



# Annual Report 2015

*Year's Highlights*

*Bringing Smiles to the Faces of Vulnerable Children*

# Table of Contents

---

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| ABOUT US .....                       | 2  |
| UWESO Governance Structure .....     | 3  |
| PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS 2015.....     | 5  |
| Core Programme Areas .....           | 5  |
| Chapter 1.....                       | 6  |
| Sustainable Livelihoods .....        | 6  |
| Chapter 2.....                       | 8  |
| Technical Support Services:.....     | 8  |
| Chapter 3.....                       | 10 |
| Child Protection and Education:..... | 10 |
| Chapter 4.....                       | 12 |
| Improving Community Health: .....    | 12 |
| Chapter 5.....                       | 14 |
| Institutional development.....       | 14 |

## ABOUT US

---

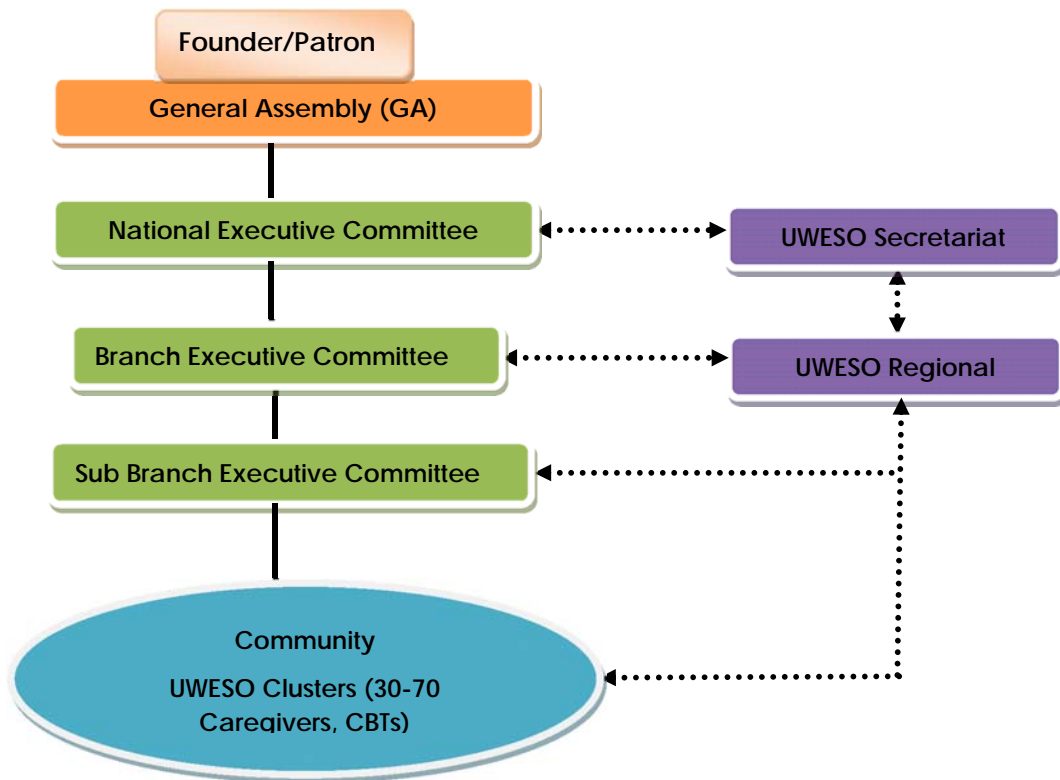
Ugandan Women's Effort to Save Orphans (UWESO) was established in 1986 to respond to needs of children who were orphaned during the civil strife of the 1980s. UWESO'S initial operations were emergency oriented; providing the orphans with food, clothing, blankets, and other basic necessities. This approach however did not address the long-term question relating to the future of the children coupled with the fact that the numbers of orphaned children increased at an alarming rate mainly because of the loss of their parents to HIV/AIDS. In order to effectively and efficiently respond to their needs, UWESO transformed to a development focused organization embracing participatory, human rights and child centred approaches in their programming. This has been demonstrated by the level of engagement and partnership with Government ministries especially Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) where UWESO provided Technical Support to Local Governments and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) operationalize OVC National Policies, Strategies and Standards and Strengthening the Ugandan National Response for Implementation of Services for Orphans and Vulnerable Children among other interventions. UWESO is also a member of the national steering committee on the implementation of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) in Uganda.

UWESO responds to the plight of OVC along three dimensions; meeting their basic needs , providing further protection against violation their rights and empowering local communities to overcome the drivers of vulnerability in their households. Our core strategies focus on building the capacity of caregivers to increase their abilities to generate local resources and become proactively involved in the support and care of the children.

# UWESO Governance Structure

The governance structure of UWESO is comprised of the Patron, General Assembly, National Executive Committee (NEC), the Branch Executive Committees (BECs) and the Sub-Branch Executive Committees (SBECs). The General Assembly is the highest decision making body of the organization that brings together UWESO members every two years and elects members to the NEC every 4 years. The NEC is comprised of fifteen members; ten elected and five co-opted members based on strategic reasons e.g. skills. Because of its representative role of the General Assembly and Patron, NEC provides governance oversight to UWESO the NGO and entities i.e. Success Microfinance Services Ltd (SMS), Migyera UWESO Training Institute (MUTI), UWESO Community Cooperative Group and Masulita Children’s Village (MCV). The Secretariat is headed by the Group Chief Executive Officer. The organization has country wide operations with 6 regional offices namely; Lira, Soroti, Mbale, Masaka, Hoima and Mbarara with the Head Office in Kampala.

UWESO’s Governance Structure



## UWESO Coverage (Area of Operation)

| No. | Region        | District of Operation   | Structures  |
|-----|---------------|---|---|
| 1   | Central       | Hoima , Wakiso, Mukono, Nakasongola, Kiboga, Masindi and Kibaale  | All these districts have grassroots, sub County and district level governance structures. |
| 2   | Southern      | Masaka, Rakai, Sembabule, Lyantonde, Bukomasimbi and Mutukula   |   |
| 3   | Eastern       | Mbale, Tororo, Busia, Butaleja, Sironko, Pallisa, Budaka, Manafwa, Bududa, Bulambuli, Bugiri and Iganga |   |
| 4   | Western       | Mbarara, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Ibanda, Bushenyi, Kabarole, Ntungamao, Rukungiri and Mitooma               |   |
| 5   | North         | Lira, Oyam, Otuke, Apac, Kole, Kitgum, Alebtong and Gulu.   |   |
| 6   | North Eastern | Soroti, Amuria, Katakwi, Kaberamaido, Ngora, Serere, Kumi, Bukedea, Kotido and Moroto                   |   |

| Zone             | SUNRISE Supported Districts in 8 TSO Regions  |
|------------------|---|
| 1. North West    | Adjumani, Arua, Koboko, Maracha, Moyo, Nebbi and Yumbe  |
| 2. North Central | Amolatar, Amuru, Apac, Dokolo, Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Oyam and Pader   |
| 3. North East    | Amuria, Abim, Kaabong, Kaberamaido, Bukedea, Katakwi, Kotido, Kumi, Moroto, Nakapiripirit and Soroti  |
| 4. Western       | Buliisa, Bundibugyo, Hoima, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kasese, Kibaale, Kyenjojo and Masindi   |
| 5. Central       | Kalangala, Kiboga, Luwero, Masaka, Mityana, Mpigi, Mubende, Nakaseke, Nakasongola, Rakai, Sembabule, Wakiso, Lyantonde and Kampala Capital City Authority |
| 6. East Central  | Bugiri, Namutumba, Iganga, Jinja, Kamuli, Kayunga, Mayuge and Mukono,   |
| 7. Eastern       | Manafwa, Budaka, Bukwo, Busia, Butaleja, Kapchorwa, Mbale, Pallisa, Sironko, Bududa and Tororo,   |
| 8. South West    | Bushenyi, Ibanda, Isingiro, Kabale, Kanungu, Kiruhura, Kisoro, Mbarara, Ntungamo and Rukungiri  |



## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS 2015

---

The year 2015 marked the end of the implementation period of the Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015 with the strategic objectives were as outlined below:



### Core Programme Areas

Uganda women's' Effort to Save Orphans interventions are in four core programme areas and were designed to provide an essential, holistic package of services to OVC households namely

- ✓ Livelihood
- ✓ Technical Support Services
- ✓ Education and Child Protection
- ✓ Health

UWESO's achievements in the previous years have been captured in statistics and success stories and best practices and these results that continue to give hope to our work. This hope makes them live a full live

*330 Village Savings and Loans Associations formed reaching 9,517 households. 75 percent of households members or caregivers are able to meet basic needs of OVC under their care (provide health care, clothing, education etc.*

*78% of supported OVC equipped with artisan/ vocational skills and now raising income to meet their basic needs and 38% of them provided with startup tool kits. 86 percent of the targeted schools and the neighboring communities accessing clean water and have adopted better hygiene and sanitation practices*



# Chapter 1

## Sustainable Livelihoods

Globally many players including International Non - Government Organizations (INGO), National NGO, Governments, and Development Agencies have committed to alleviate human suffering -Despite numerous efforts by various actors to eradicate extreme hunger by 2030; the number of households world over who do not have clear livelihoods options is alarmingly high. In recognition of the fact that, Uganda National Poverty Levels reduced by nearly 5% from 19.7% in the years 2012/2013 households in rural areas where a majority of the population live continue to rely on rain fed agriculture. Lack of access to appropriate financial resources and poor farming practices are some of the factors that continue to undermine agricultural production leading to high poverty levels; Uganda Bureau of statistics report; 2015.

In this thematic area, UWESO's interventions in the year 2015 were hinged on the fact that unless household incomes are raised, the poverty cycle cannot be broken and hence the other 3 core program areas would not be sustained. The key activities implemented in the period were provision of improved seed and planting materials, provision of business skills training, Selection Planning and Management of enterprises, financial literacy and establishment of VSLAs. These interventions promoted enterprise development, savings culture and better credit repayment culture and overall increase in food production while addressing the issue of household cash flow during lean periods.

By Dec 2015 a total of 330 VSLAs comprised of 9,517 members with 72:28 composition ratio of female to male were formed.

Through the provision of livelihood support for OVC households to overcome issues of vulnerability, we recorded the following results

- ✓ Over 75% of UWESO Supported caregivers are able to meet basic needs of OVC under their care (provide health care, clothing, education etc.
- ✓ Startup tool kits were provided to over 38% of the trained artisans
- ✓ 78 % of OVC equipped with artisan/ vocational skills are engaged in gainful employment and able to raise income to meet their basic needs and support their parents/caregivers.

A range of agricultural income generating inputs to increase access to food in sufficient quantity ranging from improved seeds to hybrid animals

| <b>IGA Received</b>                 |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Seeds (Beans &amp; Mize) Kgs</b> | 850 |
| <b>Bee hives (pieces)</b>           | 20  |
| <b>Chicken (pieces)</b>             | 318 |
| <b>Goats (pieces)</b>               | 47  |
| <b>Heifer (pieces)</b>              | 3   |
| <b>Piglets (pieces)</b>             | 124 |

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

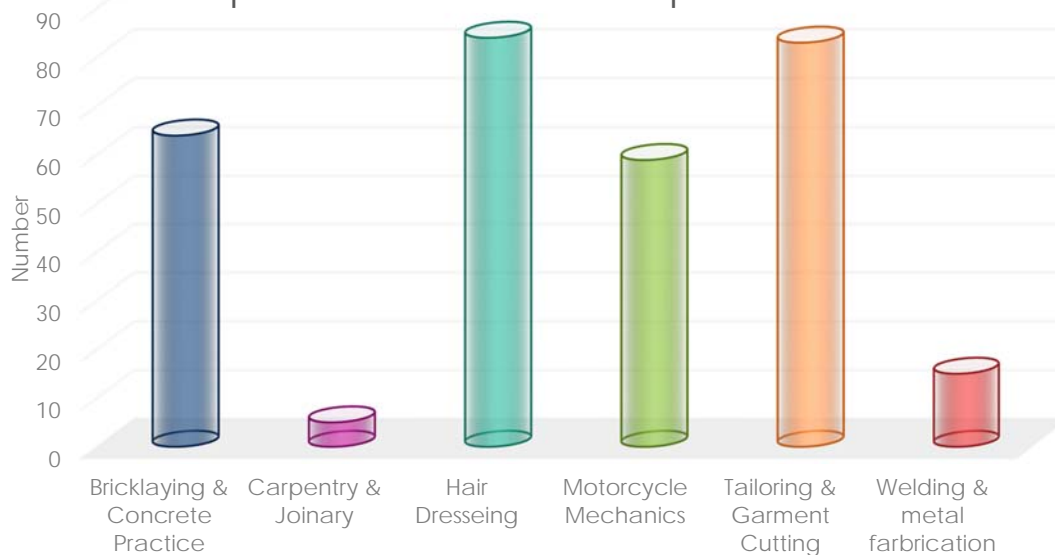
*Enhanced capacity of Caregivers and OVC to generate income to meet the basic needs of the OVC.*

- ✓ 120 new VSLAs groups were formed
- ✓ 3,141 OVC caregivers (1047 male and 2094 females) were actively borrowing and saving.
- ✓ 142 Male and 168 Female OVC were equipped with artisan apprenticeship skills
- ✓ 1,980 (976 male and 1,004 females) OVC benefiting from VSLA through their caregivers.
- ✓ All 3,141 OVC caregivers (1,047 male and 2,094) were trained in business management.
- ✓ 118 OVC equipped with artisan skills were provided with start-up tool kits

*Improved ability to produce more food amongst the households*

- ✓ 2,370 OVC Caregivers trained in sustainable agricultural methods
- ✓ 360, 90 and 1,050 OVC HHs received goats, heifers and piglets respectively.
- ✓ 2 Farmer Field Schools (FFS) were established.
- ✓ 120 OVC HHs received beans and maize seeds for planting.

Graph of Artisans course provided in 2015





## Chapter 2

---

### Technical Support Services:

UWESO is one of the NGOs spearheading delivery of technical support service by TA and capacity building to CSOs. The organization believes that more gain can be made by strategic partnerships nationwide that mitigate the challenges and provide an opportunity for coordinated high impact responses. Much has been done, but much more still needs to be done to systematically and sustainably address issues of vulnerability of OVC.

We have learnt that through strategic partnership with Government and other CSOs implementation of capacity building programmes and services to Local Governments and OVC focused organizations towards strengthening OVC national response and community based teams (BEC, SBEC) are the best instruments for monitoring programmes. This is the best approach since they for example branch executive committee (BEC) live in the community and have first-hand issues that affect service delivery.

Under every project, the stake holders are empowered and trained to monitor and provide other services both at sub county and district level. Women particularly are encouraged to participate actively in the identification of issues that affect them and lives of children.

By the end of Strengthening the Uganda National Response for Implementation of Services for OVC (SUNRISE – OVC) project in June 2015, UWESO as Technical capacity building lead of the TSO sustainably contributed to the achievement of the following results; Local governments effectively planned, budgeted and coordinated implementation of comprehensive OVC services at all levels in 80 districts.

- I. UWESO has equipped structures; NEC and Secretariat that continue to roll out Corporate Governance trainings to BECs who in turn roll out to Sub counties in a cascade manner and to the clusters. Succession planning through mentoring teams 34 and holding regular elections as per UWESO Constitution continue to be critical in corporate governance.
- II. The annual subscription members pay symbolizes your commitment and financial sacrifice to support OVC with your meager resources. To date UWESO has a total number of 3,912 (fully paid up members; Mbale 30, Ngora 600, Masaka 1006, Western 176, Hoima 1,481, Central 19 and Ngora 600).
- III. The power of membership has led to the birth of a new UWESO child; UWESO Multipurpose Cooperative Group that was registered on 31st July 2015. It has an interim board comprised of a cross section of NEC members and members of senior management (Vice Chair, Chairperson, Treasurer, Alice Gowa, Head of Programs, Livelihoods Manager and UWESO Lawyer) which is intended to leverage and strengthen UWESO model built on the village savings loan associations (VSLA) and link to child protection.
- IV. Increased demand and utilization of OVC data and strategic influence by 80 districts
- V. Local Governments and CSOs monitored and measured quality of services to OVC and their households by 80 District.
- VI. 80 Local governments and CSOs efficiently used the existing data and raised additional resources to implement OVC plan.

Key results

| S/N | Outputs   | Indicators/Results   |
|-----|---|--|
| 1   | Improved quality of Orphans and other vulnerable children's services provided by the UWESO supported OVC service providers.                                   | UWESO 2016-2020 Strategic Plan was developed.<br>We participated in 17 child protection partnership advocacy meetings both at national and district level in 2015.<br>The organization provided scholarships to 118 OVC artisan for approved Programming courses |
| 2   | Best practices shared and used to inform Government and other stakeholders on quality and priorities for Orphans and other vulnerable children's programming. | 1 Accreditation certificate per training area obtained from Uganda institute of technical education.<br>118 Training certificates provided to Orphans and other vulnerable children's who have finished training on artisan course                               |
| 3   | UWESO established as an accredited agency on specific Orphans and other vulnerable children's training and programming  | Through skilling Uganda project, UWESO establish 3 training centres in Mbale, Kumi, Mbarara, Masaka in addition to MUTI and MCV  |

## Chapter 3

### Child Protection and Education:

We focus on strengthening the households and institutions that are mandated in protecting and promoting right of children's, mothers and equipping Orphans and other vulnerable children's through integrated approaches to overcome issues of vulnerability. The approaches start right from the community level up to national level.

The global and national context; Closing the gaps:

The number of children in needs of basic survivals at this point of advancement is estimated to be 2.2 billion worldwide, preventable causes takes about 18,000 of them daily before the age of five. (UNICEF, 2014)

The approaches that are innovative to bridge the set back and disparities that hold back vulnerable children's are very key. The Government of Uganda (GOU) as a signatory, through the orphans and vulnerable National strategic program plan of intervention (NSPPI-2) seek to ensure all children's realize their full potential. A number of non-governmental organization, faith based, civil society and community organization carryout this work

Where UWESO come in?

Our initiatives to advocate for child protection and access to legal redress through elimination of child labour foundation, Koinonia ministry, OPM projects etc. across Uganda working with children's faced with number of problems is fully powering. We have learnt that strengthening the strategic points such as asses to quality education, improving the legal redress system and increasing awareness and other services worth working. These approaches are highly influential for enhanced outcomes in many areas for children's and their households. Effort made by UWESO shows that up to 83 percent are able to resist child labour

Key results

| S/N | Outputs  | Indicators/Results  |
|-----|--|---|
| 1   | Increased awareness and responsiveness to child Protection issues community level.   | The 3,141 VSLA Orphans and other vulnerable children's Caregivers are trained in child protection<br>15 Cluster Child Protection Committees formed (CCPC)<br>UWESO in 2015 conducted sensitized in child rights, responsibilities and mobilize 1,980 Orphans and other Vulnerable Children's<br>15 in school children clubs formed in 15 schools  |
| 2   | Legal redress systems at National and at grassroots level strengthened and utilized; | The child Protection toll free lines 166 was adapted and instituted in all UWESO field operation areas.<br>we participated in 17 child protection partnership meetings both at national and district level in 2015<br>80 Law enforcement organs (schools, LC) trained in child protection conducted.<br>4 child protection monitoring/ follow-up visits together with child protection agencies & organs in the districts<br>13 Law enforcement agents trained in child right and protection. |
| 3   | Increased involvement of   | UWESO child protection action plan documents developed for Hoima published.   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| UWESO in child protection concerns both at National and International levels.           | UWESO child protection report presented at district, national and international levels.  |
| 4 Improved capacity of to provide comprehensive child protection services and education | 150 Orphans and other Vulnerable Children's were rehabilitated at MCV<br>Out of 1122 children's prevented and remove, 935 were provided with scholastics material and enrolled to schools for different courses.<br>The 150 Orphans and other Vulnerable Children's were provided with psychosocial support Hygiene and health management, Nutrition feeding and other medical supports. |

## Chapter 4

---

### Improving Community Health:

The world still has a long way to move to achieve wellbeing for all. In low resource settings poor health services are the order of the day especially for the Orphans and other vulnerable children's. Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans has been at the fore front of providing health care treatment to all the children's at the rehabilitation home and their households. We have been promoting resource mobilization and advocacy for good health as a key to ensure good health of children.

The global and national context: closing the treatment gaps

Children's are the most vulnerable to the devastation cause by malaria, HIV/AIDS and water-borne diseases in the home and yet they carry the greatest potential for resilience and hope for future. Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans helps the Orphans and other vulnerable children's and their household to cope and thrive. Through our children Home in Wakiso (MCV) medical camp to provide health services to children and realize project in Hoima aims to increase access to clean water for children with support from OPM, KOINONIA and ECLT foundation

What does hope look like?

We focuses on interventions that equip Orphans and other vulnerable children's, women's and other stakeholders equip them with the knowledge and skills needed in order to help households reduce incidents of malaria, HIV/AIDS and water-borne diseases in the home. These orphans and other vulnerable children have are best supported in their communities among their relatives, trusted faith and cultural leaders, schools, family or households.

The interventions shows 86 percent of Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans target schools are now accessing clean water from the repaired boreholes and one school have improved hygiene and sanitation facility constructed. This offer the greatest hope of reduce incidence rates of Malaria, HIV AIDS, water borne and preventable diseases among the targeted households.



Key results

| <b>Outputs</b>   | <b>Indicators/Results</b>   |
|--|---|
| <i>Improved access and utilization of HIV prevention services among Orphans and other vulnerable children's and their households</i> | <p>110 Orphans and other vulnerable children's sensitized in HIV prevention and care</p> <p>98 OVC and Caregivers counselled, tested and received HIV results.</p> <p>One partnership with health service providers formed at district. Regional and district level.</p> <p>70 of Orphans and other vulnerable children's referred to partner service providers for HCT</p> |
| <i>Reduced incidences of Malaria in OVCs</i>   | <p>110 Orphans and other vulnerable children's households sensitized in malaria prevention</p> <p>150 Orphans and other vulnerable children's provided with Insect side Mosquito Nets (ITMNs).</p>  |
| <i>Increased access to immunization and PMTCT services for teenage mothers and their children</i>                                    | <p>immunization and PMTCT services was provided to 19 teenage mothers at Masulita children homes</p>  |
| <i>Increased access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities amongst OVCs households and schools</i>                        | <p>One (1) improved latrines was constructed in Iguru Primary school.</p> <p>Thirteen (13) Boreholes were repaired in Hoima district to improve clean water access.</p> <p>8,073 IEC materials developed and distributed.</p>   |

# Chapter 5

---

## Institutional development

Contributing to Knowledge development, learning and sharing

The year 2015 was a remarkable year for UWESO in institutional development.

The general national assembly sat on November 16, 2015 and three important ventures were launched

1. The strategic plan 2016-2020 with the following pillars
  - a. Sustainable Livelihoods
  - b. Child protection and Education
  - c. Integrated Community Health
  - d. Institutional Development
2. UWESO multi-purpose cooperative Group (UCG) was launched by H.E Angelina Wapakabulu, Uganda High commissioner of Kenya
3. Masulita UWESO Vocational institution was launch operational
4. Organizational growth and Research
5. The realize midterm evaluation was completed involving Elimination of child labour from Tobacco (ECLT) Geneva and internal technical team with promising results and we remain on course to received
6. The organizational end of strategic 2011-2015 review was completed by Business synergy. The result fed into 2016-2020 strategic plan to organized operation for better services
7. Awards
8. USAID-Founded better outcome for children and Youths-5 years project in Eastern and Northern Uganda. UWESO was awarded a sub grant in partnership with world education/Bantwana
9. The approval of Project to Expand Financial Services in Rural Areas founded by IFAD-GOU. UWESO was awarded sub grant in partnership with CARE to implement is 22 districts in Eastern and North Eastern.