

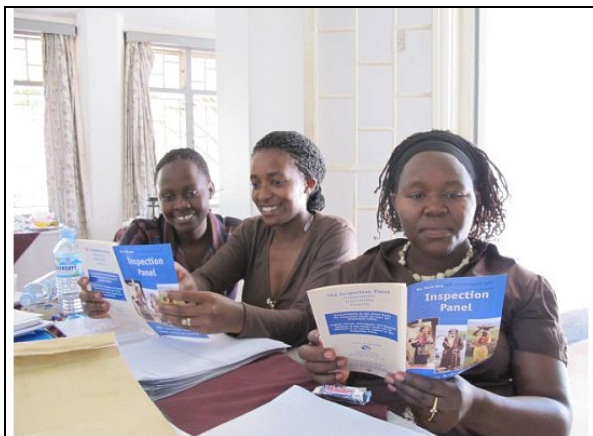
Empowering Women's Rights Advocates in Uganda

Executive Summary

Gender Action is the only organization dedicated to promoting gender justice and women's rights in all International Financial Institution (IFI) investments, such as those of the World Bank (WB) and African Development Bank (AfDB). In partnership with civil society organizations in the developing world, Gender Action advocates for stronger IFI gender policies, greater funds devoted to the improvement of women's health and livelihoods, and the fulfillment of women and girls' human rights.

Project Objective

This project will empower our partner organization, the National Association for Women's Action in Development (NAWAD), to train other Ugandan civil society organizations in IFI gender analysis and advocacy. The WB and AfDB are the largest publically-funded donors to low-income countries. The banks' current health-related investments in Uganda ignore critical gender issues and have the potential to harm the health and livelihoods of women and girls. The project will fund the development of an extensive, nationwide network of organizations that can hold the WB/AfDB accountable for the negative gender impacts of their investments, and advocate for increased WB/AfDB investments in reproductive health, HIV and critical development issues that have the greatest impact on poor women and girls.



Participants in Gender Action's first capacity building workshop with NAWAD, Kampala, Uganda (March 2011)

Project Context

- Uganda has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world
- An estimated 6.5 percent of the population is HIV-positive
- Uganda is home to over one million AIDS orphans
- Although Uganda abolished health care user fees, poor patients are still forced to pay for services at public clinics and hospitals

--UNICEF, 2010

Project Timeline

Phase One:

Compile "on the ground" data on the impact of WB and AfDB reproductive health and HIV projects in Uganda. (3 months)

Phase Two:

Partner with civil society organizations and conduct trainings on WB and AfDB policies, accountability mechanisms, and how to conduct a gender analysis of WB and AfDB projects. (6 months)

Phase Three:

Link all participating civil society organizations into a nationwide advocacy network; launch advocacy events and activities throughout Uganda, with a focus on local and federal government, and the Uganda WB and AfDB offices. (12 months)

Project Beneficiaries

- Women, men and adolescents, particularly those of reproductive age (15-49)
- HIV positive women, men and children
- Poor patients who seek health care at public facilities
- Public health facility care givers, including nurses and midwives

"Gender Action is a truly valued resource. Its unique in-depth International Financial Institution - IFI gender monitoring and detailed reports, based on economic expertise, illuminate often invisible information on IFI gender impacts on women and empower women's advocacy for gender inclusiveness in policy, investments, and leadership."

-- Lois A. Herman, Coordinator WUNRN, Women's UN Report Network



Gender Action workshop participants from NAWAD prepare for meetings with district health and World Bank officials, Jinja, Uganda

For more information, visit www.genderaction.org