



FROM GROUPS TO COOPERATIVES

KATOSI WOMEN DEVELOPMENT TRUST 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

I. Message from Ms. Najjemba Harriet the Board Chairperson.



Dear our partners and colleagues,

On behalf of the Board and Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT) management team, I would like to thank you so much for the wonderful contribution you have made to the work of KWDT in the year 2017.

During KWDT's vast years of experience, we have evolved, grown and adjusted our strategy to ensure we invest more in building women's capacity. We have achieved this by emphasizing teamwork amongst women in their groups and in their communities and therefore, the formation of the cooperatives. This has ultimately brought us closer to our vision of seeing empowered rural women with productive livelihoods in healthy communities.

We empower women through training in specific areas to enable them to create incomes and contribute to the development of their communities to enable them live healthier lives as well as influence decisions at lower government levels. We are hugely proud of our consistent integrated sustainable approaches in the implementation of all our projects and programs.

The continued support of all our partners, the commitment of all our members and the dedication of our staff are all vital to our continued success. Our dedicated team is determined to deliver the highest standard of service and are committed to learn and develop in their work, therefore, we welcome any ideas that will enhance the work of KWDT for the women and communities we serve.

II. Message from Ms. Margaret Nakato the Coordinator.



Dear our colleagues and partners,

Once again, I congratulate my team for successfully completing the year 2017 when we mark KWDT @21. Despite the ups and downs, we have pushed on and the results are visible on ground.

One woman empowered is one family supported and one community transformed. This is the change we desire to see on ground and, it is the fuel that drives us. Growing from working in groups to scaling up into cooperatives has been a great step in the desired direction.

The construction of the KWDT Centre continues, alongside the continuous training and capacity building with the women; the centre provides the engine for the women groups to enable them to facilitate their work.

I would like to congratulate all the 19 women groups for the job well done. Along with the KWDT team and staff who deserve a big thank you for the commendable job they have done, which requires them to be flexible and strong.

Special thanks to our friends and partners from the local government, national level and international partners including donors. We are proud of the different networks that we belong in and we thank you for keeping us connected to the outside world. With support from our partners, we look forward to the new year and our aim is to focus our attention on protecting and sustaining livelihoods in the fisher communities.

III. KWDT at a glance

For the last 21 years KWDT has been working, organizing and engaging women in fishing communities to take part in development and in engaging in decision making on issues that affect their lives. We stretch women beyond their comfort zone and support them to look beyond the development of their homes but to the development of their entire community. Women now know that underdevelopment does not happen in isolation but spreads and affects them as a community.

By the end of 2017, KWDT membership dropped from 561 to 508 with women organized in 19 groups across the five (5) sub counties of Ntenjeru, Nakisunga, Mpunge, Mpatta and Nama in Mukono district. Although the numbers reduced, the amount of work, the quality of the work and the impact of the work completed in the communities has increased tremendously.

Most significantly and outstanding this year, is the bold step KWDT took to organize some of the work that the women groups undertook into cooperatives. This has enabled more women to increasingly participate in activities with the intention to raise their incomes. The outputs of women's economic activities had been scattered and needed consolidation, along with re-aligning the production and marketing outputs.

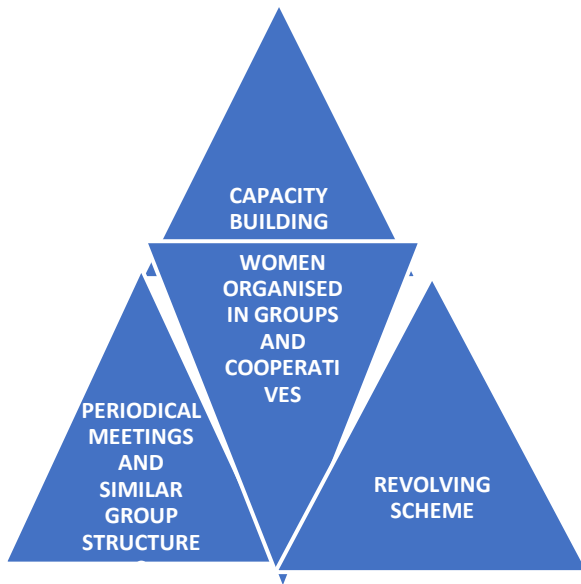
Women in each of the 19 groups for example, produce certain items that target almost the same clientele. Therefore, there was an urgent need to bring together women's efforts in the production, packaging and marketing of their products to allow them enter the market collectively. In so doing, women have a bigger share of the market and better outcomes including building their capacity as well as knowledge in various production and marketing areas.

A total of four (4) cooperatives have been organized namely: the craft cooperative; cosmetics; diary and fishing cooperative. However, the process of re-organizing the women is still challenging and more awareness of the benefits of working as a cooperative still need to be addressed with the women, which includes exposure to similar groups across the country.

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members from 19 groups engage in livestock rearing with over 40 of them with more than one cow and are all organized under the dairy cooperative

IV. Our approach



The triangle forms our theory of change. We believe that supporting women organizations to work within similar and supportive structures, constant capacity building and the revolving scheme are some of the strongest pillars that explain the great strides and sustainability of KWDT programs and projects.

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.**

V. Our thematic areas

i. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.

Giving cows names is something that the women and their families love doing! it does not only create an identity for the animal, but creates a strong bond between the family members and the cow. This then translates into better care for the animal. For instance, Namuswe's cow is named Peace.

Economic empowerment for the women of KWDT is achieved through activities including but not limited to: livestock rearing; mushroom growing; hand crafts; fish processing and trade; soap production. Through micro credit diverse activities are promoted at group and individual level like bakery, retail trade, and other entrepreneurship activities. These have continued to be the blood stream of all KWDT programs in which women are engaged.



51

members from the 19 women's groups supported and engaged in the production of cosmetics products organized under the cosmetic cooperative.

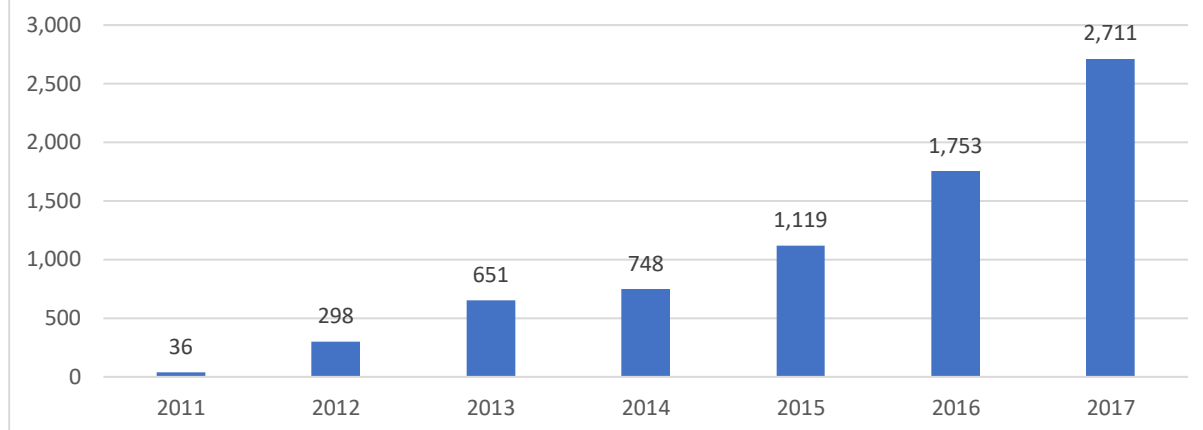


Building women's capacity is supported by KWDT volunteers, Sina Nasamba (local name assigned to her by the women)

Economic empowerment program aims to ensure that each member of KWDT has an income. Women do support each other to ensure that each member is engaged in one or more economic activities carried out either at the group level or individually.

Micro credit: By the end of the year 2017, KWDT Micro credit program served 2,711 borrowers having increased from 1753 households in the year 2016. The scheme has therefore served 958 more women borrowers and also continued to serve existing borrowers.

LOAN BENEFICIARIES OVER THE YEARS



Oliver Nakazzi: From mother in-law's house to my own house

Oliver Nakazzi, a 37 years old single mother of 2 boys and 2 girls. Abandoned by her husband (who married another woman) Oliver was left with the children in a rented house and was evicted as she could not afford rental fees. She decided to live with her mother in law in a very small house. It is from this hard life that she heard of one KWDT group; Tweekembe-Namaliga group that promotes women economic independence through



working together to improve their living standards. In 2014, Oliver joined the group, as silver fish vendor with capital of UGX 35,000, she aspired to benefit from the micro credit program.

With a first loan of UGX 500,000 in 2016 she invested in piggery. The UGX 700,000 loan in 2017 was also invested in animal rearing, reaping substantial profits. This enabled her to buy a small piece of land and construct a one-roomed house where she currently stays with her four children and cultivates part of the land. “Although the conditions are not the best, I am happy that I have my privacy and independence unlike in the past when I used to stay with my mother in-law. Even my children are happy that we have a place we call a home.

ii. HEALTH

Water, hygiene and sanitation.

The Promotion of WaSH in communities has continued to be a key priority for the women of KWDT both at household and community level. Through WaSH, community members continue to engage and work together at improving access and management of water, hygiene and sanitation conditions. Conducting training, community dialogues, WUC and sanitation committee, training has been key in ensuring improved hygiene and sanitation at the community level. But also, ownership of water, hygiene and sanitation facilities were established and strengthened in the communities.

KWDT women groups have also continued to ensure that each water and sanitation facility has a user committee. This is established by community members with the support of KWDT women groups. Although the performance of the user committees is still inadequate, efforts have been invested in establishing and training Women hand pump mechanics (HPM) to ensure access to skilled personnel for repair and maintenance of wells to sustain functionality.

4,410

Have this year been supported to access clean water with construction of 14 water points, in total 81 sources serve 22,680 people.



Building women's capacity in hand pump mechanic to sustain access to water





Rain water harvesting.

Increasing access to water through rain water harvesting has continued to be a key activity proving to be the biggest source of clean water for KWDT members. Lack of funds to invest in water and sanitation facilities is a major barrier to safe water and sanitation. However affordable financing through KWDT revolving scheme, has enabled access to loans for water, hence increasing access to water for the household. None the less, millions of girls in Uganda still walk long distances to fetch water.

387

households from 19 groups have benefited from the fund that supports increased access to water through rain water harvesting at household.

UGX 83,195,500

was disbursed for construction of 46 household rain water harvesting tanks, 8 tanks in schools and health centre.

Sanitation

12,600

Pupils in government aided schools have improved hygiene and sanitation with the construction of 8 additional toilets in 8 schools that benefited 3,243 pupils and also fitted with handwashing facilities.

The value attached to owning a latrine is increasing in many of the communities. The improved local government efforts to monitor households without latrines also boosted the demand for latrines and other sanitation facilities in general. More households, schools and landing sites are gradually being supported by KWDT to construct and own sanitation facilities to improve their hygiene and sanitation situation.

SCHOOL	WOMEN'S GROUP	SUB COUNTY	PUPILS		TEACHERS	
			GIRLS	BOYS	MALE	FEMALE
ST. THOMAS LUYOBYO	MUWUMUZA	NTENJERU	192	150	7	4
ST. JOSEPH SOZZI PS	MUTEREZZANDA	MPATTA	156	100	2	4
ST. KIZITO LUTENGO	LUTENGO	NAMA	303	274	2	14
WAKISO UMEA	LUTENGO	NAMA	202	217	3	12
NAMAWOJJOLO CU P/S	LUTENGO	NAMA	300	332	1	14
ST JUDE WAKISO P/S	LUTENGO	NAMA	203	197	2	8
ST. PONSIANO KATOOGO	LUTENGO	NAMA	182	143	3	6
ST. THOMAS LUYOBYO	MUWUMUZA	NTENJERU	148	150	4	8
TOTAL			1,686	1,563	24	70

Improved sanitation in government aided schools enhanced retention of girls in schools with access to improved hygiene and sanitation in the 8 schools.

Women masons. KWDT aims to place management of WaSH in the hands of the women. Thus, developing training to learn construction skills for the women has been important. Women masons construct tanks both for households and communities, as well as toilets and bio sand water filters. The quality of the work of the KWDT masons has improved and skills are being passed on to the younger generation (daughters and sons) creating employment for the youth in support of the sustainability of WaSH.

Also, engaging women in masonry work has been empowering for them, as well as their families through increased incomes and the self-esteem of these women.

iii. SUPPORT TO FORMAL AND INFORMAL EDUCATION



It has been a major leap forward to complete a second school in the rural fisher community to ensure children receive the best education available.

In the year 2017, KWDT constructed 5 classrooms at Mugomba UMEA Primary school supporting 670 children to shift from a ramshackle building to a well-built classroom block for improved conducive learning environment.



“Those who formally referred to us as ‘Essomero ly’ebibawo’ literary meaning the ‘the wooden school’ I wonder how they are going to define us now”. Head teacher of Mugomba UMEA primary school, Mr. Kamoga Mohammed

VI. Other events and developments

i. Construction of KWDT Centre.

The construction of the centre for KWDT has progressed well. The Centre will be a facility for all KWDT members to use, for visitors group activities and training. Currently, the Centre hosts all KWDT general meetings including but not limited to: Coordination committee meetings; annual general meetings; WASH meetings as well as cooperative working meetings. Various capacity building workshops have been held at the Centre giving women an opportunity to receive knowledge and training in various fields relevant to their income development needs. KWDT is making progress to constantly improve the centre to provide a conducive learning environment for women.

ii. Visitors.

During the year 2017, KWDT had an opportunity to host several visitors including but not limited to: partners conducting monitoring visits; researchers; potential partners exploring possibilities for partnership; journalists to learn about the work of KWDT, as well as other women groups across the globe with a desire to learn from KWDT. We hugely thank our

visitors for boundlessly inspiring us and we are glad to continue sharing our knowledge with others.

iii. **Volunteers and interns.**

We have not achieved this success alone; we thank our volunteers Sina Augustin Nasamba and the thirteen (13) youth volunteers of Nouvelle Planète Camp that worked on the construction site at Mugomba UMEA Primary School.



iv. **Awards.**



Special thanks to Mukono District and DENIVA for the certificate of recognition and NGO Quality standard certificate respectively.



VII. Networking

KWDT is proud to be a member of the following national and international networks

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

- World Forum of Fish harvesters and Fish workers (WFF) an international network of small-scale fisher people and KWDT hosts the secretariat in Uganda.
- Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) a Netherlands based international organisation
- Gender Water Alliance (GWA)

NATIONAL NETWORKS

- Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET) and chairs the working group of WASH for children and women
- Uganda Rain Water Association (URWA)
- Mukono District NGO Forum
- UWOGNET

VIII. The Future

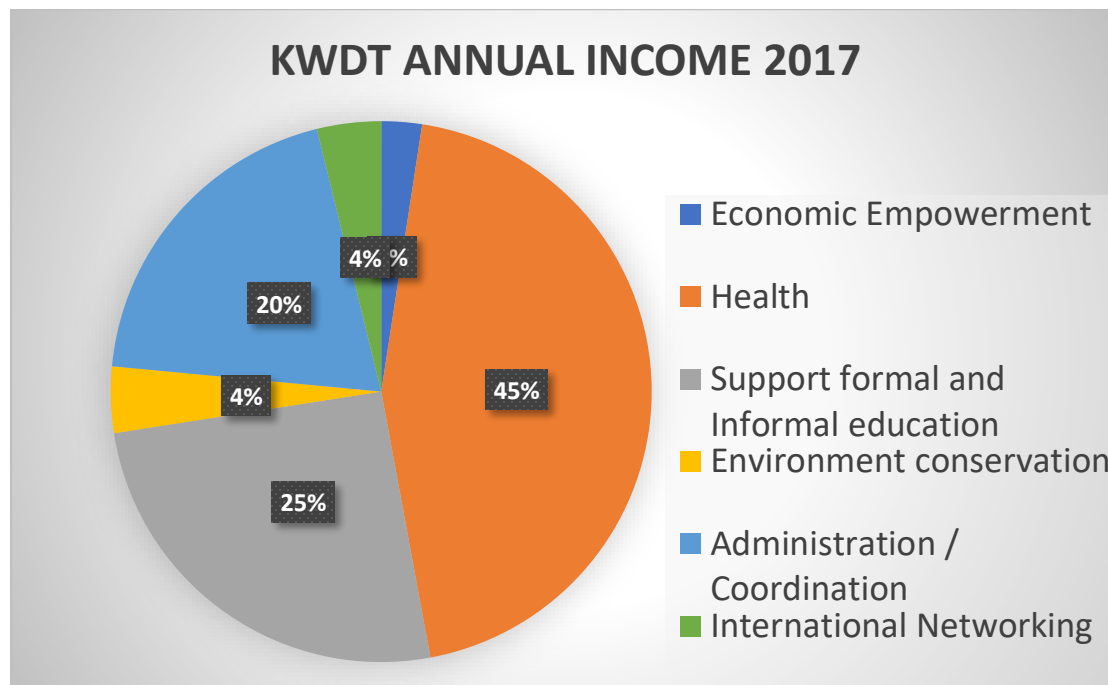


WASH and Women Economic empowerment for landing sites.

Landing sites continue to represent the marginalized population. The poor infrastructure development includes lack of access roads, lack of water, sanitation, education and health facilities, to an increasing fisher population with declining fisher resources. Fisher communities are increasingly threatened from many other sectors requiring a comprehensive intervention of supporting rural livelihoods in the fisher communities. Hence they will continue to be the focus of KWDT areas of intervention with particular attention to the women.

IX. Finance

This year KWDT was supported by partners to the tune of UGX 1,011,744,222 covering four main thematic areas, along with support for administration and co-ordination of our work.



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