

KATOSI WOMEN DEVELOPMENT TRUST



KWDT

Development In Our Hands



Inspired by
the vision

- Empowered rural women with productive livelihoods in healthy communities.

Guided by
the mission

- To enable rural women effectively manage their social, economic and political development processes for improved livelihoods.

**KWDT ANNUAL REPORT
2013**



Message from the Coordinator

Dear Colleagues,

The end of a year is a good time to look back and reflect on achievements, and to look forward to see what we still need to accomplish.

Working with over 425 resilient and strong-minded women, with a relatively small but diligent staff has made all the difference. Coordinating and implementing all the field activities, attending to the office demands, and at the same time working on a wide range of activities in many different parts of the world, no one may clearly see the entirety of our work, yet its impact is evident in the lives of the most important person that we are here to serve, and that is the rural woman!

It is fulfilling and rewarding, to see even one woman moving and growing from strength to strength. Being relieved of the burden to search for water, and instead begins to turn a tap close to her house and there she gets water! Who, ever imagined that a mere cow would transform a woman together with her entire family from being poverty stricken families to becoming models and points of reference in their communities! Above all, the same woman starts to influence and inform the decision making processes and improves governance in her community. For this cause we will keep striving!

I convey my sincere appreciation, first to our development partners, the women members of KWDT, the staff and our volunteers Jessica Schaar and Tina Bartelmeß, Georgia Darlow, our interns from Kyambogo and Makerere University, all of you for your commitment and love towards our cause!

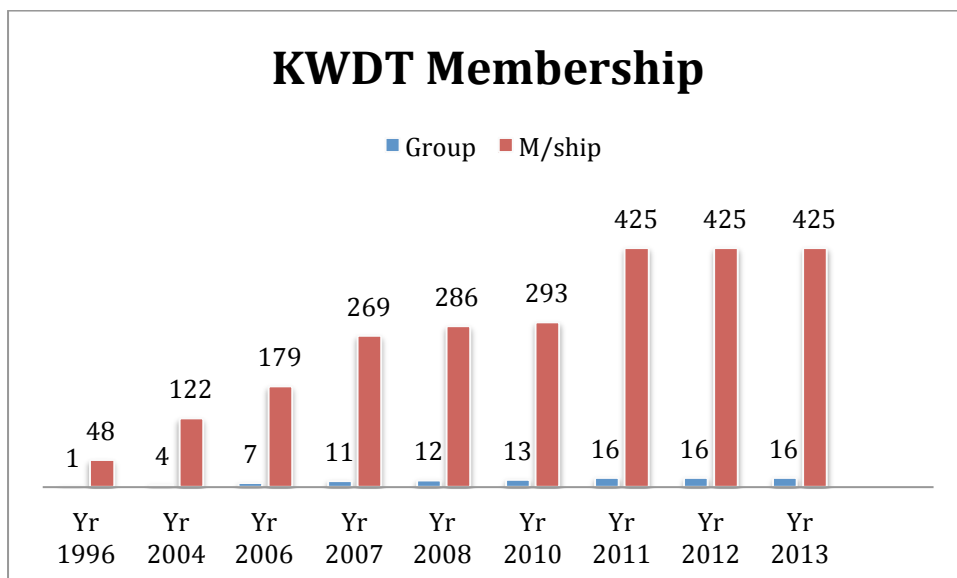
In this report, we want to draw your attention to a few particular moments through the year 2013, where we feel particularly proud of what we have achieved. And at the outset I want to thank you all, for without your support, nothing would have been achieved!

For these and other women elsewhere, we will always keep trying!

1. ABOUT KWDT

For 17 years now, KWDT has grown from strength to strength, positioning women at the centre and facilitating them to become the engines of development in their communities.

An organization that started in 1996 as Katosi Women Fishing Group to support women enter the lucrative male dominated fishing industry, has now grown into a network of 16 women groups with a total of 425 women members and many more wanting to join every day, sharing the same vision and following a similar path to achieve development in the most sustainable manner.



Growing from strength to strength! KWDT membership over the years!

OUR METHODOLOGY

KWDT operates in a manner that is not only empowering to the women, but also ensures sustainability for all the programs, projects and their benefits and outcomes.

Having a uniform structure for all the 16 women groups, doing similar activities and following the same trend enables us to keep track of the progress of all groups. Group meetings are conducted on the same day, around the same time and follow a similar agenda, following up on all the ongoing projects and revolving funds. Groups have a uniform

leadership structure led by a set of 4 leaders; Chairperson, the newly developed post of a Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary.

The revolving scheme that enables members to access all resources one after another in a revolving manner, accounts for a lot of success in ensuring that resources can reach as many families as possible. The scheme not only requires determination, zeal and strong leadership to keep it effective, but also a spirit of selflessness and sacrifice among all members as they watch over one member getting a resource, with hope that they will all get the same one day!

Placing the women at the centre of each project, allowing them to learn and manage it, and be able to make important decisions concerning the project makes it not only beneficial to the women but also the most sure way to keep the project and its benefits in the community for as long as the community lives!

Capacity building, although a costly process in terms of time and finances has proved to be the only magic bullet that moves groups from where they are to where they need to be; empowering leaders to make important decisions, and it is used to equip all members with skills for any new projects. Often, women have fear for new ideas and new initiatives. Trainings help to reduce the anxiety and empower them to embrace new initiatives for development. The capacity building approach is part and partial of all KWDT programs, and activities in all the 4 thematic areas.

Below, we share with you a brief of what transpired under each of the thematic areas in the year 2013.

2. KWDT PROGRAMS

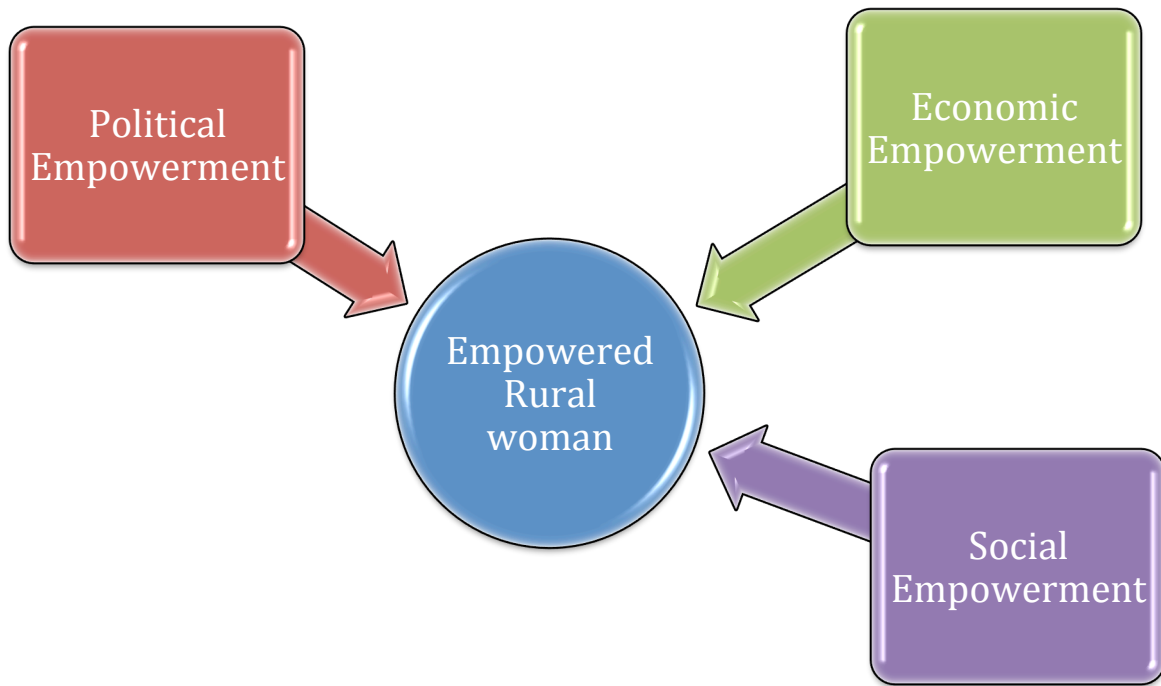
A. Economic Empowerment



Supporting women to own fishing boats, nets and to engage in the fishery sector

The economic empowerment program has continued to be the centre of our empowerment efforts. Its benefits surpass mere creation of incomes, to bringing about social and political empowerment as well.

It is only when a woman has and controls her own income that she becomes socially independent, able to make important decisions, and meaningfully participates in leadership and political affairs in her community. It is only women that have managed to put food on the table who can manage to participate in grass root advocacy and lobbying so as to improve service delivery in their communities.



Only when women are empowered in all ways, can they then make a difference in the community.



A number of milestones have been reached in this program through its various components;



Supporting rural women households to create sustainable incomes through acquisition of cows.

Integrated sustainable agriculture

This year, more 11 families, with a total of about 75 members, have acquired cows through a revolving scheme, where the first beneficiary passes on the first female calf to the next beneficiary and this continues to benefit more and more women, being monitored and managed by the groups themselves. The women are very passionate in operating the milk processing unit that was acquired this year. The unit adds value to the milk and increases the incomes of the women through production of yoghurt, ghee and sour butter. This has brought assurance of steady incomes among the women households.

Other agricultural activities this year include fish farming, mushroom growing, and tree planting, which have continued in some of the groups.



Representatives from 4 KWDT groups undergoing training to process milk into sour butter, yoghurt and ghee.

Micro credit and entrepreneurship development

The micro credit component has grown to higher levels. Many KWDT women members are now actively engaged in entrepreneurship, owning small to medium sized businesses. Changes in the weather and agricultural seasons have greatly reduced dependency on agriculture, prompting as many women as 651 in 2013 both members and non KWDT members to borrow and venture into the business world.

Women often invest in businesses such as trading in household consumables, poultry, catering services, hire of chairs, tents and tables for community functions and many other kinds of business.



Grace Lala, a member of Balabire Kuffe women's group testifies to the fact that borrowing from KWDT, combined with hard work can transform one's life.

"I started working on the lake when I was a young girl. I got married and had my first baby at the age of 16; my husband then was a fisherman. So I got exposed to the work of fishing and started doing casual labour; carrying Silver fish from the boats to the main land for drying.

In the year 2001, I joined KWDT through Kisakye Women's Group. I had UGX 20,000 and I wanted to start my own business dealing in Silver fish, to dry it and sell for a small profit. I borrowed UGX 50,000, so I had UGX 70,000 in total. From this money, I made a profit of UGX 300,000 within a period of six months. Since then, my business has been growing as I continue borrowing and paying back loans within pay back periods of 6 months. I now own 3 boats, I employ 9 men to do the fishing, and 3 women who dry and clean the Silver fish. I now changed and joined Barabire Kuffe Women's group, because it is closer to my home.

We fish Silver fish only between April and October. Sometimes when I fish a lot of it, I have to keep it so as to sell it after October when the harvest is low or none. It is very important for me to have access to micro credit during the times of fishing. Belonging to the group therefore makes a lot of sense for me as the group provides security to access credit when I need it. The only challenge I am having now is that my business is growing bigger and when I borrow money, I now want to have a longer repayment period, like one year, to enable me do more trading with the money and get more profit. Our loan program is not yet allowing us to take money for a year, but only 6 months!"

KWDT has continuously supported its members to learn various skills that serve as income generating projects for some of the groups in the network. These small enterprises sometimes are pioneered by one of the groups and slowly roll out to the rest of the groups.

Soap making: The soap making team of 6 members from Katosi Women Fishing & Development Association for example, has continued to produce soap in larger quantities. Each 20ltr jerry can of soap is sold at UGX 45,000 and brings a profit of UGX 5000 for the women, raising interest to extend the project in other groups to create employment for more and more women.

Mushroom growing: The elderly members of the women groups continue to engage in mushroom growing, an activity that does not require too much physical effort from them, yet brings in some income, reduces dependence on their children or other members of the community and the family.

Bio-gas: KWDT women have continued to enjoy the use of bio gas. The production of bio gas does not only provide a source of energy, lighting for the households, but is complementary to the agricultural activities that are being carried out by the women. The slurry from the bio gas is taken to the gardens as fertilizers, while the dung from the cows is used to produce the bio gas.



Lydia Kateregga of KWFDA one of the 7 women who generates biogas from cow dung and urine for lighting and cooking

B. Health



Tina Bartelmeß a volunteer with KWDT works with Kiyoola Primary School to install tippy taps and train School Sanitation Clubs.

In a fishing community, poor health is rampant. This is caused by various factors especially the poor water hygiene and sanitation situation. The multi-cultural nature of the community perpetuates the poor hygiene and sanitation situation in this community, affecting women and children much more. KWDT has intervened in this through directly supporting access to clean safe water and construction of hygiene and sanitation facilities, as well as interventions directed at promoting behavioural change in these communities.

Water, hygiene and sanitation Program:

Rain Water Harvesting

This year, 23 households have acquired rainwater harvesting tanks. The revolving scheme helps to increase the number of tank beneficiaries by 10 - 20 people every year. This is supplemented by external donations for water tanks. This has helped a total number of 276 households presently to access clean safe water.

5 schools have received rainwater harvesting tanks, 3 interlocking stabilised soil blocks (ISSB) tanks of 12,000ltrs and 2 ferrous cement tanks of 20,000ltrs bringing the total of school tank beneficiaries to now 28. These have reached out to a total of 1270 girls and 1213 boys having access to safe water through rainwater harvesting.



KWDT supports rural household to acquire rain water harvesting tanks



KWDT trained ISSB masons; Betty Kajuule and Rose Namukasa to construct bigger rainwater harvesting tanks appropriate for communal places e.g. schools at Kojja S.S.S

Sanitation



Jessica Schaar, a volunteer with KWDT works with KWDT members' rural households to install dish drying racks and trains women to improve hygiene at households

2 families have also been supported to acquire household latrines, increasing the total reach of latrines to 101 families. One school toilet too has been constructed, bringing the total to 9 schools toilet beneficiaries.

The public latrine that was constructed in Mpunge landing site, was handed over to the community this year. A busy landing site and trading centre, bringing together over 800 people on the market days, had no single latrine that could be used by the people. The bush around the place was being used as an alternative for human excretion. KWDT held community dialogues in this area and open defecation was evidently seen and sometimes the poor sanitation state of this place dominated the discussions in the community dialogues.

KWDT facilitates Kisakye Women's group, located close to the landing site to engage the community in the management of the communal facility.



Lydia Kateregga, the only KWDT trained eco-san mason not only serves the KWDT members but the whole community constructing eco-san toilets in rocky and high water table areas.

Bio-sand filters



Betty Kajuule, KWDT trained bio-sand water filter mason and promoter of the technology in and outside the community.

The promotion of bio sand filters has steadily increased the number of households and schools that have access to safe drinking water. To date, KWDT women members have

constructed and distributed a total of 27 bio-sand filters, some to schools and others to the community. Being a relatively new technology, the bio-sand filter promotion has to be done repeatedly for it to produce tangible results.

KWDT women have been invited in other parts of the country to construct and train other women in the use of bio-sand filters. Refresher trainings too have been conducted for KWDT women masons, helping to perfect their skills and also repair and maintain the old tanks in the different groups.

C. Leadership and Political participation

When women are empowered economically, they start to get concerned about governance issues, including the decision making process and the quality of the services that they receive from their leaders.

KWDT women have thus gone an extra mile to intervene in this with an aim of improving service delivery in their community. We support women to take on leadership positions in their communities, at any level. This helps to directly involve them in decision making processes.

With support from DANIDA through the Network for Water and Sanitation (NETWAS), KWDT continued to implement the good governance project, within which over six community dialogues were held, and members of the Women Advocacy Committees supported to attend sub county meetings.

KWDT conducts leadership trainings that empower women with the skills that they need to lead exemplary, in whatever leadership positions that they take on.

The WAC members are proud to have engaged with the sub county through participating in sub county meetings, taking part in the decisions that affect their lives.



Various exchange visits between KWDT water user committees as of that between Nakisunga and Bakyala Kwagalana groups enabled members to share and learn from each other.

3. Networking and Partnerships.

KWDT maintains strong and valuable partnerships, both locally and internationally. This helps us to harness the benefits that accrue from partnerships and networking. In the year 2013 therefore, we are proud to mention that we are still members of the following networks;

National

Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET)

Uganda Rain Water Association (URWA)

Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)

Mukono National NGO Forum

International

World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)

Women for Water Partnership (WfWP)

Responsible Fishing Alliance (RFA)

Gender Water Alliance (GWA)

Other events and important issues

World Fisheries Day Celebrations

It was a great day in Mpunge, commonly known as Nangoma landing site in Mukono district, when KWDT celebrated the world Fisheries Day, a practice of its kind in this district and definitely not so many have happened in the whole country so far!

The event brought together 300 people including men, women and children including residents of Nangoma fishing community, leaders from the district fisheries offices as well as other political leaders and technical staff from the sub county. It was used as a platform for the local fisher community members to air out their concerns about the awful situation that the fishermen operate in, ranging from poor hygiene and sanitation situation in Mpunge, to unfair laws and illegal detention and mistreatment of small scale fisher people.

- KWDT continues to host the offices of the WFF and coordinating WFF activities at the global level.

KWDT on social media



Facebook, twitter, website

Strong leadership; a key principle to keep the enthusiasm in the groups.



Agnes Nakamatte is one of the 16 Chairpersons of the 16 women groups of KWDT. Her good leadership has earned her and her group, accolades for emerging the best performing KWDT group in 2008 and the best Chairperson in 2011.

Her good leadership has steered the group to a high level of performance to the benefit of the members and the sustainability of the KWDT schemes.

Good performing groups are considered first when a decision is being made on access of resources such as cows tanks and other resources.

However her stringent leadership style did not go well with some of her fellow leaders in the group who wanted to use their leadership positions to access resources such as loans and tanks first before the rest of the members. Frustrated by the principles of their Chairperson, the mischievous leaders plotted to remove Ms. Nakamatte. However Nakamatte too had already observed the misdemeanour of her fellow leaders and did not feel quite comfortable to continue to lead a group where 3 of 4 leaders were against her just leadership principles. Ms. Nakamatte *threw in the towel* and resigned from the Chairmanship of Bukwaya Group.

“We were concerned by the resignation of one of our best group leaders but as a key principle of KWDT to let groups make their decisions, we left the issue to the group.” Recounts Vaal Benjamin the Programs Officer.

The resignation of Nakamatte was not welcomed by some members of the group, without strong leadership, attendance of the bi-weekly meetings declined and more so the group refused to elect another Chairperson to replace Nakamatte insisting that they wanted her to continue to lead and guide the group.

Without proper leadership in place, the group lacked direction and members could not access the KWDT micro credit as there was no required team of leaders to sign on their loan applications.

Frustrated after being fooled by 3 leaders, a few group members mobilized fellow members to not only hold the meetings regularly but also restore sanity in the group by electing a Chairperson. With quorum obtained, the group re-elected Ms. Nakamatte Agnes again as their leader and the positions of the Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary filled with new persons.

Nakamatte respected the will of her group members and accepted to lead the group despite her earlier remarks never to take up any leadership position of the group. With this she even reinstated her stern rules.

Members accepted to dutifully obey, and sanity reigned as Bukwaya is back to its full operation and among her activities, is to ensure equitable access for her members, to resources that include cows, tanks, toilets as well as management of community water resources.

Nakamatte's story and leadership experience provides evidence that empowering women and strengthening their leadership skills is very key, not only to keep the groups together but also to sustain the development initiatives in the community. Building such resilient leaders from rural women takes time, effort and a great amount of resources.

4. 2013 Financial overview

Partner	Budget for the year in UGX	% to project inputs	% to operation costs
Economic empowerment			
Church of Christ Berea Kentucky	2,509,000	100%	0
Embassy of Federal Republic of German	20,612,216	100%	0
Responsible Fisheries Alliance	33,700,000	92.1%	7.8%
Shebbear College	800,000	100%	0
Health			
Global Women's Water Initiative	69,322,620	97.6%	2.3%
Waterloo Foundation	39,350,000	61.5 %	38.4%
Women for Water Partnership	29,926,715	61.1 %	38.8%
Leadership political participation			
Danida NGO Fund - Good governance	34,645,000	99.8%	12.7%
Miva Netherlands	9,300,773	100 %	