	Prior classes	Prior classes	Prior classes	Prior classes	Prior classes
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
No. of Educators trained	7	10	15	20	24	28
No. of Educators accredited	6	6	14	15	21	27
Number of classes during the period	32	32	32	32	37	42
Average sessions per month per class(note 1)	8	8	8	8	8	8
Per-cent Women enrolled	72%	72%	73%	66%	64%	62%
learner enrollment (note 2)	1512	1394	1496	1756	2049	2341
Learners unable to complete course.	69	10	2	2	10	15
Learners completing the course	1441	1379	1470	1753	2039	2326
Per cent of learners completein the course	95%	99%	98%	100%	100%	98%
Number of learners sitting for tests	1417	1379	1411	1748	2011	2286
Per cent of learners registering for tests	94%	99%	94%	100%	99%	97%
Number of graduating with certificates	1360	1304	1376	1681	1919	2184
Per cent of learners with certificates	90%	94%	92%	96%	94%	92%
CBOs	4	4	11	33	9	15

NOTES

1. Estimate an average of 2hrs of instruction per session.
2. Drop outs are included with those who are unable to attend more than 30sessions and also considered unable to com

Appendix 2: WEST NILE END OF COURSE STATISTICS SUMMARY 2017

DISTRICT	NUMBER ENROLLED		DROP OUTS		NUMBER COMPLETED		NUMBER ATTENDED EXAMS		NUMBER CERTIFIED		NUMBER DIED		NUMBER OF TREES PLANTED
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
NEBBI	473	276	06	05	464	273	458	271	451	271	00	00	2831
ZOMBO	617	146	49	09	567	137	552	136	514	124	03	01	2471
SUB-TOTAL	1090	422	55	14	1031	410	1010	407	965	395	03	01	5302
GRAND TOTAL	1512		69		1441		1417		1360		04		5302