



ABOUT THE CSO-SDG CORE REFERENCE GROUP

Welcome to the first issue of the CSO-SDGs Newsletter. The newsletter is a space where the work of Civil Society actors contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is profiled and popularized.

It is also a space for information sharing on different issues pertaining to the achievement of SDGs at National and global level.

We would like to therefore invite you to read our first issue. It profiles work from members of the SDG Core Reference Group from January to December 2022.

Enjoy your read!

The 2030 Agenda CSO Reference Group currently hosted by the Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) was established by civil society actors in 2016 to ensure better coordination around the 2030 agenda. The group is a critical platform for amplifying the voice of the Ugandan Civil Society in national, regional and global spaces on sustainable development issues.

With leadership of the 2030 Agenda Core Reference Group, CSO actors are availed an opportunity to contribute to National SDG processes as articulated in the National SDG Coordination Framework and National SDG Roadmap.





UGANDA'S HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL NATIONAL SDG CONFERENCE

Between the 16th and 17th June 2022, the SDG Secretariat, under the Office of the Prime Minister, held the inaugural Uganda Annual Sustainable Development Goals Conference (ASDGC-UG) under the theme: *“Building Effective Models to accelerate SDGs in the Post COVID-19 Era”*.



The conference was organized to reflect government and development partners' commitments to ensure an inclusive approach to SDG Implementation. The Government and development partners appreciated the contribution of CSOs in reaching the farthest communities and their initiatives towards achieving Agenda 2030.

[Read More](#)

SDG CHAMPIONS TRAINED TO ACCELERATE SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN UGANDA



In June 2022, 23 Ugandans participated in the Danida Fellowship Centre's learning programme, *“Strengthening Policy Dialogue to Accelerate SDG Implementation”*, aimed at connecting Ugandan SDG-pioneers working for good governance and sustainable change.

The full-time programme facilitated by the Danish companies INKA Consult and Beyond2030 and took place in Copenhagen. The 23 champions entailed a multi-disciplined group of representatives from the private sector, civil society organisations, public institutions and media. The group is passionate about sustainable change and wants to discover new tools and methods to drive the SDG agenda in Uganda.

[Read more](#)

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS





YOUTH URGED TO BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF CLIMATE ACTION

As the world continues to experience the effects of climate change, we cannot claim that these have not affected Uganda as a country.

Uganda being an agricultural economy has faced very rough times especially the changing seasons which continue to affect the citizens economically.

In June 2022, UNA-Uganda participated in the Stockholm +50 conferences in Sweden and later convened an annual Uganda Model United Nations conference (UMUN) to focus on SDG 13.

Youth shared experiences and exhibited their climate solutions. They were encouraged to make climate action part of their daily life within their communities and among their peers.

[Read More](#)

THE AFROBAROMETER LAUNCHES THE SDGs SCORECARD FOR UGANDA (2015-2021)

"Nothing should be more important than capturing the voices of the people."

Dr. Moses Isooba - ED, UNNGOF.

On 11th May 2022, UNNGOF partnered with Afrobarometer and the SDG Secretariat for the launch of the Afrobarometer SDGs Scorecard for Uganda (2015-2022).

The launch was held in the form of a National dialogue held at Mestil Hotel themed: " Are we on the Right Track?"

The scorecard seeks to ensure that citizens views are tracked over time. The views will be instrumental in the fast tracking of the SDGs and Agenda 2030.

[Read More](#)

13 CLIMATE ACTION





OPINION: WHEN COULD A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION MAKE SENSE TO UGANDA?

Energy services are essential for sustainable development. How these services, including lighting, cooking, heating and cooling, refrigeration, transportation, and communication, are produced, distributed, and used affects the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of any development achieved.

A just energy transition is a step towards separating energy demand from emissions, a negotiated vision, and a process centered on dialogue, supported by guiding principles, to shift energy production and consumption practices.

So what does this mean for Uganda, given that millions cannot access electricity or clean cooking? How can it be rolled out with a human face?

A just energy transition requires fully bringing the poor (those who stand to lose) into the economy through the targeted deployment of modern energy services. The transition would improve the lives of women who are most vulnerable to indoor air pollution from cooking fires as they do most of the cooking in Ugandan households.

[Read more](#)

13 CLIMATE ACTION



TURN THE TIDE FOR THE RUINED LAKE WAMALA ECOSYSTEM

That Lake Wamala is vanishing is no longer breaking news. What is new is the unique and complex activities around the basin.

Natural habitats in the basin have been converted for other land uses, primarily agriculture.

Kikandwa Environment Association (KEA) is concerned that these activities are driving Lake Wamala to its ultimate deathbed if nothing is done to address them.

[Read more](#)

DIALOGUE ON FOSSIL-FREE MOBILITY OPTIONS HIGHLIGHTS THE ELECTRIC BODA BODA

On 14 July 2022, Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), JEEP, INFORSE East Africa, and TEENS Uganda organised a public dialogue to mark World Environment Day 2022 on the theme: 'Fossil-free mobility options in Kampala.'

During the dialogue, Mr. Shaduracka Monday highlighted several benefits of the e-boda including low maintenance costs and the low mobility costs since it does not rely on conventional fuel whose prices constantly fluctuate.

[Read more](#)





CSOS URGE GOVERNMENT TO PRIORITIZE SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

25th September 2022 marked the 7th anniversary of the SDGs since their adoption on 25 September 2015.

To mark this historical event, the UN SDG Action Campaign mobilizes the UN national and local governments, youth groups, Civil Society Organizations, the media, youth groups and the private sector around the world with a global call to Act for the SDGs. For the SDGs to be achieved, they recognize the need for a multi-stakeholder approach that calls for everyone to act.

In September 2022, during the Global Week of Action held from 16th to 25th September, UNNGOF, under the auspices of the 2030 Agenda CSO Reference Group, organized a National People's Dialogue to amplify the voices of the marginalized communities. The dialogue was an avenue to discuss key issues affecting the country including climate change, social protection, inequalities in access to COVID-19 vaccination, issues of debt sustainability among others.

[Read More](#)

1 NO POVERTY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



CIVIL SOCIETY AND YOUTH ACTIVISTS TRAINED ON UGANDA'S NEW CLIMATE LAW

"NGOs have a critical role to play as environmental defenders in the context of increased environmental decay across the country."

Mr. Robert Turyakira, Environment Shield

On 22nd February 2022, UCSD and JEEP through the East African Civil Society for Sustainable Energy and Climate Action (EASE CA) Project, organized training for civil society actors and youth on Uganda's recently enacted climate and environmental laws.

The training which focused on the Climate Change Act (2021) and the National Environmental Act (2019) highlighted key clauses of interest for CSO endeavors to push for climate action at national and global levels.

[Read more](#)





OPEN SPACE CENTER FRONTING YOUTH ACTION TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGS

Since 2021 to date, Open Space Center in partnership with Crossing Borders and with support from CISU in Denmark has been implementing a 2-and-a-half-year collaborative project in 3 countries across Africa; Uganda, Ghana and Zambia. The project themed ‘Localizing the SDGs’ was designed with 3 primary objectives of;

- Mobilizing target groups (youth) by enabling them to create and take ownership of localizing the SDGs through grassroots activities.
- Facilitate the building of synergies, good practices, and success stories about localizing the SDGs through a collaborative platform.
- Lobby and advocate for more supportive policy frameworks that will ensure longer term entrenchment of the various SDGs targets at grassroot levels.

Creation of Community Youth Task forces (CTFS)

Open Space Centre organized a community task force training and orientation for 45 young people in districts of Kampala, Wakiso and Mukono districts. The community task force training was organized in a bid to strengthen young people’s ability to influence both local and global development agendas, with a special focus on the Sustainable Development goals (SDGs). Additionally, the theme of the community task force training was ‘to mobilize, engage and strengthen synergies for stakeholders to localize the SDGs in their various communities and this was done through all-engaging and interactive sessions.

The training was inclusive of youth with disability, students, teachers, and newly elected youth leaders. Throughout the training, participants shared information on their most pressing community issues and their alignment to the SDGs. Other sessions included advocacy & lobbying, existing policy frameworks, environmental analysis, personal development as well as their leadership roles. The training was successfully concluded with all participants having gained a deeper understanding on the localization of the Sustainable development goals in their communities.

The formation of the CTFs led to a series of different engagements with young people in communities across Kampala of training on digital literacy and how to use these tools to better hold campaigns in achieving the SDGs.

[Read more](#)





SDG16 WORKING GROUP: REVITALIZING EFFORTS TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL PEACE POLICY!

The SDG16 Working group is one of the cluster groups of civil society actors working under the umbrella of the Uganda NGO-Forum. The group works to advance SDG16 on peace, justice and strong institutions and contributed to the process of developing the National Peace Policy.

Center for Conflict Resolution (CECORE) was in July 2022 elected as the chair of the group and Center for Women in Governance (CEWIGO) is the Deputy Chair. CECORE convened a strategic planning meeting to identify key conflict and peace building issues and possible ways of addressing them. Thereafter, the working group held quarterly meetings to review its progress, and plan and come up with areas of joint action.

[Read more](#)



MORE UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

STEP UP YOUTH INITIATIVE

This year, step up youth initiative partnered with Tumaini Africa Knowledge Center and Doppler Technologies to initiate the Obuntu Knowledge Hubs which are mentored by the SDG Secretariat to include citizens at every level in the SDGs.

Through this model, they have achieved the following;

- Established 15 regional SDGs Knowledge hubs in the 15 Uganda subregions to enhance SDGs information dissemination.
- Held a consultative session with the African Union commission delegation on the 10-year strategy for The Africa We want Agenda.
- Held monthly community fireside conversations with citizens to include women and girls in the SDGs.
- In collaboration with UN Women, finished identifying the first 50 girls to be trained in coding under the African Girls can Code initiative. The first cohort will be in January 2021.

[Read more](#)

OPEN SPACE CENTRE

Open Space Centre is a youth organisation working to ensure that young people are familiar with the SDGs and can contribute to the realisation of Agenda 2030.

These are some of the achievements registered in 2022;

- Held youth parliaments and national debates as tools for young people to appreciate debates and how they can use them to understand the SDGs.

[Read more](#)

- Popularised the SDGs in local languages for communities to appreciate them as part of their daily lives.



25, Muyenga Road, Kabalagala
P.O Box 4636, Kampala.
info@ngoforum.or.ug

© Uganda National NGO Forum
www.ngoforum.or.ug

