



SITUATIONAL DIAGNOSIS OF UGANDA

YOUNG RURAL WOMEN
RIGHTS IN KATOSI VILLAGE
NTENJERU SUB COUNTY
MUKONO DISTRICT

UGANDA GROUP



Situational Diagnosis of Uganda

TITLE: Situational Diagnosis of Young Rural Women Rights in Katosi Village Ntenjeru Sub County Mukono District, Uganda.

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1. INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL CONTEXT, UGANDA.

The Republic of Uganda is located in East Africa bordered by Kenya to the east, southern Sudan in the North, Democratic republic of Congo in the West, Rwanda in the south West and Tanzania sharing Lake Victoria with Uganda in the south west. She covers a total area of 197,058,000 sq km with a population of approximately 33.4 million people from over 20 tribes. Kampala is the Capital of the country. The widely spoken languages are *Luganda* and *Swahili* as local language and English as an official language.

a. Legal context.

Uganda over the years has ratified and signed several international conventions and charters on gender equality and women's empowerment. Notably the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW 1980) and the Beijing Platform of Action. At the regional level, Uganda is a signatory to several African Instruments including; the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (1986), the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

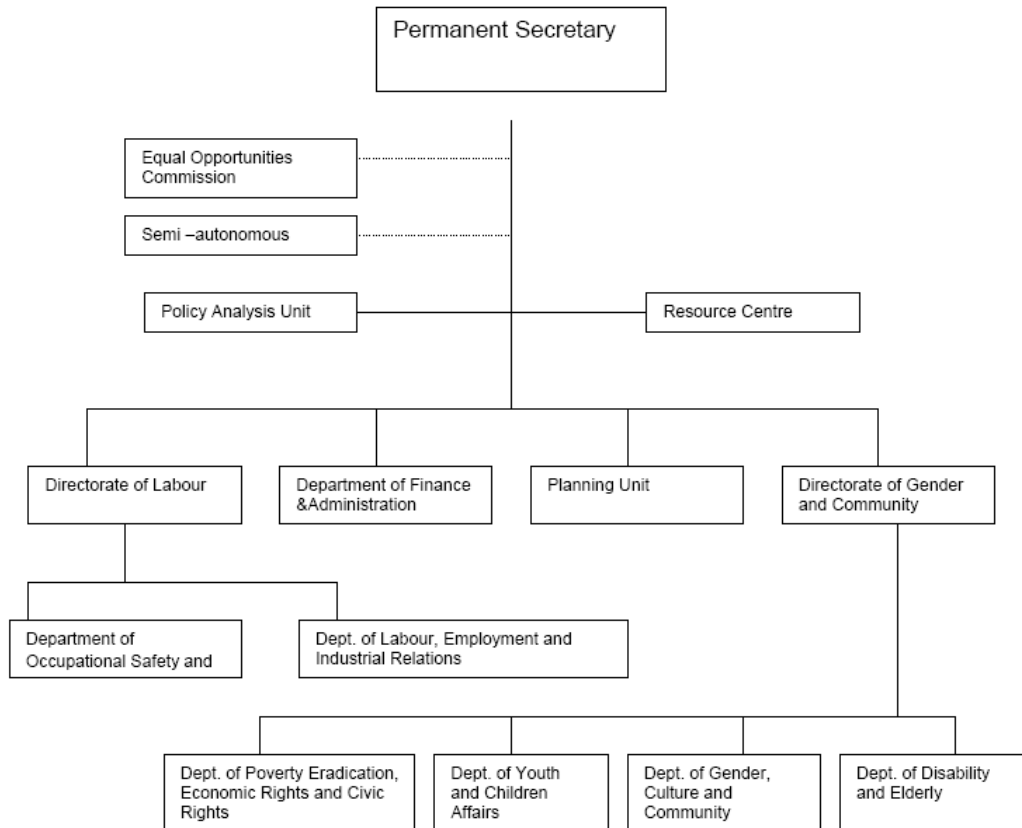
At the national level, the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 provides overall legal framework for gender equality and women's empowerment. It recognizes equality between women and men. Specifically, it provides for gender balance and fair representation of marginalized groups; recognizes the role of women in society; accords equal citizenship rights, freedom from discrimination, affirmative action in favor of women; and articulate specific rights of women including outlawing customs, traditions and practices that undermine the welfare, dignity and interests of women. Because of these provisions, the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda is regarded as one of the progressive constitutions in the world on the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment.

In order to translate the constitutional provisions on gender equality and women's empowerment into policy, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) has formulated several policy frameworks, notably the Uganda Gender Policy (UGP) and the Social Development Policy. The goal of the UGP is to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment as an

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integral part of Uganda’s socio-economic development. The UGP provides a clear framework for the identification, implementation and coordination of interventions designed to achieve gender equality and women’s empowerment in Uganda.

Figure 1: Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development Approved Macro-Structure



Uganda’s political and administrative management is operated through a local government system constituted by districts, sub-counties, parishes, and villages on one hand and municipalities, town councils, divisions and wards on the other. As of July 2006, there were 77 such districts. Below the districts are lower local governments and administrative unit councils. Local Government Councils have people directly elected to represent electoral areas; while people with disabilities, the youth and women councilors form one third of the councils. The Local Government Councils are corporate bodies, having both legislative and executive powers. They have powers to make ordinances for districts and by-laws for municipalities and sub-counties.

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The National Health Policy also focuses its interventions on reducing mortality, morbidity and fertility and the disparities within them. It proposes the minimum health care package as the central strategy, which takes into consideration the needs and interests of the poor; in particular women and children. However, it falls short on addressing power imbalances between men and women in accessing to healthcare.

The Science and Technology Policy also recognizes gender as a crosscutting issue, gives special consideration to women as one of the previously disadvantaged groups in science and technology and promises to promote girls' education and training in science based subjects /fields in an attempt to reduce excessive attrition of women in Science related systems. However, this commitment needs to be reflected and mainstreamed into all S &T Policy and programme interventions.

The most current and controversial debate in Uganda today concerns the existing discriminatory laws and the need to either repeal or amend them. The conflict is not merely one between men and women. Within the Ugandan women's movement, in common with some of the other women's movements outside the west, debates have arisen between traditionalist and the more westernized feminists as to what is culturally valuable and what should be discarded (see, e.g., Bahl, 1997,11; Mohanty, Russo, & Torres, 1991). There is yet to develop a clear consensus on the perception of "discriminatory practices". An extreme case is what is "domestic violence"? In some cultures, if a man does not occasionally beat up his wife then this may be interpreted as negative: he does not love her enough. Some women are still culturally bound to this belief, and hence would not file a complaint of domestic violence. The domestic relations laws are controversial in Uganda for customary and religious reasons, and it is no wonder that there is a heated debate in Parliament on new laws.

The above overview of national sectoral policies and acts clearly show that there are deliberate efforts to formulate policies that take into consideration women and gender issues, the biggest challenge is to ensure that these policy provisions are implemented.

b. Socioeconomic context.

Uganda had a total population of 24.4 million persons based on the data extracted from the report of 2002 Uganda Population and Housing Census. According to *the 2011 Human Development Report of UN*, in 2010 Uganda had a total population of 33.4 million persons, of which 50.03% are women, and 86.7% are a rural population. With a population growth of 3.2 per cent per annum (World Bank, 2010), Uganda has the third highest population growth rate in the world, higher than the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) average of 2.4 per cent. The high population growth rate is attributed to high fertility rate (6.24 in 2009), low prevalence of family planning methods, young marriage age for women (17 years of age on average), and the high influx of refugees. According to the recent Demographic and Health Survey (2006), fertility rate for rural Ugandan women is 7.8 while for urban women is 4.3 births respectively.

According to *The 2011 Human Development Report of UN*, Uganda's HDI value for 2011 is 0.446—in the low human development category—positioning the country at 161 out of 187 countries and territories. Between 1985 and 2011, Uganda's HDI value increased from 0.294 to 0.446, an increase of 52.0 per cent or average annual increase of about 1.6 per cent.

The Gender Inequality Index (GII) reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment, and economic activity. Uganda has a GII value of 0.577, ranking it 116 out of 146 countries in the 2011 index. In Uganda, 37.2 per cent of parliamentary seats are held by women, and 9.1 per cent of adult women have reached a secondary or higher level of education compared to 20.8 per cent of their male counterparts. For every 100,000 live births, 430 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent fertility rate is 149.9 births per 1000 live births. Female participation in the labour market is 78.3 per cent compared to 90.6 for men.

The 2010 HDR introduced the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), which identifies multiple deprivations in the same households in education, health and standard of living. The most recent survey data that were publically available for Uganda's MPI estimation refer to 2006. In Uganda 72.3 per cent of the population suffer multiple deprivations while an additional 19.4 per cent are vulnerable to multiple deprivations. The breadth of deprivation (intensity) in

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Uganda, which is the average percentage of deprivation experienced by people in multidimensional poverty, is 50.7 per cent. The MPI, which is the share of the population that is multi-dimensionally poor, adjusted by the intensity of the deprivations, is 0.367.

The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) recognizes gender as one of the main crosscutting issues in development that arise in all its pillars. This therefore mandates all sectors to mainstream gender in their sectoral policies and programs.

The Plan for Modernization Agriculture (PMA) is strategic and operational framework for poverty eradication through agricultural transformation. It provides outcome-focused principles upon which sectoral and inter-sectoral policies and investment plans can be developed at both the central and local government levels, to increase peoples' productivity and improve on their health. The PMA recognizes gender as one of the crosscutting issues and a key determinant to increased agricultural production and productivity. To this effect, it adopts gender mainstreaming as one of the key strategies for its implementation. It also promises to ensure that all PMA interventions and programs will be gender-sensitive.

The Employment policy, 2006 promotes the principle of gender equality in several of provisions. The employment act complies with the constitutional provisions for equality although the practice is completely different.

The Land Act also makes an effort to preserve the rights of women and other marginalized groups to a certain extent by prohibiting spouses from dealing n land where the family derives sustenance without consent of the other spouse and offspring and protection from evictions or denial of use of land. It does not provide for spousal co-ownership of land, yet this would guarantee women's access, ownership and control of land.

The discriminatory Law of Succession reduces parental inheritance rights of widows and, contrary to the Constitution of 1995.

Economically, Uganda has substantial natural resources, including fertile soils, regular rainfall, small deposits of copper, gold, and other minerals, and recently discovered oil. Agriculture is the most important sector of the economy,

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employing over 80% of the women. With the economic changes, there have been high inflation rates downsizing the Ugandan economy. Uganda has a GDP- per capita (PPP) at US \$1,300 (2010)

Uganda is a leader in Sub-Saharan Africa in recognizing linkages between economic growth and gender issues. These linkages are critical for achieving a variety of development goals:

- Meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While the third MDG relates specifically to promoting gender equality and empowering women, research indicates that gender equality is critical for achieving all the MDGs.
- Attaining the Poverty Eradication Action Plan growth targets of 7 percent. Unequal education and employment opportunities for women in Sub-Saharan Africa are estimated to have retarded annual per capita growth by 0.8 percentage points between 1960 and 1992. This is significant, as a boost of 0.8 percentage points per year would have doubled economic growth over the period. Applying these aggregate results to Uganda suggests that the country could gain as much as 2 percentage points of GDP growth a year by eliminating gender inequality (World Bank 2005b).
- Reducing poverty. Poverty in Uganda has a predominantly female face. Households headed by widows are particularly vulnerable to asset depletion and impoverishment. As the 2004 Poverty Eradication Action Plan notes, “It is now clear that removing constraints caused by HIV/AIDS, the environment and above all gender inequalities is key to achieving Uganda’s poverty eradication goals” (Government of Uganda 2004c, p. 4).
- Reversing the recent spike in inequality. The percentage of Ugandans with income below the poverty line rose from 34 in 2000 to 38 in 2003 (World Bank 2005b). Removing the legal barriers that prevent women from participating more directly in monetized economic activity has significant implications for improving family welfare (Dollar and Gatti 1999).

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- Increasing agricultural productivity and strategic exports. Almost 70 percent of the Ugandan labor force was employed in agriculture-related activities in 2003. Women provide the bulk of this labor, but they lack control over resources, especially land, and have little incentive to provide additional labor for cash crops, given the gender division of resources.
- Reducing Uganda's very high fertility rate. Gender inequality in employment, earnings, and bargaining power within families plays a significant role in keeping Uganda's fertility rates among the highest in the world. At current fertility rates, Uganda's population could reach 100 million by 2050.
- Attaining Uganda's long-term vision of becoming a middle-income country. Developed countries are increasingly recognizing and benefiting from the economic potential of providing a level playing field for women. In the United States, for example, with its Equal Credit Opportunity and Women's Business Ownership Acts, businesses owned by women generated \$2.46 trillion in annual sales in 2004 and employed 19.1 million people—1 in 11 Americans (National Women's Business Council 2005).

This assessment considers the relationship between gender and economic growth in Uganda in the context of promoting women's participation in business and entrepreneurship. Men and women both play substantial, albeit different, economic roles in the Ugandan economy. Each contributes about 50 percent of GDP, and women represent 39 percent of businesses with registered premises (Government of Uganda 2002b). A growing body of microeconomic empirical evidence—and emerging macroeconomic analysis—shows that gender inequality directly and indirectly limits economic growth in Uganda. A recent World Bank study suggests that the country could gain as much as 2 percentage points of GDP growth a year by eliminating gender inequality (World Bank 2005b). The Government of Uganda's Poverty Eradication Action Plan 2004 indicates that a one-time benefit of up to 5 percent of GDP could be realized (World Bank 2005a). Labor and time constraints differentially affect women's and men's capacity to engage in business activity, with significant

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consequences for strategic exports. It is important for Uganda to unleash the full productive potential of female as well as male economic actors if it is to achieve high and sustained rates of pro-poor growth.

Most female workers in Uganda are either unpaid family farm workers or self-employed in the informal sector. Women account for 80 percent of all unpaid workers. Research suggests that Ugandan women are highly entrepreneurial, contribute significant amounts of labor to the Ugandan economy (much of it unpaid), and are extremely creditworthy. (World Bank 2005b; UPPAP 2002; Global Entrepreneurship Monitor 2003)

c. Religious and Ethnicity context.

The information about Religious Affiliation, by 2002 Census population, is that Catholics were the largest religious denomination (42%) followed by the Anglicans (36%), Moslems (12%), Pentecostals (4.6%), Seventh Day Adventists (1.5%), Other Christian (1.2%), Traditional (1.0%), Other non-Christian (0.7%), None (0.9%) and Orthodox and Bahai (0.1%). This report gives the main results of the 2002 Uganda Population and Housing Census which was conducted in September 2002.

Freedom of religion is guaranteed by the Constitution of Uganda, but is expected to be registered religions in the government and some religious cults are considered restricted by the government. The Catholic Church, the Church of Uganda, the Orthodox Church, and the Uganda Supreme Muslim Council ((UMSC) for its acronym in English) are registered under the Trustees Incorporation Act, and many other religious groups are recorded each year as agencies NGOs.

d. Educational context.

The system of education in Uganda has a structure of 7 years of primary education, 6 years of secondary education (divided into 4 years of lower secondary and 2 years of upper secondary school), and 3 to 5 years of post-secondary education. The present system has existed since the early 1960s. Since the start of the government of National resistance Movement in 1986, the education for girl child has been promoted all over the nation. The government legalized universal primary education and now universal secondary education.

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Priority is given to girls at the stage of joining higher academics with available scholarships to girls from Northern Uganda a region that has been facing civil conflicts for the last 20 years. Also adult education is being encouraged among all regions in the country with efforts of lead educators at district levels.

The rate of literacy in 2004 is 76.8%, of which 66.8% for men and 57,7% for women. The public expenditure on education was 3.18% of PIB in 2009.

The National Education policy on the other hand emphasizes free and compulsory primary education, which is operationalized through Universal Primary Education (UPE) and affirmative action of 1.5 points for girls on admission to higher institutions of learning.

The quality and equality of education, including gender equality, have been very important priorities for educational policy in Uganda. Within the Ministry of Education and Sports, the Gender Desk looks after the gender equality issue covering equitable access, girls' retention in school, girls' performance in Science and Mathematics, protection of girls against violence, gender-sensitive curriculum, and gender responsive teaching methodology.

However, the Southern and Eastern Consortium for Monitoring Education Quality (SACMEQ) III Project research results for Uganda indicated that, although there had been progress in attaining gender balance in enrolment, gender equality in learning achievements had not been accomplished. The Ministry of Education and Sports should draw up policy strategies to improve the quality of education for both boys and girls, so as to reduce gender inequalities in learning outcomes.

2. INTRODUCTION OF KATOSI VILLAGE NTENJERU SUB COUNTY, MUKONO DISTRICT, UGANDA.

Ntenjeru Sub County a regional area in Mukono district has an approximated population of 34,939 people. Katosi Village found in Ntenjeru Sub County is a fisher community north of Lake Victoria with high population of women and children composing over half of it. It is an informal sector with the biggest population depending on fishing and agricultural activities. The populations are

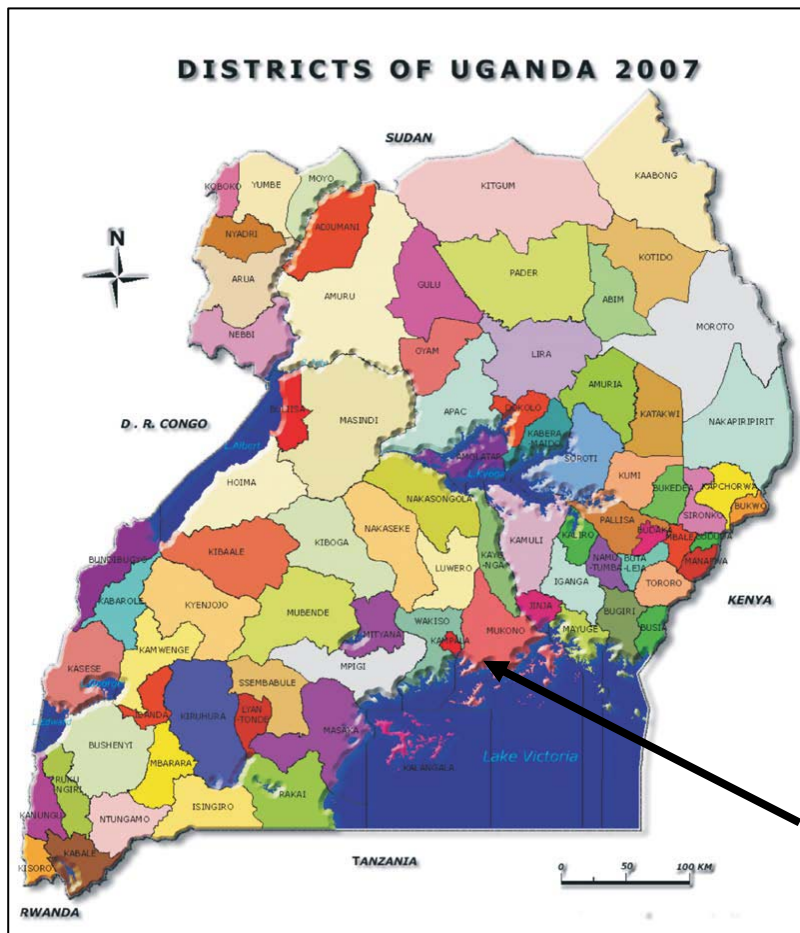
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of diverse cultures of which many are illiterate, very poor leaving below the poverty line of which the rural women are the most affected.

The population selected for this diagnosis is **KWDT rural young women** living in Katosi Village Ntenjeru Sub County, Mukono District, understanding the age group between 18 and 35 years.

Katosi Village is located just north of Lake Victoria Introduction about Katosi Village Ntenjeru Sub County, Mukono District.

We have selected this population because; they are directly affiliated to Katosi Women Development Trust as members and beneficiaries. KWDT is a local NGO working with rural women groups under which Immaculate the course participant is working with.



(The Arrow shows the location of Katosi Village in Mukono district in Uganda)

1. Situational Diagnosis of Young Women Rights In Katosi Village Ntenjeru Sub County, Mukono District (Uganda)

a. Socioeconomic factors:

i. Key questions:

1. Do women mostly develop their productive activities in the informal sector? How important is the informal sector in the community?

According to the fifteenth international conference of labour statisticians; the concept of the informal sector may be broadly characterized as consisting of units engaged in the production of goods or services with the primary objective of generating employment and incomes to the persons concerned. These units typically operate at a low level of organization, with little or no division between labour and capital as factors of production. The production units of the informal sector have the characteristic features of household enterprises. The fixed and other assets used do not belong to the production units as such but to their owners. Expenditure for production is often indistinguishable from household expenditure. Similarly, capital goods such as buildings or vehicles may be used indistinguishably for business and household purposes.

Activities performed by production units of the informal sector are not necessarily performed with the deliberate intention of evading the payment of taxes or social security contributions, or infringing labour or other legislations or administrative provisions. Women provide approximately 70% of the labour force and are predominantly in the informal sector.

Yes. Women of Katosi are fully engaged in the development of their productive activities in the informal sector. Activities they carryout vary such as charcoal selling, local brewing, selling of essential commodities, food processing and selling, and salon keeping among others.

The informal sector is very important in the community. Effects of structural adjustment policy have led to the downsizing of public service and many of the citizens are now employed and make a living out of this sector. The informal sector has promoted

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improved service delivery in the community for basic needs, socio-economic, health and technological needs. This sector is easier to access by the community members and has enabled not only the women but the whole community to quickly lead developments of the area economically, socially and health wise. From these activities, the women have been able to earn incomes and meet their financial demands.

2. Which legal, economic and social factors hinder women's access to credit?

The Gender and Growth Assessment report (GGA 2005) from the World Bank Group stresses that poverty in Uganda has a predominantly female face and that removing gender inequality is key to economic growth and eradicating poverty in Uganda.

The legal framework for reclaiming debt in Uganda is lengthy and tedious, making it costly and difficult to use the courts in the event of default. Few financial institutions will lend any money to any enterprise with even a hint of risk, if the legal system does not give adequate protection.

There is a lot of financial illiteracy among the women. OECD defines financial literacy as: *"...the combination of consumers'/investors' understanding of financial products and concepts and their ability and confidence to appreciate financial risks and opportunities, to make informed choices, to know where to go for help, and to take other effective actions to improve their financial well-being."* The women live in high poverty conditions with many women failing to access credit as most institutions that provide credit need security of collateral that the women do not have. The women lack skills and knowledge which are needed as prove to credit giving institutions.

A number of factors explain the difficulties women face when seeking finance for their businesses. These include the following:

- Traditional financial institutions engage in gender bias. One professional woman was told that she could not open a personal bank account without her husband's co-signature, despite the fact that the law does not require such a signature.
- The very common requirement for land as collateral operates as an absolute block to many enterprises headed by women, because land is not readily accessible to women, due to land allocation practices that favor men.

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- Financial institutions in Uganda accept assets such as book debts, merchandise, stock, and machinery as collateral. But Uganda's unclear and outdated moveable personal property security laws mean that such forms of financing are readily available only in the form of fixed and floating charges over the assets of businesses that have incorporated under the Companies Act. Businesses that are not registered as companies are constrained from using nonland assets as collateral.
- Formal credit information is lacking. Microfinance institutions perceive women as sound risks, with high repayment rates. But lack of credit information means that it is difficult for women to benefit from their good records. There is no credit reference bureau in Uganda, and information on judgment debtors is not readily available from the courts. A dysfunctional companies registry means that even basic and legally required financial information about formal businesses registered as companies is not available from annual returns.
- Women have limited knowledge about the information required to obtain finance from formal institutions. Most women have weak formal business skills and lack audited accounts.

There is limited knowledge and information among women on how to manage, access credit. Training service that are hands on, practical and localized to enable the women easily access the credit are also limited in Katosi. The costs women meet to engage in these services are far greater than the actual amounts of credit they would like to access. Economic services and infrastructure such as banks, roads and currency exchange bureaus are hardly located in the area. The women need help through supporting them receive subsidy and given priority in enabling them access credit. In the recent years, many of the young women in Katosi are single mothers and sole leaders of their homes, they have low self esteem and the attitudes from the community members is very challenging as some are infected with HIV/AIDS, considered inferior. The young women also don't have jobs that would bring in monthly incomes to enable them establish good entrepreneurs.

Women do have access to informal saving mechanisms and to microfinance, especially group lending, through about 1,500 microfinance operations in Uganda (consultations with the Directorate for Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, November 2004).

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In katosi, including “*the Katosi Micro Credit Program*” under Katosi women Development Trust, which is currently in the process of restructuring, cater to women’s financial needs. This form of financing has its limitations, however, particularly for women who wish to grow their enterprises. The high interest rates, small loans sizes, and short-term nature of the loans mean that women can become trapped in the informal sector and unable to expand their businesses. A product designed to address the demand for longer term financing.

3. What cultural norms or practices hinder or prevent women's access to property or resources? When do women participate in the processes of socio-economic development? And at what level?

Women are denied opportunities to inherit land due to cultural norms—systems of patrilineal inheritance and patrilocal residence. In Buganda culture (of which many of the young girls in Uganda come from), when a man dies, his heir is determined by the cultural leaders of his clan. Because heritage is patrilineal, it is customary for land to pass to the man’s relatives, his wife becoming heir in only a few instances (Government of Uganda 2001). Some cultural norms have left many young women without ownership and accessibility to resources yet they are widowed and with big families to care for.

Upon divorce it is difficult for a woman to assert her rights over matrimonial land, as under customary law she has no rights to it. Even under formal law, when a wife seeks to claim a stake in marital property not directly acquired during the marriage, she is deemed to lack legal and equitable rights in it and her contribution to the home during the marriage is usually not taken into account when the assets are divided between the divorcing spouses (Banenya 2002).

In some areas and among households in the fisher communities of Katosi, women were not allowed to fish on the lake and climb into boats. Fishing is a major activity at among communities in Katosi which deprived women especially young women that are independent from parents to participant in income generating activities.

However, now with the many developments in Uganda that have spread to rural areas like Katosi, there are little no cultures that hinder young women from accessing resources unless practiced by the families they are strongly attached to.

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More than 80% of the young women in Katosi now engage socio- economic practices especially in the informal sector. Household data show that nonfarm employment is an important source of growth in Sub-Saharan Africa. Women's labor force participation in the rural nonfarm sector increased between 1992 and 1996, raising the incomes of women and of households headed by them and reducing poverty. When provided with the opportunity, women are able to participate and to contribute to economic growth and poverty reduction. Removing constraints to women's participation in the labor market can promote this kind of outcome and accelerate the pace of poverty reduction in Uganda. *Source:* Canagarajah, Newman, and Bhattamishra (2001). However, cases of low education and limitation or no income at all and language barriers (especially of English the official Language) hinder them to participate in socio-economic developments.

ii. Quantitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. 2 Rural women members of KWDT taking up initiatives to start up their own entrepreneurial businesses.
2. 2 Rural women's participation in the workforce (rural, industrial, informal).
3. At least 1 Socio productive initiatives implemented by rural women.
4. Reduction of rate of unemployment, by sex and age at least by 0.1%.
5. Increased acquisition and storage of Income data in the region, by sex and age by 2.

iii. Qualitative Indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

6. Increased level of women's satisfaction with productive activities launched.
7. Increase in quality of counseling and support services for women entrepreneurs, level of usage by the population and level of user satisfaction increases and is appreciated by 2%.
8. Increased level of awareness among KWDT members on rights as women increases by 2%.

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9. Local community's perception of women's role in socio-economic development changes positively and highly recognizes women's participation by 2%.

iii. Factors of change and resistance and conclusion.

In conclusion, with the changing times over the centuries due to influence from developments, changes in perceptions and demands and exposures from different societies or individuals have enabled an increasing participation of women (in this case rural women members of KWDT) in socio economic development process. The Ugandan and global supportive legal institutions and frameworks enforced to bring about gender equality have seen to this. However, due to the remote setting, cultural influence, individual disadvantages of illiteracy, poverty, among others, many young women are still affected by these factors and their participation in the socio economic development is still way below the average to be considered, recognized in the socio economic development processes.

b. Socio-cultural and religious factors:

i. Key questions:

1. What is the rate of women being affected by effects of domestic violence in their homes and communities?

Domestic violence is a situation where someone intentionally causes or inflicts harm on another in a home setting. This kind of harm is most times physical, sexual, emotional or psychological. Most time victims to domestic violence are wives, children which most times results to child abuse, child assault or neglect as it also happens to men though this kind of victims are not very common in Katosi village.

There are high increasing rates of young women being affected by domestic violence in this area. The most types of domestic violence experienced are sexual abuse from their intimate partners. Most of these violence cases have root causes are caused by ignorance, culture, poverty and HIV/AIDS that are common characteristics in the fishing area. Due to poverty, the husbands who are looked as breadwinners have no sources of incomes and the little money got, they waste in drinking, sexual immorality and return back home and harass their wives and children. According to *Bernard Van Leer Foundation Draft Uganda Strategy, January 2011*, in rural areas, 70.1 married rural women aged 15-49 have experienced physical, sexual or emotional abuse by their

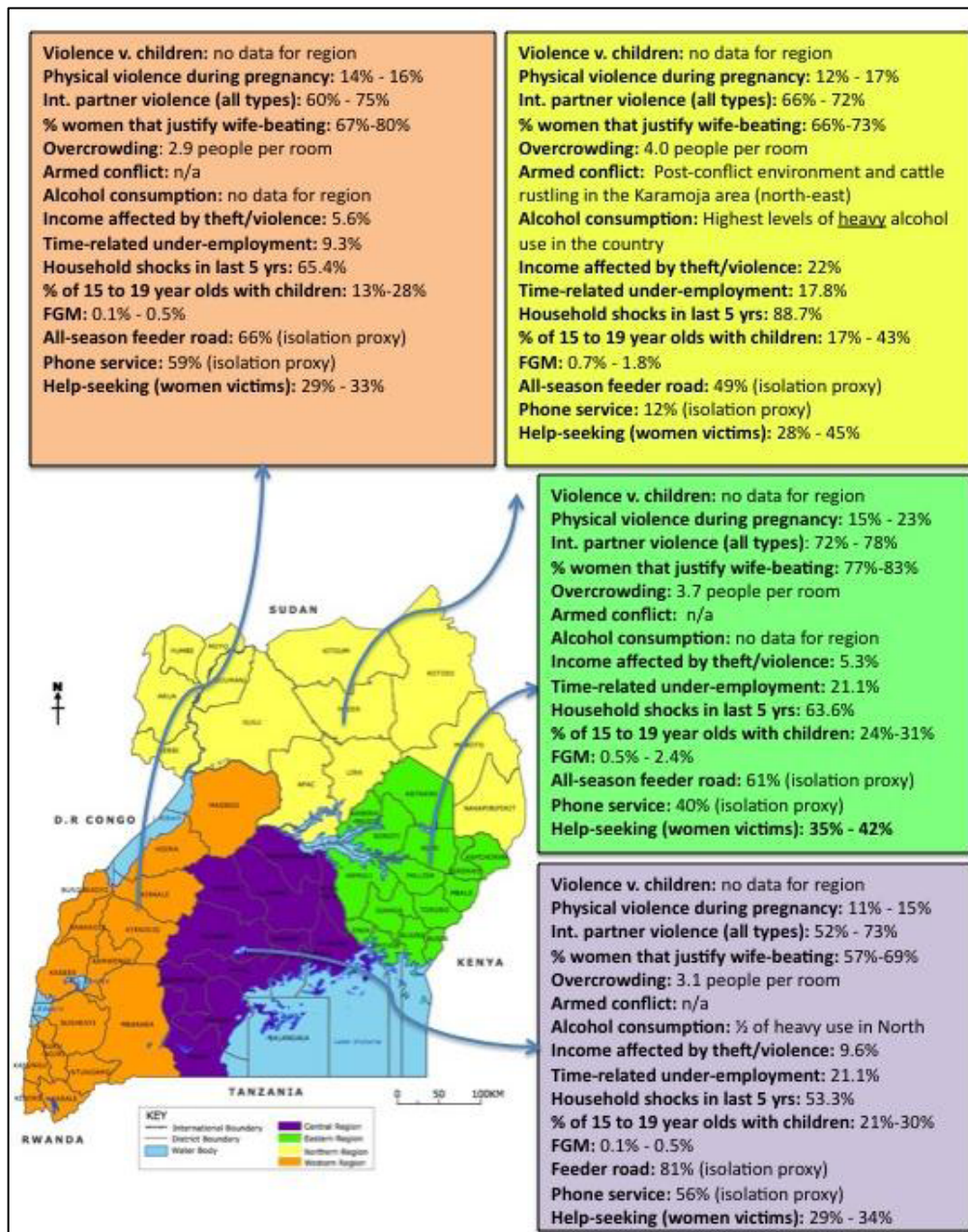


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intimate partners. Rates for women with no children are 53% compared to 70% for women with three or more children; 70.2% of women 15 to 49 indicate men are justified in beating their wives. 60% of men 15 to 49 indicate men are justified in beating in a least one circumstance - signals of social acceptability.

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Figure shows rates of types of domestic violence and their main causes in the major regions of Uganda



(The Uganda National Household Survey 2005/2006 Census, Household Surveys, Demographic and Health Surveys)

2. How do the new cultures and religions due to migration and westernization affect the native/ traditional cultures and religions of rural women?

In Katosi a village located in the Buganda region, has most of its population as Baganda. The Baganda traditionally are polygamous and practiced promiscuity during ceremonial events of twin naming, introduction ceremonies/ engagement parties, funeral ceremonies and before marriage the “kasiki” bachelors’ party. The “senga” paternal aunt of the new wife would sleep with new husband to illustrate to the new wife obligatory roles in bed; the men had many wives as well. These norms were strong and believed to keep their gods happy. However, the practices increased the rates of transmitting sexual diseases when times crossed into 20th century. Westernization and migration of new tribes into the Buganda region led to dilution of these practices. Westernization comes along with it Christianity that strongly forbid such practices of polygamy and sexual immorality. The rate of women catching sexually transmitted diseases in faithful families reduces. It is now evident that homes with Christian values have little or domestic violence as compared to the traditional times.

However, westernization and migration of new cultures in katosi a fishing community, led to loss of traditional values among the girls and young women. Due to the temporary settles, high poverty rates and very high living standards, the girls and young women changed their ways of dressing into short skirts and trousers that are meant to be worn by men rather long dresses and traded themselves for sex so as to earn small incomes for survival.

New religions into the area have given opportunity to women to come out to the public and in society to participate in various developmental activities. The Christian religion preaches that men and women are equal before God unlike the traditional beliefs were women were regards as inferior. Now the women participate in choiring, preaching.

3. Which economic and social factors hinder women’s access to health?

There are many factors contributing to hindrance of women’s access to health. The major ones in Katosi are poverty among women. Most young women lack financial security to access even the free community health services provided as most of them only prescribe but don’t offer drugs.

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The locations of the hospitals or medical service centers are very far from the communities. This has led to many women giving birth on the roads or even dying before they can reach the health service point.

The high rates of corruption every where among some responsible stakeholders have contributed to lack of funds to construct more health centers and small amounts allocated by the government don't reach the intended destination, absence of drugs in hospitals, absence of doctors, nurses and mid wives, unequipped hospitals with no working tools or a minimum of simple technology. This situation has mainly affected women as most times are responsible for their health lives and those of their children.

There are low education levels and poor infrastructure such as roads, the clinics and regional hospitals are in poor state as most are too old, very small to occupy the increasing population.

4. Which cultural norms or practices hinder or prevent women's access to sexual and reproductive health?

In Katosi, most of these cultural norms and practices are now significant but are unpracticed and have a very low contribution to women's access to sexual and reproductive health. However, in homes and among individual that still value these cultural norms and practices, access to sexual and reproductive health is limited. In such circumstances, the role of women is to please their husbands and give birth. Most times, the women have a no say and are in no position to decide when to give participate in sexual activities and when to give birth. Most women are literally stopped by their partners from accessing reproductive health and measures such as family planning are not allowed to use even such as use of condoms. The rates of polygamy in such settings are too high that many women in most situations are the 2nd or 3rd wife has no say in important sexual and reproductive health matters. This has placed young women very vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and manipulation of their rights.

- i. **Quantitative indicators:** (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)
 1. Number of members who freely practice their religion and their culture in their communities increases to 2.
 2. Increase in the number of women holding leadership positions in the sectors of religion, culture and social status by 1 member.

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3. Vaccination rates disaggregated by sex. (This information is not directly recorded by KWDT.)
4. Reduction in the rate, and age, women victims of domestic and communal violence in the past 12 months by 1%. (KWDT does not directly work in this thematic area but supports individual women and groups to achieve their rights through awareness creation and livelihood development)
5. Access of young women to modern forms of contraceptives 2%. (This information is not directly recorded by KWDT.)

ii. Qualitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Increased rightful use of legislative measures to address against violence on women. Effective implementation of the regulations, policies and laws set that fight for women rights against domestic violence by KWDT members.
2. Increased liaising beliefs and traditions and how they can help in reducing the causes and effects of diseases and health processes.
3. Increased right perceptions, by the organs of power of the community recognize the role and contributions made by KWDT women members.

iii. Factors of change and resistance.

Legislations, policies have been structured to better the rights of women in Uganda. However, weak and limited implementation and enforcements mechanisms of these policies and legislations are still contributing factors to achievement of women's rights in rural settings.

In conclusion, women in Uganda still languish at the bottom of social developments. Affected by and some cultures, religion where their rights are still stepped on. These cultural, religious and social practices should be harmonized with the aim of promoting and achieving women's rights and empowerment by government, civil societies, community leaders and developmental partners.

c. Environmental factors:

i. Key questions:

- 1. Can women be legal or sole owners of land or other natural resources? Can they freely transfer their ownerships at their own will?**

According to the Uganda Forest Policy, typically men are more interested in trees as sources of construction materials or cash income, while women's interests are more in the supply of firewood and the contribution of forestry to food production. Women are disadvantaged in security of tenure, in many cases they cannot inherit land and are rarely involved in decision-making over natural resource management or the management of household income. All these factors are disincentives for women to invest in tree growing. However with such hindrances still present, now some young women are now sole owners of land and natural resources. Legal land rights have been implemented where women and men have rights to own land and property. Also there is legal protection of young family members in terms of land or property inheritance. The women can now freely transfer their ownerships at their own will.

- 2. What legal norms or cultural practices hinder or prevent women from making decisions on available natural resources?**

Gender-biased cultural norms and traditions prevent women from becoming leaders and therefore, influence the decision-making process. Mugisha (2002) noted that women candidates lack adequate funds to finance their campaigns during elections. This is partially attributable to cultural norms and traditions, which discriminated against women regarding the ownership of land and property.

The Uganda Forestry Policy, Land and tree ownership: The Constitution (1995) and the Land Act (1998) give the lead on questions of land ownership and tenure. There is no longer a category of public land, only customary, freehold, mailo and leasehold land (article 237 of the Constitution, article 3 of the Land Act). In the context of forestry, it is significant that customary ownership of land is valid and legal, whether registered and titled or not. All land is owned, including the trees growing on it, whether government or private land. However, there is ambiguity in the special conditions applying to trees of Reserved Species. Although trees planted on private land have always been privately

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owned, trees of Reserved Species are not widely planted because of uncertain ownership.

However in Katosi, young women now access natural resources. The natural resources range from forests, lakes, swamps, sand mining, stone quarries. The economic situation and need to access resources of productive activities so as to increase their incomes have led them participate in decision making of available natural resources.

3. Are there women in decision-making positions in community's environmental management structures?

Yes. At the local community council in all the sub counties of Mukono, there is a woman representative who is responsible for the environmental management structure. This person reports to the government. Also, cultural leaders such as the Buganda Ministry there is a woman representative in all districts that are influential in decision making on the communities' environmental management structure.

4. What is the role of women in the local market? What are the productive activities related to natural resources that they can develop?

Women in Katosi have created space to participate in local markets. Most of their activities are under the informal sector and many of the community members have appreciated their roles and contributions to the community. Their major productive activities vary from small scale retailing, trading to fish drying and selling, to tailoring to salon, food processing and selling, second hands cloth selling, teaching, providing health service, crop cultivation and animal rearing. Women are now considered as big actors in the development as they already have a well established role of mothering and child up bringing.

One way to capture the dynamics of the different contributions of men and women to the productive economy is by looking at the "gender intensity of production" of different sectors, an approach developed by Elson and Evers (1997). Their estimates, while highly aggregated, provide a useful indication of the magnitude of the contributions of men and women to the economy. These estimates show that women represent the majority of the labor force in agriculture in Uganda, while men represent a much larger majority of the labor force in industry and services. Micro-level country data confirm the general validity of these aggregate estimates. About 86 percent of the population lives

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in rural areas, and 77 percent of the active labor force in rural areas is employed in agriculture (Government of Uganda 2004c).

The vast majority of women work in agricultural subsistence work, particularly crop production (60 percent of women list “cropping” as their occupation, as opposed to only 49 percent of men) (Lawson 2003). Women are more active than men in agriculture, particularly in food crop production, marketing, and processing of agricultural products. This gender division is confirmed by the National Agricultural Advisory Services.

i. Quantitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Increased access to the community's natural resources disaggregated by sex and age by 2%. (This information is not directly recorded by KWDT.)
2. 2% of KWDT members tankig up environmental protection or waste management duties and tasks.
3. Increased number of women accessing and with power ownership of natural resources increased to 1%. (This information is not directly recorded by KWDT.)
4. Existence of 16 groups of women active in environmental protection.

ii. Qualitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Increased use and dissemination of local practices and knowledge to manage effectively and sustainably their environment by both men and women.
2. Positive change in perceptions of environmental problems among men and women.
3. Increased participation of men and women's in decision on communal natural resources by 1%.
4. Increased number of women undertaking environmental tasks not traditionally assigned to them by 1%.

iii. Factors of change and resistance.

Factors such as education, illiteracy and ignorance, high poverty rates and weak policy implementation are contributing to limitation of women to access and control environmental resources, participation in decision making among young women are still low.

However, women being the most nearer and in contact with the natural resources have highly depended on them for improvement of their livelihoods and have participated in local markets in which they trade local products from these natural environments.

b. Technological factors:

i. Key questions:

1. Do women and men access to information technology and communication in equal measure?

The different types of information technology and communication types in the Katosi include;

- ✓ computers and printers (no accessibility and are scarcely used)
- ✓ Photocopiers (limited accessibility and privately owned and are scarcely used)
- ✓ Telephone booth (there is accessibility but are non functional.)
- ✓ Private telephones used by citizens (easily accessed and are common)
- ✓ Film and audio video communication “bibandas” (many private and are paid for accessibility and use)
- ✓ Video centers (not common)
- ✓ Community/ public communication (common, accessible and widely used)
- ✓ Office telephone line, internet and email. (private use and not commonly used and not very accessible)

Most women lack access to information technology especially of agricultural as most of their activities are based in agricultural. In Katosi access to information technology such internet cafes is really scarce due to low interests but the citizens and low internet coverage in the areas. Also information technology accessibility and used is based on the levels of education which women shy away from. From this basis, it is very obvious that women have a low accessibility to information technology as compared to men.

2. What is the degree of frequency of use of technology by women?

Usage of technology by women is still low. Over 80% of women have no experience in use of advanced technologies. Those are engaged in the use of these technologies are

in need of social and economic development that requires one to be affiliated to different kinds of technology for effective progress.

3. Do women have equal opportunities to develop their technological capabilities?

Yes. The women of Katosi have very many great opportunities to develop the technological capabilities. Many local, national and international organizations have established mechanisms of strengthening women to develop their knowledge and skills in information technology and communication. The government through the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) has collaborated with International Center for Tropical Agricultural (CIAT) to develop source marketing possibilities for rural women in Mukono district. This partnership uses Geographical Information Systems to locate the marketing farmers a one way through which the women are exposed to the technology but not necessary are ale to use it.

4. What is the contribution of women towards technology advancement and use?

The contribution of women towards technology advancement and use is still very low. This requires big investments which the young women are not able to initiate. However, technologies that enable them use their local available resources have been fully developed with support from Non Governmental Organizations such as in women members of Katosi Women Development Trust have developed water, hygiene and sanitation technologies to promote accessibility and use of safe clean water in their households and communities. These include local hand washing facilities like tippy taps and dish drying racks.



KWDT members using local resources of wood to put up dish drying rack

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ii. Quantitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Increased access to new technologies disaggregated by sex and age increases by 1 member.
2. KWDT women who manage new and old technologies increases by 1 lady.
3. Increased new technological innovations promoted by KWDT women increases by 1.
4. Frequency of use of new technologies disaggregated by sex and age increases by 1KWDT member.
5. KWDT women who access jobs where it is necessary to have knowledge of new technologies increases by 2%.

iii. Qualitative indicators:

1. Level of satisfaction of KWDT women with the use of technology increases by 1%.
2. Recognition of KWDT rural women's roles and talents with skills, knowledge of new technologies increases by 2%.
3. Increased record keeping for reasons why KWDT women use or do not use new technologies.
4. Developments of technologies that are compatible and familiar to rural women especially ones with disabilities to promote easy usage and management. (KWDT has not yet ventured into these technologies hence has no figure records)

iv. Factors of change and resistance.

Traditionally, women's use of advanced technology was unheard of in the Buganda culture. However, with the globalization and westernization, the society in Katosi has been exposed to new technologies and the need or demand for quality products, better livelihoods has forced many of the young women in katosi to participate in these new technology advancements. Influence from NGOs, local governments that have enabled the women to come up with new innovations and skills in technology advanced have empowered women to self sustain there rights for example; through the use

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of their local knowledge and skills to access proper water, hygiene and sanitation, young women have come up advanced technologies in their local settings as shown in the picture above.

In conclusion, young women need to receive more support from their immediate NGOs, CBOs, and Local governments to venture into Information Technology from which they can advance their social, health, environmental entrepreneurial services or business.

c. Language and educational factors:

i. Key questions:

1. Which written or common laws or cultural practices hinder, prevent or undermine women's access to education?

There are no written or common laws that hinder women's access especially citizens to education in Uganda. The cultural practices or norms that hinder women's participation in education such as women believed as home care takers have left many of the young girls uneducated. Many young girls are getting child and youth pregnancies which affect the continuation of their education. However, these norms are suppressed in Uganda and there are little cases as the government is highly ensuring that the children and youths receive education.

2. Who decides whether a girl or boy goes to school?

The decision in families on whether a girl or boy goes to school is a responsibility to the mother and the father as well as the whole community. Though in the traditional days, men a bigger says since they were provided income in the house. Now that women work and meet their financial needs, the decision is both to the father and mother.

3. Is the work of girls considered more important for the family than the work of boys, or vice versa?

The work for girls and boys in families varies greatly. This is based on gender roles and responsibilities. Girls are considered as home keepers while boys are considered to provide hard labour. However, most families prefer to educate boys so that they can later support the whole family. Some families regard education of girls as wastage since most of the girls are married off and benefit the families they marry into.

4. Do women participate in the management of education centers? In which level?

Participation of women in education centers is increasing. Women now participate in management of educational institution, most of the community teachers in schools are females, headmistresses.

5. Do women participate in parents' - teachers' associations?

Yes. Women are the bigger percentage that attend and participate in parent-teacher association. Most of the school parent- teacher association committees have most positions led by women.

6. Are there experiences of collaboration between communities with different languages?

Yes. Katosi village has a heterogeneous tribal setting. There is good collaboration between the different languages used. Luganda is the most widely used with over 98% populations using it.

7. Is the education of girls considered a disadvantage for future marriage or fulfillment of local traditions?

No. Education of girls is now not considered as disadvantage. There has been numerous awareness and sensitization on promotion of girl child education. Many of the families know the importance of educating their children. And law is enforced on those parents that fail to educate their children. Though due to poverty, some parents are not able to educate all their children and most times educate the firstborns and the young ones are left out and if a girl is among these lastborns, they suffer the misfortune.

ii. Quantitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Literacy rates among men and women, by age reduce by 2%.
2. Male and female enrolment rates in primary, secondary, higher and adult education increases by 1%.
3. Female and male school dropout rate in primary, secondary, higher and adult education reduces by 1% at primary level. Other levels, KWDT has not implement these activities

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4. Affirmative action's for increasing women's access to education. KWDT involves women in trainings but not formal education
5. Women's participation in parent's associations, management bodies of educational centers and institutions. KWDT does not directly support women to participate in associations thus no figures
6. Flexible informal education initiatives increases by 1 school through promotion of WASH activities
7. Unwanted pregnancy rate. KWDT does not directly work in this area.

iii. Qualitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity).

1. Level of satisfaction of women with the education at all levels increases by 1% though KWDT does not directly work in this thematic area.
2. Perception of students on the usefulness of their education. Valuation changes that parents make on the education of their daughters increases by 1% basing on children of KWDT members
3. Positive assessment on the education of women by community leaders increases by 1%.

iv. Factors of change and resistance and conclusion.

In Katosi, language setting among the community members is diverse as most of the population is from different tribes due to the fisher community settings. The main language used is Luganda. However, there are language barriers that hinder economic and socio developments among the community members. This has mainly created a visible division (not physically visible) among the members. Low education levels have led to little use of the official language in the political, socio and economic activities. Women are most affected by these, as most of the high level activities, participants use English for communication. This situation has trapped the young women in the constant low livelihoods situations and has in result limited their opportunities to explore more to their rights.

d. Judicial and Political factors:

i. Key questions:

- 1. What is the role of local institutions (including women's institutions) in empowering/disempowering women/men? What cultural norms or practices hinder or prevent women's access to position of power in the community?**

Local institutions have enabled rural women improve their knowledge and skills, initiate new ideas. The local institutions have enabled women to politically, socially, economically and culturally develop themselves. Women are able to have improved livelihoods, sustain and manage their resources efficiently with little or no decency.

- 2. Do women have the same mobility within and outside their residential locality or country, as compared a men?**

Yes. Women have right to move free from one region to another. As well as residing in places of their choice.

- 3. Who decide about fertility decisions (e.g. number of children, number of abortions)?**

This is a two way decision for both man and woman in a home now. Originally in the traditional days, the men had a bigger say on how many children a family should have.

- ii. Quantitative indicators:** (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Increased number of women and men in key decision-making positions, by age by 2%
2. Women taking part in decision making processes to influence policies and strategic plan formulations in their local communities increases by 2%.
3. 2% increase of women in local councils/decision-making bodies, by age.
4. 2% increase of women/men registered as voters, by age. This is not recorded by KWDT

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iii. Qualitative indicators: (These figures are based on before the end of July 2012 from 365 KWDT members of which 4 member representatives have been involved in the activity)

1. Level of women's satisfaction with political and judicial participation increased by 2%.
2. Reduction in changes occurring in KWDT members families in the division of reproductive and productive role by 1%.
3. Increased referrals of women involved in making decisions affecting the development of the community by 2%.
4. Increased rate of Local community's positive perception and attitudes of women's role in political participation.

iv. Factors of change and resistance.

Many young women in Katosi are affected by illiteracy or ignorance of political knowledge. Limited access to resources hinders their participation in politics and judicial processes. Also, low levels of education and lack of experience and leadership skills are some of the factors contributing to this. High corruption and present traditions hindering from women's participation in public issues are all factors hindering women access and participate their rights fully. This has left many of the women young with will to participate in judicial and political affairs to be sided out by other community members or out competed.

In conclusion, the change in legal systems, continued advocates for women's participation in judicial and political affairs, increased priorities to educate girls has enabled a now increasing visible number of women especially youth girls to participate in these sectors.

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