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2024 is almost at the mid-year mark and we are thrilled to share with you our highlights from May.

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- Meet Our New Senior Human Resource Office.

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES THROUGH HOUSEHOLDS

FOWODE is making significant strides towards shaping a conducive environment for women to thrive at community level. To date, we have reached 20 households in Luwero and Mityana out of the 320 targeted, with the aim of raising awareness about women's rights, engaging men in supporting women's economic endeavors, and promoting cooperative decision-making within households.

In May, 8 household visits reaching 18 family members were held, where they jointly participated in visioning, identification of barriers to success and articulating their aspirations for the future. Many expressed a desire to establish profitable businesses such as retail shops and fruit vending to bolster their incomes.

The visits have fostered a supportive environment for inclusive decision making at household level which is critical for women's voice and agency. The targeted families have embraced joint decision making which has helped them identify and pursue collective visions. For instance, in Kabanyi Village, Waiswa Daniel pledged to invest in his wife's retail shop to increase family income and support their children's educational aspirations. Similarly, in Kireku Village, Galama Vincent and his wife committed to pursuing teaching degrees together to enhance their family's prospects.

By empowering women and fostering inclusive development, FOWODE seeks to contribute to a just and fair society where women and men equally participate in and benefit from decision making.



FOWODE's community facilitator leading a visioning discussion at Daniel Waiswa's household in Butuntumula Sub-County.

FUELING DEMOCRACY: FOWODE'S CONTRIBUTION TO ELECTORAL PROCESSES

FOWODE has over the years been instrumental in fostering civic engagement, promoting democratic processes, empowering citizens, especially women, to actively participate in electoral processes and hold their leaders accountable.

Across nine districts, spanning the regions of Bukedi, Bunyoro, and Acholi, a series of impactful initiatives were executed during the month. These included civic engagement sessions, district interface meetings between duty bearers and citizens, regional dialogues engaging political actors, radio talk shows discussing constitutional and political reforms, and a targeted mapping exercise for training women candidates. These efforts fostered greater civic participation, enhanced accountability of local leaders, facilitated informed political discourse, and empowered aspiring women candidates.

The overarching objective was to deepen citizens' understanding of the electoral process, promote transparency, and ensure active involvement in the upcoming 2026 elections.

These endeavors have yielded tangible results, notably increasing citizen awareness and engagement in electoral affairs, commitment to mobilise diverse constituencies and stronger partnerships with electoral bodies and civil society organisations. It is our hope that this will pave the way for a more transparent and inclusive electoral landscape.

FOWODE remains steadfast in her commitment towards fostering a proactive and engaged citizenry that is influencing constitutional, political, and legal reform processes in Uganda.



Atuhura Joseline, Kiryandongo youth council representative leads a panel discussion during the district interface meeting between duty bearers and citizens at Max Hotel Kiryandongo District on 27th May 2024.

COUNT HER IN: FOWODE'S EFFORTS IN ADVANCING THE SDGS

FOWODE, in partnership with the SDG Secretariat under the office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, hosted a high-level event on 8th May 2024 at Golden Tulip Hotel, aimed at advancing gender equality across the Goals. The Government of Uganda is in the process of developing the 3rd Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report of the Sustainable Development Goals. It was therefore timely to hold the dialogue, as the outcomes from the discussions will contribute to the VNR Report and presentation at the High-Level Political Forum in July 2024.

The dialogue was held under the theme "Count Her In: Accelerating Gender Equality through Women Economic Empowerment and Financing for the SDGs," and was graced by the Prime Minister of Uganda, Rt. Hon Robinah Nabbanja, the German Ambassador to Uganda, Members of Parliament, women leaders from across Uganda, representatives from Civil Society Organizations, Local Government officials, and the media.

The Prime Minister, a proud beneficiary of FOWODE's work, emphasized the imperative of bridging gaps and challenged women leaders to collaborate and support each other to enhance the effectiveness of their leadership. Furthermore, discussions highlighted the urgent necessity to confront legal and cultural impediments that restrict women's access to economic opportunities which directly links to SGD indicator 5.1. (Legal frameworks in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex).

As we continue our journey towards the advancement of gender equality in the 2030 Agenda, FOWODE remains resolute in her commitment to hold Government accountable to her gender equality commitments.

Watch some of the highlights from the event here:

<https://youtu.be/tczFYUEmbKw?si=PGscwxvwXYCSI7Wp>



L-R Amb. Mathias Schauer, The Federal Republic of German Ambassador to Uganda, Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda, Ms. Patricia Munabi, Executive Director (FOWODE), Hon Sarah Opendi, State Minister of Mineral Development.

MEET OUR NEW SENIOR HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER



We are excited to introduce Rosette Birungi, our new Senior Human Resource Officer. With over a decade of experience in the Human Resources arena, Rosette has a proven track record in expertly navigating organizational change, spearheading staffing initiatives and cultivating positive workplace cultures.

Beyond the workplace, Rosette is passionate about community, often volunteering and making a positive impact on the lives of the vulnerable. We are confident that Rosette's leadership and HR prowess will elevate our already vibrant team.

Welcome, Rosette!

THE IMARA FUNDRAISING DINNER

The countdown is on! The Imara Fundraising Dinner is just **8** days away. Visit <https://rgtickets.com/event/imara-womens-center-fundraising-dinner/> to secure your ticket now!

The RT. Hon. Prime Minister of Uganda Hon. Robinah Nabbanja will be there, you cannot afford to miss.

https://x.com/FOWODE_UGANDA/status/1797617374599749637

Thank you for reading!
