



Empowered Aid Uganda Technical Advisory Group Member Biographies

Supported by:



Betty Achana, National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda (NUWODU)



Betty Achana is a result-oriented, self-motivated and resourceful Programme Manager with over eight (8) years of proven track record of successful project implementation through thorough and diligent work; currently the Programme Manager of National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda (NUWODU). She holds a Master's Degree in Public Health Leadership -majoring in maternal and child health with a Finance and Accounting background. Her experience in program management and advocacy especially in gender mainstreaming, women empowerment and disability inclusion with clear understanding of the intersectionality of gender and disability globally has exposed her to a wide range of issues of women and those with disabilities. Her skills and expertise in Gender and Disability in the post conflict regions of Northern Uganda has enabled her to suitably advocate for inclusion of women and those with disabilities in development agenda from local to international level. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from the African context on how best to engage different actors using the United Nations treaties in understanding and mainstreaming gender and disability in their work. Her passion is to promote the rights of women and girls with disabilities and advocating for their inclusion in all aspects.

Rebecca Apicha, International Lifeline Fund



Rebecca Apicha is the Senior Program Officer for Lifeline's Environment program in Uganda. She has over 9 years' experience in the clean energy sector and this includes manufacturing, distribution, and commercialization of improved cookstoves. Rebecca has managed projects with funding from the UN World Food Program, German Cooperation (GIZ), Hilton Foundation, and more. In addition, she has conducted research on the improved cook stoves with

Notre Dame and Oregon State Universities.

Before joining Lifeline, Rebecca worked with the Uganda Red Cross for their disaster preparedness programs in Northern Uganda and conducted research with RTI & Mango tree LTD on early grade learning that was funded by USAID. She has a BA in Environmental Management.

Catherine Baatiyo, COSMESS/SMECOSS



Catherin Baatiyo is a trained Business Administrator and Certified Business Edge trainer with IFC (International Finance Cooperation) and has good years of experience in Institutional Development and Management.

Being raised by a single mother from rural refugees hosting district she has proven to the World that a young girl from poor background can lead the World and can as well shine like any other advantaged child from a fair financial background. She is an

enthusiastic and innovative young woman who has successfully initiated and developed corporate business wings in Uganda and South Sudan, she has developed several enterprises from micro to bigger businesses.

SHE is the founding Director of COSMESS Uganda, a Capacity Building Organization that focuses on General protection especially women and children's protection, Small and Medium Enterprises and Skills development and Peace building. She has successfully developed her team from one field location to currently seven districts of operation with Excellency and great impact. Very good interpersonal and professional knowledge, team player and builder.

Catherine since her earlier childhood has stood as a great role model even in very challenging environment. She has built reputable institutions like SMECOSS in South Sudan even though there are great challenges young women face while merging in Business competitions in post conflict environment.

Catherine is a member of Global PSHEA Network (Prevention of Sexual Harassment & Exploitation) and TAG member to the Empowered Aid project of the Global Women's Institute. Catherine has mentored several successful persons and have successfully built them to more independent and self-reliant people. Given her personal expertise and enthusiasm and growing up from a challenging background and won victory she is passionate about rights of children, girls and women and so passionate about empowering the most vulnerable.

Hon. Dora Christine Kanabahita Byamukama



A seasoned Advocate of the High Court, with a law degree from Miserere University (LL.B); a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Law Development Center, Kampala; a Masters Degree law (LL.M) from Georgetown University (USA), several certificates from prestigious institutions such as the International Law Institute (Georgetown, Washington DC, USA), International Development Law Organization (Rome, Italy); and over 25 years experience in research, legislative drafting, documentation, advocacy, strategic litigation, legal aid

provision, training and capacity building of community leaders, Justice Law and Order Sector actors to impart knowledge, skills, and influence change of attitude in order to promote human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and administration of justice. She has worked with Amnesty International Netherlands, the World Bank, UNHCR, UNFPA, and UNDP among others. She is a trainer with rich experience in curriculum development and production of training manuals on gender-based violence, and an international legal expert who has significantly contributed to enactment of legislation and jurisprudence both at the national level in the Republic of Uganda; and at the regional in the East African Community and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) on Women Peace and Security issues. Her Honor has a track record for successfully challenging laws and practices that perpetuate abuse of rights and discriminate against women in the Constitutional Court of Uganda which resulted in jurisprudence that promotes human rights, gender equality and engendered law reform that equality of persons before the law. In addition to these various areas of expertise and policy and legislative successes, she is an avid writer on human rights and gender equality; a columnist for the New Vision Newspaper, a daily in Uganda; developed and published several information, education and communication materials as well as articles in journals, magazines, books such as 'Voices of African Women' authored by Johanna Bond and originally published in 2005.

Noel Rodney Komunda, Ministry of Energy & Mineral Development

Noel Komunda currently works as a Gender and Social Development Specialist for World Bank projects in the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Government of Uganda.

At the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Noel worked as a Project Coordinator for the Rapid Social Response Project for addressing the child abuse and gender based violence issues that had affected the infrastructure development road projects by the World Bank. While still at the Ministry, Noel worked with the Department of Gender and Women Affairs. He supported the process for the development of the National Policy and Action Plan for Elimination of Gender Based Violence in Uganda that was launched in 2016.

In 2014, Noel spearheaded the development of the National Gender Based Violence Database (NGBVD), a first system of its kind to record real time cases of GBV across actors nationally. Noel also worked with the GOU Irish Aid Project to address GBV in Busoga region that saw reduction in prevalence of GBV in the region.

Dr. Victoria Flavia Namuggala, Makerere University



Victoria Flavia Namuggala is a Lecturer at the School of Women and Gender Studies, Makerere University. She holds a doctoral degree in Gender Studies from Arizona State University (USA). In her career, she is driven by the desire to make the world a peaceful place for everyone irrespective of gender, race, age, class and nationality among other intersecting identity markers. In her work she draws on various disciplines including international relations, peace and conflict studies, cultural studies, childhood studies, indigenous and, women and gender studies. These inform each other to provide a better understanding of the complexities evident in human lived realities. She identifies as a “scholar activist” who prioritizes policy reform and transformation both locally and internationally, with an overarching goal for social justice. She advocates for equality and inclusion through self-identification and definition through deconstructionist approaches and frameworks. She has widely researched and published centering marginalized categories especially in situations of distress including child labor, forced displacement situations, conflict resolution and management.