



**The Slum Aid Project (SAP) Advocacy
Strategy
2008-2013**

Approved by(SAP Executive Director)

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SAPADS (2008 – 2013)**

Slum Aid Project (SAP) is a development, women, child care, and advocacy non-governmental organization working with communities and other stakeholders to improve the lives of the poor and vulnerable people living in the slum areas. SAP helps to transform the lives of poor families, children, women in 7 slum areas in Kampala District. These areas include; Wandegeya, Nakulabye, Katwe 1 Kisenyi, Naguru 11, Kibuli, and Wabigalo. The Organization works towards improving lives of the people living in the slum areas.

SAP believes that many of the vulnerable poor people suffer at the hand of ill treatment by those in authority at all levels of society and the people they stay with. SAP, therefore increasingly responds to situations of injustice and is committed to ensure justice to the oppressed through advocating for their worth and rights. In this SAP has continuously developed advocacy related programs to advocate for this cause of the powerless before the world's economic and political powers and to interpret the plight of the world's poor to our constituencies.

We thus commit ourselves that, in each action we take, on behalf of the marginalized, issues of justice will be incorporated.

Justification

SAP has continued to care for women, children, work with communities to improve the knowledge capacity and performance; improve the health status of the people by training community health workers. SAP also works with communities in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and advocacy with special focus on the poor people more so women and Orphans/vulnerable children (OVCs); rehabilitates young women to move from prostitution to responsible citizens through the child sexual abuse program,. All these programs provide psychosocial therapy for the groups, and vocational skills among others.

SAP compliments government efforts in the provision of public goods and in improving the welfare of Ugandans. SAP participated in the 2003 / 2004 PEAP review, as all the five pillars are relevant to her work. The PEAP provides an over-arching framework to guide public action to eradicate poverty. The PEAP five pillars are: Economic management; Production, competitiveness and incomes; Security, conflict-resolution and disaster-management; Good governance and Human development. SAP's work in the communities is to a great extent informed by the PEAP government framework.

Information on how government intends to serve her people erases duplication on SAP's part but also informs SAP that despite government's good efforts, the poor and marginalized may never be reached. Thus SAP intends to actively inform and engage Government and all the relevant authorities and stakeholders, national and international level, on gaps identified to ensure the poor and marginalized are brought on board and helped to live dignified lives.

Policy and present environment

Government in her commitment to poverty eradication has endeavored to put in place necessary social economic policies. Though most of the required policies are in place, implementation is a challenge with most resources failing to reach the communities where the poor and marginalized are located. This calls for more commitment on government's part in ensuring proper implementation and where policies are lacking, putting in place the required policies.

Research and practice are increasingly showing that there are gaps between the policy and implementation processes. Increasingly policies formulated have not been translated into concrete actions that can create impact on the livelihoods of ordinary Ugandans. *For example domestic violence (DV) is a world wide phenomenon that cuts across all categories of people regardless of age, race, sex education etc, According to Sap, DV is a common problem in the slum areas of Kampala. In Uganda Domestic Violence perpetrators are often released and charged a small fee or just warning, This lack of strong punishments leads to non coherence on the part of these perpetrators. They thus do it again and again.*

Government has for sometime now been saying that it is implementing strategies that have a specific focus on interventions with direct impacts on the poor. Many people believe that the most poor live in the rural areas, SAP, however has a different story, because people living in the slum areas have various problems which seem to be neglected by government when considering poverty related programs. Many of these problems are reflected in the high levels of HIV/AIDs, Violence, sexual abuse, child labour, gender based violence, drug abuse, child defilement, hunger, lack of shelter etc. Translating these problems to the government mentioned policy related gaps/challenges for the poor may not really bring out slum related disasters.

Government talks about declines in farmers' prices reflecting world market conditions, insecurity, high population, growth rate and morbidity related to HIV/AIDS. Regional and gender inequalities, with the Eastern part of Uganda suffering a marked decline in living standards in the last fewyears. Agriculture remains a critical sector, because it continues to provide the majority of employment, because low agricultural incomes form a constraint on the expansion of non-agricultural rural production, and because agriculture is responsive to public good Agriculture remains a critical sector, because it continues to provide the majority of employment, because low agricultural incomes form a constraint on the expansion of non-agricultural rural production, and because agriculture is responsive to public goods such as research, extension and support to marketing. The Slum areas seem to be left out of some of these poverty related issues, People living in the urban are assumed to be of a fairly good standard of living, which is not the case in the slum areas. Some people in these slums eat one meal in a day.

Uganda has suffered from insecurity of various kinds including rebel insurgency and cattle rustling. The country suffers from various forms of natural disaster in addition to the large number of internally displaced persons. Government says she will continue to use security forces to protect the security of the population; support peace-building

initiatives in Karamoja; strengthen disaster preparedness and promote awareness of the risks and recommend actions to local governments. Government will continue to implement the policy on self-reliance of refugees. Regional plans will be mainstreamed within sector strategies. Government says the Northern Uganda Social Action Fund will provide funds for communities to dedicate to projects they identify yet has admitted to failing to effectively monitor this fund.

The Slum areas have continued to suffer from all these insurgencies because many of the affected end up in the slum areas when they finally come to the city. This tends to limit the availability of resources and services to the slum dwellers due to the high and ever rising population in the slum areas.

A healthy and well-educated population is both a necessary condition for development and one of the central objectives of development. To confront the challenges of child and maternal health, Government has prepared an Infant and Maternal Health strategy focusing on improving the quality of health care and treatment of malaria, sanitation community mobilisation, and family planning but maintains that she will not meet the MDG targets of 2015.

SAP Advocacy Strategy

Advocacy Goal

SAP Uganda's Advocacy goal is to work with the poor and marginalized communities to influence public policy and cultural practices to create a conducive environment for better well managed laws/policies and development.

3.2 Advocacy concerns

SAP identified gaps in the areas of Child rights; Gender and development; HIV/AIDS Peace building and conflict resolution, Poverty Eradication; Environment; and Human rights.

To address gaps identified, SAP has drawn up a strategy to guide her advocacy in acquiring justice for the poor and marginalized communities.

Table 1.11 SAP's Advocacy Strategy to various problems

Problem identified	SAP's Objective to Correct problem	Decision Makers	Influencers of strategies	Strategies
Child and gender based				
Child Sexual Abuse -Early marriages -Child prostitution -Defilement	To improve implementation of child protection laws.	-Parents -Elders -Children -Min of Justice Probation officers	-MP's -Local councils -Elders -Teachers	-Increase awareness on Child. rights laws -Build capacity of secretaries for children to follow up child. -Campaigns to implement an improve on child protection laws. -Sexual abuse cases.
Violence Against Women/Children	To advocate for laws protecting women and children in cases of	-Parents -Elders	-Local Councils -Police	-Increase community responsibility in the

-Women beating -Women sexual harassment -Child sacrifices -Corporal punishment -Inadequate birth registration	violence or war	-Husbands -Police -Traditional healers -MP's -Probation officers	-Min of Justice -MP's -Teachers	reduction of Violence against women and children
Child Labour -Exploitation of children for financial/economic or social gain	To advocate for elimination of exploitative child labour.	-Parents -Elders -Industrialists -Public -Probation officers	-Federation of Uganda employees. -Local councils -Police	-To increase awareness and extents of child labour in Uganda. -Increase community responsibility in the reduction of child labour in Uganda
Child Neglect -Denial of basic needs -Denial of health facilities -Denial of -Education. -Mistreatment	To advocate for an increase in community responsibility to care for their children	Parents -Elders -Children -Min of Justice Probation officers	Police Activists MP's Public MoH MoES MGLSD	-To Increase awareness about child neglect in Uganda. -Increase community responsibility in the reduction of child neglect. -To create awareness about extents of child the neglect in Uganda
Gender and economic development -Economic imbalance due to gender related limitations to productive resources Women have limited access to and control of productive resources	To advocate for a conducive policy and legal environment for equal access to and control of productive resources	-MoGLSD -MoFPED -MPs	-NGOs -General public -Religious leaders. -Traditional and cultural leaders	-Research on the policy and legal framework on access and control of productive resources. -Raise awareness on the importance of having control over productive resources. -Enlighten the community of their gender roles and responsibilities
Domestic violence	To empower women and children to reduce and eventually end domestic violence in Uganda. To advocate for empowering women resist domestic Violence. To equip women and stakeholders with knowledge on how to avoid domestic violence	-Parents -Women -Men -Children	-MGLSD. -MP's -Police NGOs -General public -Religious leaders.	-Campaigns against domestic Violence -Research on cases of domestic Violence. -Indexing cases to so as to end this practice through information dissemination.
Imbalance in power and decision making	To empower the poor and vulnerable to make decision on issues that concern them.	-Men -Women -Youths -Children		-Enlightening the target groups on their rights and responsibilities. Inform stakeholders on research findings. Lobby for putting in place policies that provide for equal access to resources.
Unequal opportunities to access education and employment due to gender roles	To advocate for equal opportunities to education, employment and other services	MP's Women LG's Employers Children Women	Traditional leaders MP's	Call for researches in this area. Increase awareness amongst stakeholders on advantages of equal accessibility to

				education. Build structures that encourage equal participation in education
Poverty				
Poverty	To advocate for greater commitment by government to eradicate poverty.	-MofPED -MAAIF -MP'S -MoLGD -MoES -MoH -MLG	-MP's -General public -NGO's -LC's	-Build community capacity to monitor government -Monitor and analyse government expenditure in the selected sectors -Document and Share findings with relevant stakeholders -Lobby MFPED for change. Lobby LGs to be more responsive to community needs/demands
Limited access to productive resources	To support communities to advocate for a conducive economic and social environment to enable them conduct fair trade and employment.	-Communities -MoLGD -MoES -MoH -MLG	-MP's -NGO's -LC's	-Lobby for government to priorities community needs as a basic need for development -Build capacity of the community to advocate for themselves
Resignation to their fate.(Leading to mental health problems)	To advocate for a change of interventions towards the poor and vulnerable.	-The poor and marginalized	-Church leaders -Traditional leaders	-Work with psychosocial volunteers to solve their problems. -Involve the Interpersonal therapy for groups within the communities.
Corruption	To bring out the evils and ills of corruption within the community and government related programmes. To understand the magnitude of the problem within SAP areas of operation	-Schools -Health centres -LC's	-Health workers -LC's -MP's -Teachers -NGO's	-To document the extent of corruption in the communities. -To index corruption cases in the community.
High infant Mortality Rates and Maternal Mortality rates	Advocate for strict policies and laws on public health issues.	-Women -Children -Health workers -Traditional Birth attendants(TBA's)	Health workers -LC's -MP's -Teachers -NGO's TBA's	
HIV AND AIDS				
High infection rates (HIV/AIDS has no cure)	To advocate for continued awareness raising on prevention of HIV/AIDS	-Government -SAP -Community	-General public -Schools -Health centres. -HIV/AIDS service providers -NGO's	Lobby government and other stakeholders to allocate more resources to HIV/AIDS.
Inadequate access to HIV/AIDS drugs (high costs of drugs)	To advocate or increased access to HIV/AIDS services, including ; prevention, Palliative Care and	-Government -SAP -Community (Slum	-General public -Schools -Health centres	-Document and disseminate procedures to

	control measures.	Areas)	-NGO's HIV/AIDS service providers	-HIV/AIDS services nearest to the community. -Lobby for services brought nearer to the people.
Women are more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS	To advocate for more women targeted interventions, PMTCT	-Government -SAP staff -Community -Support groups -slum volunteers	-General public Churches/Mosques -Schools -Health centres -NGO's	-Document and disseminate the unique problems suffered by women living with HIV/AIDS. -Work with other NGO's like NACWOLA to assist women access services on HIV/AIDS
PLWHA are marginalised	To advocate for the reduction or elimination of stigma and discrimination.	-Government -Support groups -SAP -Community	-General public -Religious groups -Schools -Health centres -NGO's -HIV/AIDS service providers	Train PLWHA to understanding basics regarding their status. -Creating awareness on palliative care amongst the community members. -Facilitating the creation of Psychosocial interpersonal groups for therapy.
HIV/AIDS Orphaned children	To advocate for the vulnerable orphaned children. To advocate for the rights and worth of children living with HIV/AIDS	-Government -SAP Staff -Support groups -Community -Parents/Guardians	-General public -Schools -Health centres -NGO's -HIV/AIDS service providers	-Document success stories of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. -Lobby government to allocate more funds to prolong life. -Train communities on best practices
Ministry of health policy on counseling and testing	To advocate for fair policies of counseling and testing of all categories of people especially children	-Government -SAP staff -Support groups -Community	-General public -Schools -Health centres -NGO's -Parents guardians - HIV/AIDS service providers	Research and document the implications of the policies in place. Create awareness on the policy amongst the communities
PWD are margi-nalized Unequal Opportunities to facilities and resources	To promote inclusion of PWDs in SAP programmes/activities	Government SAP Community	General public -Schools -Health centres -NGO's	To mainstream disability in all SAP programmes.
Escalating HIV/AIDS prevalence	To advocate for a special way of addressing the HIV/AIDS problem.	-Aids Commission -HIV/AIDS service providers -People living in conflict areas	General public -Schools -Health centres -NGO's -HIV/AIDS service providers	Document the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in war torn and conflict areas. Lobby for stakeholders to implement special

				programmes on HIV/AIDS to these vulnerable people.
Environment				
Degraded environment Slum development and over crowding Urban pollution	To promote better environment management in all SAP Programmes.	Government SAP Community	-LCs -General public -Health centres -NGO's	Create awareness on environmental friendly methods. Mainstreaming environmental management in all SAP programmes.
Human Rights				
Violation of human Rights. -Curtailing freedom of association/assembly -Delayed justice. -Limited access to information on rights and laws. -Ignorance of the law	To enhance the knowledge of human rights and the general law in all SAP operational areas.	-Community in SAP Operation area. -SAP Staff	-Police -Community leaders -MP's -Human rights activists -Human rights commission	To create awareness about people's human rights. Train leaders and influential decision makers about people's human rights. Equip communities with knowledge and understanding about their rights and worth. Lobby for perpetrators of human rights violation to end it
Failure to resolve conflict	To advocate for ways of conflict resolution	Government -People in conflict. -Traditional Leaders -NGO's -Local Government	-International Community. -Government -People in conflict. -Religious leaders	Document and disseminate information about war outcomes and impact. Create awareness about negotiations to avoid conflict Create awareness about the ills of war
Break down of the law and social order	To advocate for the restoration of the law and social order.	-Government -Traditional Leaders -NGO's -Local Government	-Government -People in conflict. -Religious leaders	Document and disseminate information about current and other war and conflict related situations. Document the traditional social norms that have been broken
Human right violation Rape Slavery Child prostitution	To advocate for elimination of all forms of human rights violation.	-Government -Traditional Leaders -NGO's -Local Government -Security organs	-International Community. -Government -People in conflict. -Religious leaders	Lobby for the concerned authorities to put a stop to human rights violation on this. Work with all stakeholders to stop human rights violation.
Peace building and conflict resolution				

<p>Culture of peaceful negotiation in conflict related issues is disappearing</p>	<p>-To instill a culture of peaceful conflict resolution.</p> <p>-To advocate for integration of peace building in the formal education curricular.</p>	<p>-Community -SAP staff -Government -Traditional Leaders -NGO's -Local Government Security organs</p>	<p>General public -Ministry of internal affairs -MoGLSD -Traditional leaders -Health centres -NGO's</p>	<p>-Document and publicise traditional methods of conflict management and resolution.</p> <p>-Share lessons learnt -Build capacity of SAP community volunteers and support groups to handle conflict related issues in these slum areas</p> <p>-Build structures within the community to help in conflict resolution</p>
<p>Conflict evils -Conflicts erode Development, suffering, social Displacement, breakdown of social order/norms and tribalism.</p>	<p>To advocate for a peaceful resolution of problems</p>	<p>-Government -Religious and - Traditional Leaders -NGO's -Local Government -Security organs</p>	<p>General public -Ministry of internal affairs -MoGLSD -Traditional leaders -Health centres</p>	<p>Promote campaigns on Peaceful measures of conflict resolution.</p> <p>Promote harmony in homes through sensitization.</p>