



**NETWORK OF KEY POPULATION  
SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS LTD**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023**

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## WORD FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS' CHAIRPERSON



**Shamilah Batte - Chairperson, Board of Directors UNESO**

**Dear Friends.**

All around the world, the most marginalized communities are experiencing the impacts of fundamentalist, conservative, fascist, nationalist, far-right, anti-gender, and anti-rights forces. And our motherland/country Uganda has not been exceptional as it has continued to develop, ascend and enforce some of the harshest laws targeted towards the already structurally included communities. We regret and wish to sympathize with all those individuals, CSOs(partners) Key Population serving and Led organizations and in particular, UNESO members (Sex worker-led organization) that have experienced and continue to experience the wrath of the existing challenging legal environment here in the country Uganda and beyond. But on the same note, we congratulate every one of us for being strong, resilient and keeping the commitment to fight against all injustices, protecting and promoting human rights in a peaceful manner.

On behalf of all UNESO BODs, we wish to let you know that, the current BOD members have diligently served to the full term of three years (September 2020- October 2023) as per the UNESO constitution, and BOD charter, and now it's time for members to indulge in another key decision-making process of filling the gap at the UNESO governance body, although there is need to maintain some BODs for continuity purposes, and much as all BODs are reliable to be re-elected.

Therefore, the BODs wish to thank everyone especially UNESO members for providing an enabling environment to serve. It is evident that, through the three years of service, the Board has navigated through a landscape of remarkable accomplishments despite the challenging situations including COVID-19 and its effects, the harsh legal environment, the narrowing of civic space, the reduced funding among others. Strong commitment and passion has been the key instruments possessed by all of the BODs that has enabled them to serve better.

Wish to conclude by extending great appreciation to all stakeholder, partners, donors and members for their dedication and tireless efforts to promote the human rights of sex workers in all their diversities.

## KEY TO NOTE SPEECH FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR



### **Namakula Daisy Nakato - *UNESO National coordinator***

Dear partners, stakeholders, well-wishers, and UNESO members.

We wish to extend to you warm greetings from UNESO secretariat,

And allow me to present to you the UNESO 4th annual report.

The UNESO 4th annual report provides an overview of UNESO experiences including an overview of UNESO revised mandates, key achievements, challenges, lessons learned and creates visibility for the works of some of UNESO member organizations for the period September 2022 to August 2023. This report is intended to provide disclosure of the UNESOs' operating and financial activities over the past year to its stakeholders, partners and members as it helps to evaluate UNESO performance and influence key decision making.

The year September 2022 to August 2023 has been a year that shall never be forgotten in the history of the sex worker movement. Just like any other year, UNESO ushered in with high hopes, expectations and aspirations, little did anyone know that amidst the great achievements, there shall be a set of complex challenges.

## **WHO ARE WE!**

The Network of Key Population Service Organisations Ltd, which is commonly known as the Uganda Network of sex worker-led Organizations (UNESO) was established in 2015 with a country-wide mandate to provide a systematic and all-inclusive coordination structure for sex worker organizations and support groups to play advocacy, policy and decision-making roles in the sex worker movement.

## **The revised Vision, Mission, Values, and strategic themes**

During the mid-term review of the performance of UNESO's Strategic Plan (SP) 2020-2024, the vision, mission and values of UNESO were revised as shown below.

### **Vision statement**

A Ugandan society where recognition of sex workers and respect for the human rights of sex workers in all their diversity prevail

### **mission statement**

To build a strong sex worker movement in Uganda to enable a safe environment for sex workers in all diversity through effective coordination, evidence-based advocacy and enhanced capacities of member organizations.

### **Values**

1. Teamwork
2. Integrity
3. Inclusive
4. Excellence
5. Innovation
6. Accountability

## **Strategic Objectives:**

This mid-term reviewed strategic plan (SP) 2020 – 2024 seeks to strengthen UNESO's expanded role as a national coordinating body for sex worker-led organizations. It articulates UNESO's renewed commitment to coordination, evidenced-based advocacy, and enhanced capacities of member organizations towards creating a safe environment for sex workers in all diversities. The Strategic Plan places increased emphasis on value addition to UNESO membership and building a dynamic, committed and functional governance and leadership function of UNESO and its constituencies.

The Strategic Plan is structured around Six strategic objectives as follows:

1. To strengthen the functionality of governance and management structures of UNESO and member organizations to deliver their mandate.
2. To improve the functionality of the coordination and capacity building of UNESO and member organizations.
3. To enhance knowledge management, partnerships and evidence-based advocacy for an enabling environment for sex workers in all diversity.
4. To strengthen resource mobilization and sub-granting member organizations for their sustainability.
5. To strengthen the wellness of UNESO and leaders of member organizations to be able to mitigate the impact of a challenging and harsh environment.
6. To create an emergency response mechanism for sex worker advocates and human rights defenders.

### UNESO STRATEGIC THEMES AND THEIR MILESTONES

#### **Strategic Theme 1: Governance and Management Development.**

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UNESO aims to strengthen institutional capacity to enable effective coordination of the sex worker movement. To realize this mandate, UNESO has ;

1. UNESO secured its own Home. We are glad to announce that UNESO was to procure its own home, though still incomplete but in a replenishment process. This is a sustainability strategy for UNESO.



2. Successfully held quarterly BODs meetings. Thanks to the improved technology for enabling virtual engagements and participation. Because of the current legal environment that has limited physical space, the UNESO BODs adopted and were flexible to use virtual space for their quarterly BOD's meetings.
3. For the sex worker movement strengthening, UNESO has been vital in combating the narrowing of civic space especially through mobilizing and bringing together the sex worker-led organization for strategic discussion on how to keep the moment of having a strong, influential and vibrant movement. UNESO conducted sex worker strategic planning workshop on shrinking civic space, the two days workshop for Sex Worker Leaders was aimed to reflect and plan about shrinking civic space for sex worker-led organizations and programmes in Uganda bringing together 42 sex worker leaders in all their diversities. The key output of the strategic workshop was the formation of the Sex Work Technical Working Group on shrinking civic space with a key mandate to oversee and provide technical guidance on the implementation of

strategies or interventions aimed at addressing the narrowing of civic space for sex workers and its effects.



*Photo taken during the two day strategic workshop in Namanve- Nile resort Hotel- 28th – 29th December 2022*



*SW-TWG on civic shrinking space members meeting.*

4. UNESO is part of the SRHR movement, and coordinates the Sex Worker- Technical Working Group on Promoting sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Uganda. The TWG is made up of individuals and organizations with diverse knowledge and expertise in SRHR programming including representatives from CSOs.KP-led organizations and Ministry of Health(MOH) and Uganda HIV/AIDS and Quality Health parliamentary forum.



*Members of the SW-TWG on promoting SRHR .*

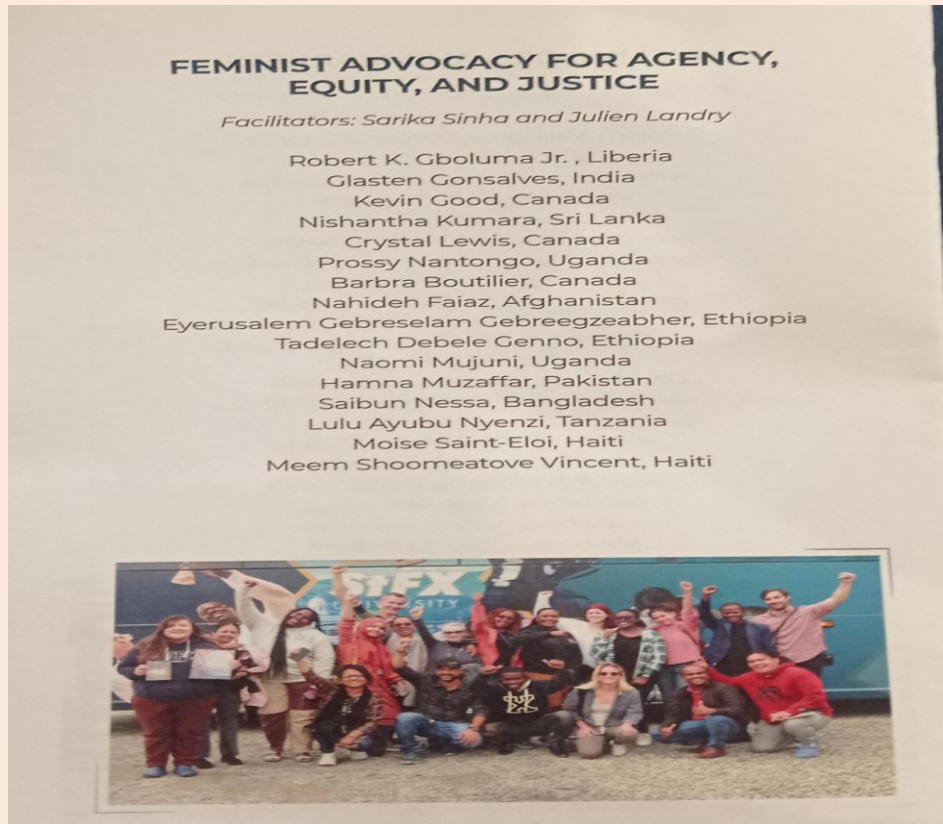
5. To enhance the sex worker movement strengthening, UNESO conducts bi-annual member update and check -in virtual meetings, as well as annual general meetings(AGM) for members. These are some of the key decision-making platforms for UNESO members to plan, strategize and make key decisions that govern the organization.



*UNESO Staff team at the 3rd AGM*

6. As part of institutional capacity development, UNESO invest in its staff in enhancing their capacity development to effectively serve the organizations. UNESO supported one of its staff (Programmes manager) to attend a two-week Certificate course that will help UNESO to deepen its understanding of feminism(s) and address issues of power, gender, and intersecting inequalities to plan

and implement effective advocacy that strengthens community agency, participation, and voice.



7. Have developed and reviewed some of the organizational policies and manuals including reviewing and updating the UNESO security plan, emergency response policy, supporting members to develop their security plan, and among others. These organizational documents are vital for an institutional system strengthening and giving a sense of direction for effective operations.

## **Strategic theme 2: Coordination and membership capacity enhancement**

Over the years, UNESO has been able to increase and improve its visibility and presence nationwide with an increase in its membership from 50 to 62 member organizations and small groups across Uganda. As a network, we continue to enhance the capacities of member organizations and leaders in various ways in order to organize for a well-empowered and unified sex worker movement.

### **1. Advocacy Training Workshop for Sex Workers**

UNESO conducted a 3 days Advocacy training workshop for member organizations that had gone through the Advocacy Capacity Assessment (ACA) to enhance organizations advocacy efforts to

influence policy and programming for promotion of human rights for sex workers in Uganda. The 3 day's engagement brought together 18 sex worker leaders in diversity to enhance their capacity in advocacy and bridge the identified gaps from the ACA.



At the end of the training, Participants were able to come up with advocacy plans that spoke to their individual organizations. And they committed to raising funds for their plans.

## **2. Human rights and SGBV training among sex workers in four regions of western, eastern, Northern and Southern Uganda.**

Under the "*EMPOWERING SEX WORKERS TO SEEK FOR JUSTICE AGAINST SEXUAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE(SGBV)*" project, UNESO was able to build capacities of **101** sex workers in understanding human rights and be able to bridge the human rights information gap that exists among sex workers and hinders access to justice in the four regions of Uganda. The training further enlightened sex workers about their specific human rights and later laid strategies on how they should stand up to claim their rights and seek for justice. The main purpose of the training was to deepen the understanding and engagement of sex worker leaders in responsive programming to fight, prevent and respond to Human Rights violations and Gender-Based Violence against Sex workers.



*Southern Uganda - Kabale*



*Western Uganda - Kasese*



*Eastern Uganda*



*West Nile*

### 3. Training of Gender based violence (GBV) responders

GBV is one of the leading human rights violations among sex workers in diversity. It's from the above that UNESO trained 60 sex worker leaders from the eastern, southern and western region as GBV responders. The training equipped Leaders with knowledge and skills that will enable them to respond to the increased GBV cases among sex workers including how to prevent, identify, and document and report GBV cases, as well as supporting the GBV victims to seek redress.



### 4. Training on Legal Compliance for UNESO Members (Sex Worker-Led Organizations and Partners)

During the training we convened 38 sex worker leaders including Partners in understanding Legal Compliance. The training aimed at ensuring the safety and security of the sex worker-led organizations and sex worker activists and efforts to curb the possibilities of office closure

and to promote freedom of action for sex worker organizations. The conversations unpacked the Non-Governmental Organizations Registration (Amendment) Act 2006, all NGOs must obtain official registration by the National Board for Non-Governmental Organizations (commonly known as the NGO Registration Board), in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, before they can operate in Uganda; while Community Based Organizations (CBOs) are required to register with and obtain certification from the District Local Authorities.



*During the legal compliance training for Sexworker-led organizations in Kampala -SKYZ Hotel*

5. **Trained thirty three(33) UNESO members** on documentation of human rights violations and cases through using the Localized Sex worker- violations documentation tool.



*Photo taken during the two days training in Kampala at Sir Jose Hotel*

## **Strategic theme 3: Knowledge development, advocacy and partnership.**

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Under this particular strategic direction, the goal is to facilitate change, enhance decision-making capabilities, learning and innovation and influence policy in order to promote and protect human rights of sex workers. Through enhancing knowledge management, partnerships and evidence based advocacy for an enabling environment for sex workers in all diversity.

### **Knowledge development and Management.**

#### **1. Development of a Localized Human Rights Violations Documentation Tool for Sex Workers.**

UNESO developed and launched a localized human rights violation documentation tool specifically for sex workers to help in keeping track of human rights violations against sex workers. The tool is used to support in registering, analyzing and sharing information about human rights violations committed against sex workers for purposes of awareness-rising, litigation, direct assistance to victims and evidence-based advocacy, programming and policy formulation.



*Consultative meeting with members*



*Group photo at the Launch of the tool*

#### **2. Report on the Documentation of Human Rights Situation of Sex Workers in Uganda – 2023**

UNESO produced a report on the Situation of Human Rights of Sex Workers in Uganda for the period of January 2022 to March 2023. The report looks at the prevailing situation of the country, in as far as protection and violation of the rights of sex workers are concerned, highlighting the trends therein.

Find the link [here](#)

#### **3. Baseline assessment on SRHR issues that affect sex workers in Uganda.**

The baseline assessment on SRHR issues that affect SWs in Uganda was reviewed and validated in coordination with Uganda AIDS Commission. Data collected and study findings were validated by the National Steering committee and the Technical Working Group members. The study results were adopted by policy influencers and key stakeholders in designing targeted and tailored SRHR services for sex workers at the National level. UNESO in collaboration with UAC through the National KP/PP steering committee spearheaded the journey of developing this report and was honored to host key decision making/influential stakeholders who blessed and witnessed the launching of the report. These included UNAIDS, IDI, MOH, UAC, KCCA, Alive medical centre, KP CCM representatives, UKPC, and partners including AGHA and UNESO members at the national level.



You can access the Ebook [Here](#)

#### **4. Legal compliance assessment among Sex worker-led Organizations.**

UNESO through the Sex Worker -Technical Working Committee on shrinking civic space conducted a rapid assessment to identify the level of legal compliance among sex worker-led organizations with the intent to revise strategies on how to ensure that organization/groups are in compliance with the government regulatory entities.

The report can be accessed [here](#).

### **Advocacy**

UNESO is mandated to coordinate the sex worker movement and uphold the voices of sex workers in Uganda through advocating for the realizations of sex workers rights.

To achieve this, UNESO was able to lay out several advocacy platforms to help in influencing change and attitudes towards sex workers in their diversities.

#### **Social media engagement**

In order to amplify the common voice for sex workers in Uganda, UNESO has over the year been able to use different social media platforms to effectively engage the community and its members. We posted and created content to sensitize the community on different advocacy issues affecting sex workers.

To achieve this, UNESO worked closely with its member organizations who took part and championed different advocacy issues through opinion sharing and community sensitizing.

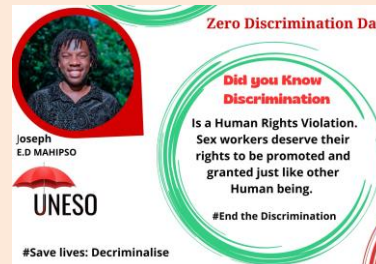
### Zero Discrimination day

During the commemoration of the Zero discrimination day, UNESO called on leaders from the sex worker movement to take the lead in sharing their opinions and sensitized on the impact of discrimination towards

sex workers. The day aimed at creating awareness about and promoting the rights of People living with and affected by HIV under the global theme #End the Discrimination.



Members came through to inform the community on how discrimination affects access to health care.



Still about social media, UNESO came up with advocacy posters that featured on UNESO social media platforms calling out and informing followers of the importance of Discrimination, consequences of unsafe abortion and informed followers of the retabling of the Sexual Offences Bill that UNESO has been following-up.





During the course of the year, UNESO wrote three (3) press statements targeting Government institutions and the community through media coverage on emerging advocacy issues that affect sex workers in their diversity. The statements clearly portrayed UNESO's stand on particular issues and called for proactive measures to the realization and respect for sex workers' rights.

### **Rogue and Vagabond**

UNESO on the 12th Dec 2022 welcomed the judgment of the Constitution Court of Uganda with a press conference on the ruling of the rogue and vagabond law. On 2nd December 2022, the Constitution Court of Uganda declared as null and void sections 168(1)(c) and 168(1)(d) of the Penal Code, which are

part of the broader range of legal provisions creating the offenses of being a 'rogue and vagabond' for being in contravention of Article 23(1)(c) and 23(4)(b), Article 28(3)(a), Article 28(12) and Article 29(2)(a) of the Constitution.

UNESO in the past has repeatedly spoken out against the injustices that laws occasion to sex workers going about their business, who have been routinely arrested, harassed and extorted by law enforcement agencies under the guise of enforcing the laws on being idle and disorderly or being a rogue and vagabond. Here is the [link](#)



### **International Day to end violence against sex workers**

In commemoration of the International Day to end violence against sex workers (17th December), the day that calls attention to hate crimes committed against sex workers worldwide, as well as the need to remove the social stigma and discrimination that have contributed to violence against sex workers,

In commemoration UNESO help a press conference with a statement call to an end of all forms of violanece towards sex workers.

Here is the statement [Link](#)



*Press conference in Gulu*

In addition to the press conference, UNESO held two radio talk shows on Radio Rupiny Gulu and Voice of Toro - Kabarole to further amplify the voice in *Creating awareness on ways to prevent violence against sex worker.*



Furthermore, sex workers lighted candles in respect to their fellows they have lost to violence.



**International Sex Workers Day**

On 2nd June UNESO joined the Sex Worker rights movement across the world to commemorate the International Sex Workers’ Day under the NSWP global theme “Access to Justice”. This day is one of the marked and recognized days on the global calendar of the sex worker movement that speaks to the unfair treatment sex workers face in the justice system and amplifies the voices of the global sex worker movement and demand for equal access to justice.

Here is the [Link](#)

**Partnerships and Networking**

**1. Dialogue meetings**

UNESO held two community out-reach dialogue meetings on Human Rights protection and promotion in Kibaale and Luweero. The dialogues convened 36 stakeholders to create a platform for district stakeholders and SWs to discuss and strategize on promoting security, safety and

health among SWs.





rights among sex workers in the Eastern, Northern and Southern regions of Uganda.

To promote Human Rights among sex workers across Uganda and prevent Gender Based Violence, UNESO conducted three regional stakeholders meetings in the Eastern, Northern and Southern regions of Uganda. The dialogue meetings brought together 86 stakeholders to discuss strategies for preventing GBV and promoting health & human



Southern Region - December 15th



Eastern Uganda - December 14th



Northern Uganda - December 15th

## Partner Engagements (local,national, regional and international engagements)



UNESO participated in the 8th Changing Faces, Changing Spaces Conference (CFCS VII) that was convened from 14th to 19th May 2023, presenting an oral abstract on "Advancing the wellness and wellbeing of executive Directors/ team leaders of

the sex worker- led organizations in Uganda". CFCS is a panAfrican biennial convening that brings together human rights activists, funding partners, health and legal professionals, allies, undertaking and supporting sex worker and Sexual and Gender minorities' activism in Africa, to discuss issues pertinent to our movements.

UNESO in representation of the sex worker movement is a key actor on sexual and reproductive health and rights in Uganda. Thus participated in the 2nd SRHR retreat for SRHR actors to reflect on the current and emerging SRHR issues in Uganda given the shifting



dynamics at national and global level that impacts on the work of the SRHR movement.

Participation in women deliver 2023 Conference where the National Coordinator was a panelist who got to share her experience with sex worker organizing.



UNESO was represented in the extraordinary HIV prevention steering committee meeting organised by UAC, with a purpose of orientation to the national HIV prevention road map inception report.



UNESO staff and other 5 representatives from member organisation took part in the 3rd Africa Leadership Sex Workers Academy (ALESWA) training which is the 1st in-depth leadership knowledge and skills training course conceived, developed by sex workers for sex workers to build the resilience of the sex work movement in Africa. The training aimed at capacitating young leaders in the sex worker movement to better advocate and challenge societal exclusion

for the realization of social protection and SRHRights for sex workers in Uganda.



UNESO attended an Intersectional Feminist Analysis meeting of Uganda's SRHR Legal and Policy framework organized by Akina Mama Wa Africa. The policy brief aimed at reviewing the legal Framework of Uganda.



UNESO attended a one day meeting convened by CEHURD to discuss key aspects of reproductive justice in Uganda. The purpose and aim of this meeting is to "Re-define reproductive justice within our

context as a country, and have partners share their lessons, experiences and best practices" on the same.



UNESO was present at the LMEC strategic workshop of Sex worker-led CSOs at high risk of civic space censorship. The workshop targets nine (9) CSOs under investigation by the government on allegations of promoting LGBTQ activities in Uganda, as per the Ministry of internal affairs leaked report. During the meeting we discussed possibilities of strengthening collaboration between our organizations through the formation of a CSO civic space coalition of targeted organizations, and come up with strategies to address the current and future crisis.



UNESO was present at the quarterly National Key & Priority steering committee meeting at UAC



UNESO was present at the AWAC's Strategic Plan Validation Breakfast Meeting at Fairway Hotel. The Meeting aimed at Discussing and Validating Draft 2 of the AWAC Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027.



UNESO was represented at the CSO coalition meeting to review the draft policy brief on SRHR and HIV policy gaps ahead of the SRHR and HIV symposium to be hosted by UGANET.



UNESO participated in a validation meeting of the community advocates guide to M&E in Global Partnerships actions in eliminating all forms of HIV-related stigma and discrimination among Women, young girls, and Key Populations.



UNESO was present at the half-day Optimal CAB Close-out Meeting funded by UNITAID under CHAI.

#### **Strategic them 4: Resource mobilization and sub-granting of membership.**

1. Have taken the initiative to develop joint proposals with member organizations.
2. Have made recommendations for members seeking funding to various donor agencies.
3. Technically guided and supported members to write technical proposals.

4. Build capacities of members in effective project management, accounting and resource mobilization.

### **Strategic theme 5: Advancing wellness for SW leaders**

In order to advance the wellness and wellbeing of network members, UNESO was able to implement this thematic area through interventions that encourage sustained healthy lifestyles and health-seeking behaviors to ultimately reduce the burden of stress and chronic conditions and provide psychosocial support to members, and in particular, leaders of member organizations.

UNESO conducted four Executive Director forums which brought over 87 sex worker leaders from across Uganda. The ED's retreats aimed at promoting wellness among leaders for a strong, vibrant and resilient sex worker movement through enhancing knowledge and awareness and promoting the practice of self-care.

During the retreats, leaders were able to participate in Physical related activities like Zumba, aerobics, team building games that seek to promote teamwork and solidarity.



mental health

On 2nd November 2022, UNESO concluded a 3-days extraordinary training workshop on mental health among its staff and network members. The training commenced on the 31st of October, 2022.

To ensure that participants are able to address complex and pressing needs faced by sex workers, the training aimed at building the capacity of Sex worker leaders on Mental Health and Psychosocial care and support. The training focused on rejuvenating energies, social networking, sharing personal experiences, making reflections, new learning, promoting self-care, and collective healing

### **Strategic Theme: Emergency response mechanism.**

Generally, there is a lack of targeted emergency response funds for sex workers, despite the increased violations experienced by sex workers. UNESO has established networks with agencies that provide emergency support to key populations and through a referral system, UNESO has referred and recommended its members that seek for emergency support, though this is not sustainable . Therefore UNESO continues to advocate and fundraise for establishment of a sex worker targeted emergency response fund /basket.

### **PROGRAMME CHALLENGES.**

1. Passing of the AHA
2. Increased narrowing of civic space
3. Increased human rights violations.
4. Increased narrowing of funding grounds.
5. Increased opposition- anti-gender and anti human rights movements is more organized.

### **LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

- Integration of programs ( mental health, emergency response etc)
- Strengthen strategic partnership in times of AHA and the upcoming SOB.
- Take and focus on using the public health approach rather than the human rights approach.
- Use Evidenced based data to inform programing.
- Learn and adopt best approaches to counteracting anti-gender and anti -human rights
- Learn how to engage young sex workers.

# 2022/2023 AUDIT REPORT (SEE AUDIT REPORT)

## KIRANGWA KIWANUKA & CO Certified Public Accountants Firm No. AF 0118

THE FIRM IS LICENSED AND REGULATED BY ICPAU  
Plot No. 37/39 William Street, Equatorial Building, P.O. Box 21238 Kampala - Uganda.  
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### REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE DIRECTORS OF NETWORK OF KEY POPULATION SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS LTD.

We have audited the financial statements of Network of Key Population service Organizations Ltd., as set out on pages 6 -15. These financial statements include the statement of financial position as at 30th June,2023 and the related statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and the cashflows for the year then ended and summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the organisation as at 30th June 2023 and the results of its operation and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

#### Auditors responsibility and basis of opinion

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments; the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting

estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion

#### Management responsibility for the financial statements

The management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (I.F.R.S).This responsibility includes the designing,implementing and maintaining of the internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement,whether fraud or error.

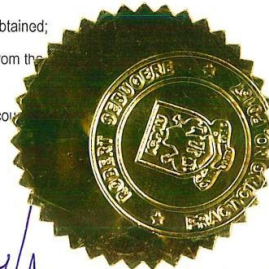
#### Report on Other Legal Requirements

As required by the Accountants Act, Cap 2013, we report to you basing on our audit that;

- i) All information and explanations which were necessary for the purposes of the audit were obtained;
- ii) In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the directors so far as appears from the examination of those books; and
- iii) The director's Balance Sheet and Income Statement are in agreement with the books of account.

*Kirangwa Kiwanuka*  
Kirangwa Kiwanuka & Company  
Certified Public Accountants  
Kampala

*R. Sebugere*  
Dated.....2023



**NETWORK OF KEY POPULATION SERVICE ORGANISATIONS LTD  
FINANCIAL PROJECTION FOR 2024 (summarized)**

<b>Donor Name</b>	<b>Project to be funded</b>	<b>Amount (Ugx)</b>	<b>Status</b>
UHAI	Organization support and Capacity building	337,500,000	Ongoing funding/ secured
CEHURD/SIDA	SRHR-JAS and Organisation support	185,000,000	On going funding/secured
CREA	Organization support and capacity building	62,500,000	Funding on going/secured
RED UMBRELLA	Capacity building for UNESO member organization and organization support	240,000,000	Donor confirmed support (secured)
AWDF	GBV response and organization support	168,000,000	Ongoing funding/secured
DEFEND DEFENDERS	Organization support-UNESO house security systems	50,000,000	Secured
	HIV intervention	75,000,000	Funding yet to be secured
	UNESO House completion	100,000,000	Funding yet to be secured
	<b>Total annual budget.</b>	<b>1,218,000,000</b>	
	% SECURED	72%	

	% Unsecured	28%	
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## WORKS OF UNESO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

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UNESO recognizes and greatly appreciates the work of its members/sex worker-led organization in their different capacities/levels of contribution to ensure that the sex workers in all their diversities have access to justice, enjoy and exercise their human rights.

### **Empowered at Dusk Women's Association (EADWA)**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:** 500

**Location of Operation:** Greater Kampala

#### **Key output over the year:**

- Provides integrated services at the DIC to enhance HIV prevention, care, and uptake among Key Populations (KPs) in alignment with the 95-95-95 UNAIDS goal. Services are HIV testing, counseling, PrEP enrollment, distribution of condoms and lubricants, STI screening, and psychosocial support. Health talks and discussions addressed issues related to unsafe abortion and post-abortion care.
- Organized dialogues to address the lack of information and stigma around post-abortion care services among sex workers.
- Provided a comprehensive healthcare package to Key Populations and Priority Populations, including behavioral change communication, mental wellness, psychosocial support, and referral for Medically Assisted Therapy (MAT).
- Mapped KP-Friendly Health Facilities and Hotspots and mapped new hotspots and identified KP-friendly health facilities, expanding access to healthcare services for Key Populations in the region.

### **Organization for Gender Empowerment and rights Advocacy**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:**

**Location of Operation:** Central

#### **Key output over the year:**

- Organized the very first ever National Sex Workers SRHR Symposium in collaboration with UNESO. It brought together all sex worker-led organizations in all their diversity, partners, like-minded organizations, well-wishers and policymakers.
- Addressed HIV related Self-Stigma amongst our community members who are living with HIV/AIDS. A unique project that addresses internal stigma among refugee sex workers.
- Responded to combating the spread of the Ebola Virus following its sudden outbreak in Mubende through conducting Ebola

hotspot-based Sensitization dialogues targeting the FSW refugees living and working outside the Kyaka 2 refugee settlement in Kyegegwa. We distributed IEC materials translated in different languages such as Luganda, Swahili, English, French and Rutoro. We also trained Ebola Champions who were equipped with the knowledge and leadership skills to report all suspected Ebola cases so that the community can remain safe using a Quick-Identification-Rapid Extraction and Early Treatment (QIREET) model.

## **Women's Organization Network for Human Rights Advocacy - WONETHA**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:** 2500

**Location of Operation:** National

**Key output over the year:**

- Supported 200 Female sex workers on ART and PrEP in Kasanda and Mubende with food relief during lockdown caused by EBOLA outbreak.
- Supported 150 sex workers on ART and PrEP to get their medication through drug delivery EBOLA lock down in Kasanda and Mubende
- Distributed EBOLA preventive commodities ,30 hand washing tanks to hotspots, masks and sanitizers Ebola affected districts
- Increased awareness on the prevention of EBOLA through conducting Radio, Tv talk shows and IEC materials.
- 102 sex workers have been enrolled, studied and completed Functional Adult Literacy training (FAL) where they have had their literacy and numeracy skills built.
- Conducted Baseline assessment for AGYW selling sex.
- 6972 sex workers were reached out with HIV services, 5456 were tested for HIV, the 388 that were found with HIV positive results were enrolled on ART.
- 4137 sex workers have been initiated on PrEP while 1,058 were treated for STIs.
- 584,778 pieces of condoms and 40,599 sachet of lubricants were distributed
- Trained 120 Female sex workers living with HIV in HIV Treatment Literacy. This increased self-esteem and good adherence among sex workers.
- Conducted 3 score cards with health workers and sex workers to assess service delivery. This led to increased provision of friendly health services by health workers and reduction in stigma and discrimination.

- Trained 200 sex workers living with HIV in Differentiated Service Delivery Models (DSDM) . This increased knowledge on HIV and good adherence.

### **Kabarole Women Health support initiative**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:** 491

**Location of Operation:** Rwenzori Region

**Key output over the year:**

- Built capacity of board, management, staff and peer educators in areas of leadership and management that has resulted in the emergence of competent leaders.
- Implemented a comprehensive HIV prevention program targeting sex workers, which resulted in a significant reduction in new HIV infections among the community, increased HIV awareness, and improved health behaviors.
- Engaged in advocacy efforts to promote the rights and well-being of sex workers. As a result of our advocacy work, we successfully influenced policy changes at the local, leading to improved legal protections for sex workers, partial decriminalization of sex work, and the implementation of evidence-based approaches to addressing stigma and discrimination.
- Strengthened our collaborations with legal experts, human rights organizations, (HRAF)and policymakers to challenge discriminatory laws, practices, and stigma associated with sex work.
- Participated in 16 days of activism, facilitated the training of our peer educators as community paralegals to follow-up GBV, detained FSW beyond 24 hours with trial, free bond and community awareness.
- Established safe spaces, support groups, and peer-led networks where sex workers shared experiences, accessed information, and collectively addressed common challenges. We also facilitated community-led initiatives, such as awareness campaigns, to challenge stigma and discrimination against sex workers on radio talk shows, mobilized FSW to join saving groups at hotspot level and promoted a more inclusive and supportive environment.
- We facilitated economic empowerment for sex workers by providing vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and access to microfinance initiatives.
- Mapped out the stakeholders we needed to engage in our programs and our initiatives promote teamwork, collaboration, and effective communication among stakeholders by fostering a culture of cooperation and shared goals.

### **JEEWAG -UGANDA**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:** 200

**Location of Operation:** Central Region

**Key output over the year:**

- We trained 12 sex worker leaders on human rights and legal basic knowledge.
- We trained 25 high ranking officers, stakeholders, local leaders within Mukono district on safety and security, rights of sex workers.
- We also strengthened our DICs for accessing services of sex workers and it also acts as a safe space for sexual reproductive health centers.
- We also conducted a 2-day training on financial literacy and entrepreneurship skills with 27 sex worker leaders from mpunge, mpattaa and Katosi landing site respectively.
- We also conducted a session on promotion of sexual reproductive health rights (SRHR) with 20 sex workers of Kisoga, Kibanga landing site.
- We also conducted a monthly facility level engagement to address the barriers of stigma and discrimination where 12 health workers were trained.
- We also conducted several outreaches where we reached out to 350 sex workers in different hotspots of Kireka, Buwaate, Kungu in Kira, Lavent in Najjera, Good hope bar in Namugongo road and Mummy's bar in Bulindo.
- We also conducted 2 dialogues with sex workers' gatekeepers 29 where the participants' area local leaders, brothel managers, peers and sexworkers
- We also conducted 8 weekly peer to peer sessions where sex workers and peers who are on drugs share their experiences and challenges they face while taking their ART and PREP and have hope in life while on medication.

**MEN OF THE NIGHT UGANDA LIMITED (MONU)**

**Focus SW category:** Male sex workers

**No. of members:** 1426

**Location of Operation:** Central, Northern and Eastern Region

**Key output over the year:**

- Acquired permanent office space.
- Mobile clinic which created more visibility of the organization.
- Increased funding base.
- Working incognito with Cyclists Network to achieve our set objectives.
- Increased membership base and workstations mostly in the far to reach regions like the borders and islands.

**Women Rights Aid (WRA)**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:** 237

**Location of Operation:** Rwenzori Region

**Key output over the year:**

- The project dramatically increased access to information sharing by FSWs, 16 Community Dialogues sessions were conducted on HIV, TB, GBV Prevention services and Promotion of SRH among FSWs in hotspots, 254 participants attended (F- 213, M- 41).
- KP Peer Educators distributed 141,166 male condoms, 5,460 pieces of water-based lubricants. Most of the condoms were put in Condom Dispensers, in Bars and Lodges/Hotels in a bid to scale up HIV / STI Prevention and unintended pregnancies. KP Peer Educators educated 341 FSWs on the consistent use of Condoms and 147 FSWs were counseled on Risk Reduction
- Increased access to prevention services, care and treatment to FSWs in the hotspots. 24 Priority Population /Key Population (PP/KP) HTS Outreaches were conducted in the hotspots, 339 FSWs were tested for HIV, 373 FSWs were tested HIV Negative, 20 FSWs were tested HIV Positive and linked to care, 335 FSWs were screened for TB, 18 FSWs were referred for TB Treatment, 246 FSWs were screened for STI, 40 FSWs were referred STI Treatment, 312 were screened for GBV and 34 were referred to Health Facilities for Post GBV Clinical care.
- KP Peer Educators Followed up. 320 FSWs and brought back to care 294 who had missed appointments and lost to follow up in Art Clinic and TB Clinic. This activity-increased retention in care, enhanced community Peer support thus preventing problems that occur because of poor adherence. This increased adherence to HIV and TB treatment.
- Women Rights Aid 06 members managed to benefit PDM project in the first phase one million each.
- Women Rights participated in the 16 days of activism of 2022 and International Women day Celebration of 2023.

### **Service Workers in Group Foundation Uganda (SWING-UG)**

**Focus SW category:** Male sex workers

**No. of members:**150

**Location of Operation:** Central Region

**Key output over the year:**

- Compliance with the Government to continue operating.
- Online Bi-monthly Community dialogue for Male sex workers.
- Quarterly legal awareness sessions for male sex workers in Uganda.
- Community outreach reaches through our peer system.
- Institutional Development through the development of organizational policies, BOD election, and compliance.
- Partnerships with the like minded organizations and signing MOUs with these organizations like OGERA and Lady Mermaid

Empowerment Centre, which has helped us in our development as an organization.

- Establishment of new partnerships with development partners like UHAI-EASHRI, Digital Defenders partnership.

### **Kasese Women's Health Support Initiative (KWISH)**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:** 201

**Location of Operation:** Rwenzori Region

**Key output over the year:**

- Increased disclosure and expression by Female sex workers. FSWs can now freely express themselves as sex workers and share or talk about HIV/AIDS for purpose of community learning and support). This has also led to improved health services seeking behaviors among Key Populations.
- Strengthened working relationship and collaboration with health facilities, human rights organizations, KP led organizations, police and thus streamlined KP friendly HIV service delivery and programming. This also has facilitated deployment of at least one KP Focal person at every facility we work with and including some stakeholders like police and local leaders on the DIC committee.
- Empowered 2 DICs with indoor games to provide an enabling environment for service delivery and drug distribution points under the support by health workers from health facilities, peer leaders, expert clients and DICE nurses.
- Increased same day ART initiation, retention/adherence and viral load suppression among KPs as a result of continuous safe space meetings, peer led group meetings for psychosocial support, linkage and referrals, household visitation and economic strengthening programs.

### **Transgender equality Uganda - (TEU)**

**Focus SW category:** Transwomen sex workers

**No. of members:** 65

**Location of Operation:** Central Region

**Key output over the year:**

- TEU purchased land for the organization for enhanced sustainability.
- Been resilient despite the harsh environment in which we are operating as many people expected us to close business.
- Dialogued with the Ministry of health and other stakeholders to break down barriers to sexual and reproductive health, rights, and HIV/AIDS service access within the transgender community.

## **VOICE OF COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:**826

**Location of Operation:** Northern Region

**Key output over the year:**

- Have a fully functional DIC for KPs/PPs in Gulu.
- Trained a paralegal to help handle GBV cases.
- Reached 365 KPs/PPs for HIV testing
- 205 KPs/PPs were enrolled on PrEP.
- 05 KPs/PPs were enrolled on ART.
- 16427 male condoms were distributed to KPs/PPs as a measure of HIV prevention.
- VoiCE community paralegal handled over 60 GBV cases during the period.

### **Give a hand Foundation.( GaHF)**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:**

**Location of Operation:** Across Uganda

**Key output over the year:**

- Grew into partnership with Microfinance Support Centre and WONETHA to economically empower and support female sex workers' groups. GaHF and WONETHA have currently identified seventy (70) sex workers' groups across different regions in Uganda to be able to access government economic empowerment opportunities.
- Created awareness about the need to promote Health, Hygiene and Sanitation within the sex workers' sites especially in slum areas of Kampala and to conserve the environment by proper condom disposal.
- Strengthened her partnership and collaborations with different Organizations and networks like UNESO, UKPC, Wakiso District NGO Network, Women Human Rights Defenders Network Uganda among others.
- secured an office space located in Wakiso District along Kavumba Recreation Centre Road.
- GaHF Partnered with IDI Kasangati to conduct research among clients of female sex workers in Kampala, Mukono and Wakiso in access to PrEP services.

### **Platform for Vulnerable Youth and Adults - Lira**

**Focus SW category:** Female sex workers

**No. of members:**

**Location of Operation:** Lira,

**Key output over the year:**

- Signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) LIRA District This gave Platform for Vulnerable Youth and Adults formal authorization to implement activities within the district.
- Conducted mental health support activities and HTS
- PVYA opened own organizational bank account
- Established and strengthened partnerships .
- Established linkages and referral pathway mechanism for cases of mental health illness.

### **Trans-Advocacy Initiative Uganda (TAI-UG).**

**Focus SW category:** Trans- sex workers

**No. of members:** 44

**Location of Operation:** Kampala, Mukono, Wakiso, Tororo and Jinja

**Key output over the year:**

- Held a reflection and re-strategizing meetings with rights holders as well as KP focal persons in the districts of Jinja and Tororo in June 2023, to break the barriers such as marginalization, stigma and discrimination that limit and hinder trans-women sex workers when demanding and accessing SRHR/HIV services from health facilities in the districts of Tororo and Jinja.
- Strengthened working relations with the KP focal persons and can now easily access SRHR services.
- Trans-women sex workers do face different challenges while accessing SRHR related services in both districts of Jinja and Tororo. This is attributed to factors such as conduct on both sides of Trans-Women sex workers and service providers at health facilities in Jinja and Tororo districts. However, during the reflection and re-strategizing meetings in the project districts in the month of June, Trans-Women sex workers were taken through the concept of effective communication with focus on the language and tone they use when reaching out to these service providers at health facilities in Jinja and Tororo. They now have the knowledge on how they can approach these service points and access SRHR related services without frustration with focus on the language and tone used in communication.

### **Scarlet Initiative Uganda (SIU).**

**Focus SW category:** Male sex workers

**No. of members:**

**Location of Operation:** Kampala, Mukono, Wakiso.

- Created physical and digital security awareness among 80 male sex workers.

- Developed and disseminated IEC materials with digital and physical security tips 2 pull up banners 2000, posters and
- Reached 87 stakeholder through human rights stakeholder dialogue meetings to influence change in policies, attitude, and practices.
- Trained 15 peer leaders on community outreach.
- Conducted the 2nd AGM for SIU members.
- Trained 20 peer leaders on Digital and physical security .
- Developed data protection policy for SIU to safeguard data /information about members at organizational level.

### **Dream Center for Women-Uganda (DCEWO).**

**Focus SW category:** Rural Female sex workers

**No. of members:**

**Location of Operation:** Luwero -Nakaseke

- Partnered with HRAPF to train 2 paralegals for DCEWO.
- Distributed 200 cartons of female condoms in hot spots.
- Mobilized 15 stakeholders for stakeholder engagement in partnership with UNESO.
- Mapped and identified 5 hot spots in Luwero and Nakasongola.
- Mobilized and referred 21 sex workers for HIV testing services.

### **LADY MERMAID EMPOWERMENT CENTRE.**

**Focus SW category:** Rural Female sex workers

**No. of members:**

**Location of Operation:** Luwero -Nakaseke

**Key output over the year:**

- Launched the 4 years HIV Prevention Programme Phase II for 2022-2025. That mainly focuses on HIV/AIDs prevention through capacity development for sex workers to protect themselves from HIV, increased access to HIV services and addressing structural, policy and community barriers to access HIV
- Organized 47 HIV positive WSWs [in care] into 5 Client-led ART Delivery [CLAD] groups. These are community based groups of our members in care who have suppressed.
- Opened up a new DIC in Wabiduuku brothels and diversified service provision at our Bukoto based DIC. Taking HIV services closer to 1,500 FSWs is another step in ensuring increased access and comprehensive HIV service uptake.
- LMEC trained 45 health service providers from 14 government partner health facilities in Jinja, Mbale and Wakiso and empowered them to provide friendly HIV and other health services to Sex workers in LMEC operational districts.
- 360 Sex workers who use drugs in Kampala city hotspots were reached with Harm reduction intervention. 48 were linked to DIC and health facilities for harm reduction support services by 5 trained peer educators.

Our Members **logo**

