



EMPOWERING CHILDREN'S AGENCY AND RESILIENCE DURING CRISIS

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION
FUND (CRVPF)

Resilience and response during COVID-19



OUR MISSION

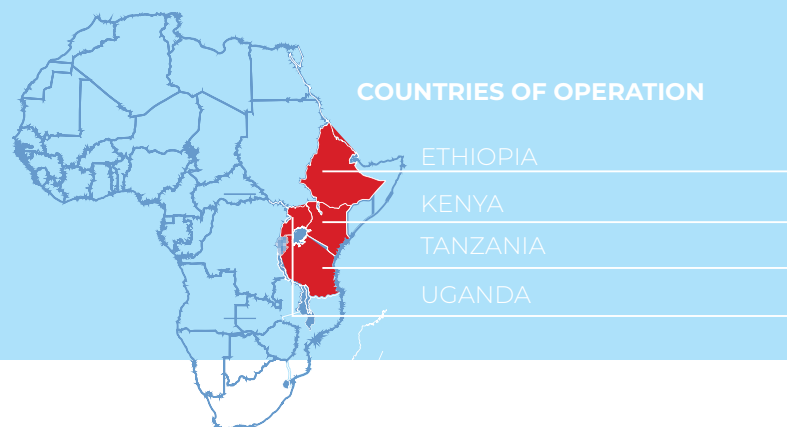
We are advancing the safety and rights of children and adolescents by creating safe and empowering environments for children and adolescent girls.

OUR PRINCIPLES: CHILDREN'S RIGHTS / VIOLENCE IS PREVENTABLE / LISTENING TO COMMUNITIES / COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP / EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS / AUTHENTIC PARTNERSHIPS / COLLECTIVE ACTION

Children's Rights and Violence Prevention Fund (CRVPF) is a regional child right and social justice gorganization, supporting community action to prevent violence against children and adolescents. We provide grants and capacity development support to community organizations and local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia.

CRVPF Programs

- Prevention of Violence Against Children and Adolescents
- Adolescent Girls Power Building Program
- Youth and Capacity Development Program



Foreword

It has been a year of great challenge and interesting new norms that have helped us discover both our strengths and weaknesses.

However, what is most important is that our partner organizations continued to remain committed to their work with children, adolescents and their families in communities. Our partners were creative, innovative, flexible and stood their ground in spite of the disruptions in their work. They found solutions, they leveraged the collective experience of cluster members

and significantly, learned to maximize the use of web-based virtual applications to maintain communication and a level of connectedness.

Therefore, the focus of this annual report is largely around our COVID-19 response and the new insights we have gained that will drive mind shift change in program design and development, monitoring, evaluation and learning so that we are using field-based practice to do the best good for communities.

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Looking forward, we are adapting to the new normal while simultaneously eager to strengthen the capacity of partners and ourselves to implement a learning agenda that helps us all frame our interventions using the best available evidence.

We are thankful to the community leaders for their strategic partnerships that helped to sustain partner presence in communities as well as

the key role that local leaders play in ensuring goodwill, buy-in and sustainable development so that communities continue to benefit beyond project life cycles.

We remain grateful to our funders who have been supportive and have committed to support us to continue to do the good work of creating violence free communities.

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ROBUST RESPONSES TO THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

The global COVID-19 pandemic was particularly devastating in less developed countries, reversing years of progress; CRVPF has been developing responses that can build the resilience of families to thrive and adjust to the new challenges triggered by COVID-19.

02

PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS

CRVPF VAC prevention program in 2020 planned to address the risks and protective factors through grant making and capacity development to community organizations and national NGOs in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Ethiopia; however, the plan was affected by the outbreak of COVID-19.

03

ADOLESCENT GIRLS POWER PROGRAM

CRVPF empowers adolescent girls to add a critical voice to the gender equality movement by advocating for the end of discrimination against girls and women which is often manifested through denying them fundamental rights and subjecting them to multiple forms of violence.

04

YOUTH AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

With funding from the Mastercard Foundation, CRVPF is implementing a two-year program to develop the capacity of up to 80 community organisations and local NGOs led by women and youth to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 in refugee settlements and host communities.

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MEET THE WOMEN WHO ARE MAKING THE CONNECTIONS

Stories from the women at the helm of organizations that are helping communities connect to transform their livelihoods even in adverse circumstances.

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BUILDING EVIDENCE FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

An overview of efforts to improve the monitoring, evaluation and learning framework of CRVPF and partners

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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Annual expense report: January to December 2020

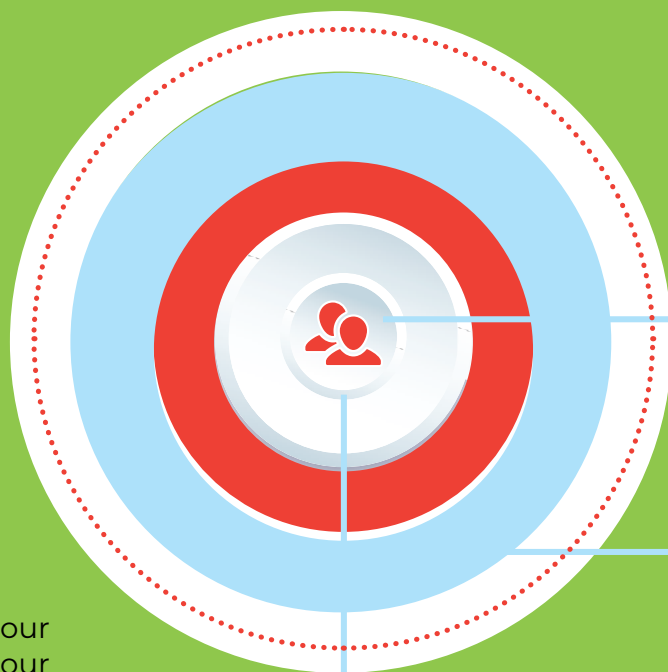
OUR APPROACH

CRVPF partners with 96 community organizations and local NGOs that work with children, adolescents, families and communities using the Cluster Approach.



We learn with our partners and leverage our insights and the growing evidence base to influence policy and practice on violence prevention and investments to support children, adolescent girls and families.

Clusters connect across the region to create a network of networks to work on the root causes of violence.



Clusters are at the heart of the work of CRVPF. A cluster comprises 2-5 partner organizations working in the same geographical area with focus areas that are likely to complement each other.

Cluster partnerships develop intervention activities in one selected project area.



WHY THE CLUSTER APPROACH WORKS

- ▶ Collective action is stronger than individual efforts as clusters leverage collective knowledge, skills, reach, and experience of each partner to implement more sustainable, locally-owned interventions.
- ▶ Collective reflection on lessons learned provides a greater volume of insights for improved programming.
- ▶ Clusters allow for more responsible and optimal use of funding due to collaboration and joint accountability.

Our Theory of Change

Creating a safe and nurturing environment for children and adolescents results from interactions between three sub-systems: family and community; deep social norms and power and policy. We achieve this change through:

Building agency of individuals and change in the relationships and patterns of interaction among children, adolescents and adults within families, the community, and local institutions like schools

A shift in the social norms that legitimize and perpetuate violence

An enabling policy and power environment which provides access to resources and opportunities.



Strategic Programming Focus

Prevention of Violence against Children and Adolescents

We focus on the prevention of violence against children (VAC) by working with families to enhance parenting skills and practices, improve spousal relationships and increase household income; and we work with schools to create good school environments and address social norms within communities.

Adolescent Girls Power Building Program

We support adolescent girls to interact with and engage in dialogue with actors that influence the structures that deny them choice and power so that they are equipped to make life decisions that help them reach their full potential.

Youth and Capacity Development Program

We build the capacity of community organizations led by female and youth to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 in slum areas, refugee settlements and host communities.



01

ROBUST RESPONSES TO COVID-19 DISRUPTIONS

Although the outbreak of COVID-19 has had a devastating effect globally, the greatest impact has been felt in vulnerable communities where unsurmountable socio-economic challenges have arisen exacerbating the stress of coping with daily life. Unfairly, children have been at the receiving end of this predicament, facing unprecedented levels of violence as nonprofit organizations, allies to their schools and communities, faced nationwide lock-downs and were unable to continue in their violence prevention work.

During the first few months of the lock-down in East Africa and Ethiopia, CRVPF conducted a rapid assessment survey to understand how cluster members, were coping and innovating to mitigate the COVID-19 disruptions to their work with children, families and communities.

Child marriage and sexual exploitation

“The effect is big in our nomadic communities, children are not at school and this will affect adolescent girls. I don't think that they will come back to school. Teenage pregnancy will increase and early marriage. This is the time for secret FGM at home and it is hard to track because of the pandemic. Before the pandemic my office would receive 3 to 4 pregnancy cases every three months, what about now when girls are at home?”

-Tinga Tinga And Senya Community Leader
(Tanzania)

“As we are talking now, three school girls within my neighborhood are pregnant within this short time that they've been out of school.”

-Community Leader, Mathere (Kenya)



▶ Main causes of violence in homes and communities during COVID-19

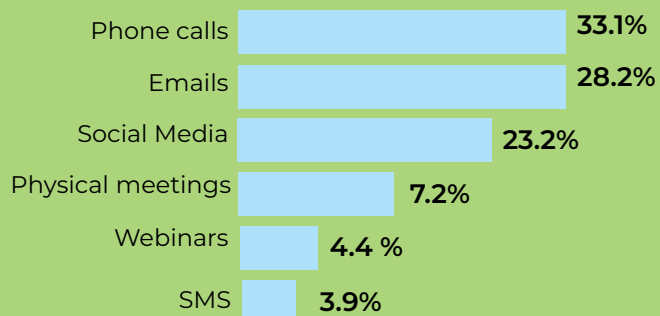
- Increased costs of basic household needs and reduced incomes
- Parental and spousal disagreements due to lack of basic needs which affects the ability to communicate effectively
- Absence and neglect of caregivers due to increased focus on securing basic needs which leaves children vulnerable to child labour, sexual exploitation, and assault
- Idleness and lack of activities for both children and parents due to the lockdown

Physical violence was common in homes and communities with children reporting that parents *transferred their frustration to them in form of physical beating.*



FINDINGS FROM THE CRVPF RAPID ASSESSMENT SURVEY

▶ Mode of communication between cluster members



▶ Experience of violence during COVID 19

89%

of children and adolescents interviewed had heard of or experienced some form of violence within their homes or community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sexual violence was the most commonly reported form of violence in the form of rape, child marriages, sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation.

It was critical for partners to continue communicating in spite of the lock-down in order to develop strategies to provide COVID-19 information integrated with violence prevention messages to communities.

Partners were concerned that children and adolescent girls may not return to school as a result of family poverty, child marriage or choosing to engage in other informal income activities to support their families.



OUR RESPONSE: CHILD SAFEGUARDING DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

A COMMUNITY-LED APPROACH

1

Parents talk about having 'special time' with their children where they used the lock-down period to to guide them in school work revision, farming together and prayer times. By spending more time together, parents and children are communicating better and children are protected from engaging in harmful behaviour or being exposed to older people who can exploit their need for emotional care.

"They used to discipline us regularly but they are now friendly and nice to us, they talk to us well."
-Rosalind, Kenya

2

Community leaders focused on COVID-19 community sensitization in churches, mosques, WhatsApp groups and to create awareness on prevention and adherence to COVID-19 guidelines. Community radio and posters were used to transmit messages and information in local languages for retention and reinforcement of safe behavior both in regards to COVID-19 and prevention of violence

3

Girl-led campaigns were conducted to respond to the effects of COVID-19 on adolescent girls since schools were closed and children stayed at home. The campaigns promoted child safe guarding, love and care for children during the lock-down.

PARTNERS' RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 DISRUPTIONS



Partners focused their resources on adoption of social media communication forums like WhatsApp and Facebook groups for experience sharing on continuity of VAC prevention work. This included staff capacity building to use online platforms like webinars for learning and working remotely from home.



Establishment of an Urgent Action Fund that can be accessed by partners to respond to cases of child abuse including medical treatment and reporting to law enforcement. Partners also requested a no-cost extension as they have not implemented planned projects and not utilized their 2020 budgets.



Violence prevention and refined COVID-19 messages were integrated and translated into local languages for greater relevance to communities and delivered through media campaigns like talk shows where parents and children were able to share their stories.



The assessment also showed that many families and young people lost their small businesses as a result of COVID-19. CRVPF requested partners to identify families and youth and provided them financial support in early January/ February 2021. We trained local structures on supporting families and communities in case management, referral processes and use of platforms like community loudspeakers for awareness and sensitization.

"With the suspension of parents' weekly learning meetings, we could not reach parents to share with them parenting tips and on how to avoid Violence Against Children, especially with the increased stress brought by the outbreak of COVID-19. However, the radio spot messages have been very useful and communities are appreciating a lot"

-Executive Director, Agape for Hope, Uganda

Long-term strategies for COVID-19 response

CRVPF plans to collaborate with researchers and research institutions to understand the impact of the challenges children, adolescent girls, boys, and their families in order to develop strategies for stabilizing household socio-economic well-being.

Work with partners to review their child safeguarding policies to respond to the new realities for children, adolescent girls, and boys during and after COVID-19.

Screenshot of Girl Power Team WhatsApp interactions





02

PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

In 2020, CRVPF violence prevention programs were developed to address violence against children (VAC) risks and protective factors through grant making and capacity development to community organizations and national NGOs in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Ethiopia. The program focused on six outcomes:

- Safe school environments
- Strengthened families built by positive parenting and good spousal relationships
- Increased access to financial services
- Access to safe spaces for children and adolescents to build their confidence and resilience
- Improved partner capacity to design, implement and monitor VAC prevention programs
- Strengthened capacity of formal and informal structures to create safe, supportive environments

HOW OUR GRANT-MAKING IS SUPPORTING PREVENTION OF VAC

We trained 444 teachers to foster safe school environments, tackle sexual, physical and emotional violence in all its forms, and mobilize other teachers to nurture resilience and agency of children and supported **5,535 children to participate in child-friendly activities**.

The introduction of the **indigenous, evidence-based, Parenting for Respectability Program** to 361 community-based facilitators supported them to address parenting and spousal relationship challenges that perpetuate violence against children. **The parenting groups formed (135) as a result, are now holding weekly learning sessions** using this program.

In order to boost household incomes, CRVPF enabled 2,720 parents to join village savings and loans associations to increase family access to much needed lending and saving instruments.

TANZANIA
2 clusters (7 organizations)

KENYA
1 cluster (2 organizations)

ETHIOPIA
1 cluster (3 organizations)

39
Partner
organizations
supported

UGANDA
9 clusters (27 organizations)

Grants disbursed (USD\$)

TOTAL: USD 738,209

UGANDA USD 629,171

TANZANIA USD 100,000

KENYA USD 5,890

ETHIOPIA USD 3,148

HOW OUR GRANT-MAKING IS SUPPORTING PREVENTION OF VAC

Networking and coordination among partner organizations and within clusters was nurtured to ensure partner interventions are well-coordinated and create greater impact while minimizing duplication of resources. These coordination efforts were continued virtually when the COVID-19 pandemic ensued.

We supported 3,678 parents to actively participate or complete the minimum modules on parenting and spousal relationships which challenge harmful parenting social norms and simultaneously build positive norms like encouraging girls to stay in schools rather than engaging in early marriage and its negative effects.

When Fathers Get Involved

Muhindo Jeremiah, 32 years, had never sat down to eat supper with his wife and two children as he always returned home late.

“After farming in the field I would go to the trading center until late at night and I did not play or talk to my children. I was harsh and my language of talking to children was the stick and abusive words. My children and my wife feared me and never came near me.

During one of the parenting training sessions we discussed the benefits of fathers' involvement in parenting and the father's legacy. I began to understand the importance and value of spending enough time with my children as it helps in building strong bonds between me and my children. I realized that it would also help me to detect and address harmful behavior in my children.

The outbreak of COVID-19 limited movement and led to closure of schools which gave me the opportunity to spend more time with my children at home. I started applying and practicing the skills from the parents' groups learning meetings. For example, I now make sure that even when I go out, I come early at home and I play with the children, share stories and work with them.

This togetherness has increased harmony at home, we eat together, discuss and plan together as a family. I support my wife to ensure that the children's hygiene is good to prevent them from falling sick. I have learned more about my children, their strengths and weaknesses and now I know how to support them. I encourage fathers to participate and get involved in parenting and get close to their children; it is very rewarding.”

Kibalinga Cluster-Mubende District



BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARTNERS TO BUILD EVIDENCE FOR PROGRAMMING

In order to support community-led, collaborative interventions, partners were trained in collective monitoring, evaluation and learning to inform the redevelopment of their monitoring and evaluation plans. The training also focused on refining partner goal setting, objectives/outcomes and key activities planned for implementation.

This has strengthened partners' capacities for undertaking monitoring and evaluation activities to support data-backed implementation that addresses the true needs of communities.



WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

Flexibility and adapting were increasingly important during the COVID-19 pandemic; for example, the program encouraged staff to work from home and virtually using multiple web-based platforms.

The program also adjusted the activities of partners to respond to child safeguarding issues emerging as result of COVID-19. This targeted response to the most critical needs in communities has ensured that partners remain relevant and responsive to communities.



LOOKING FORWARD: 2021 PLANS

- Plans to provide grants to 30 organizations in 10 clusters in Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia
- Organize reflection meetings at the Country level and cluster level
- Continue with capacity development and support
- Carry out monitoring and supervision visits
- Promote CRVPF child safeguarding policy

The total grant making budget for VAC programs is estimated at US\$ 1,200,000



03

ADOLESCENT GIRLS' POWER PROGRAM

The research on violence against children fails to give full consideration to the differences in risk and experience of violence faced by adolescent girls and boys, as compared to younger children. When programs focus on youth as a group, they fail to consider differences in experiences across genders. Similarly, research on violence against women often neglects to recognize the specific risks that adolescent girls face. As a result of the lack of a gender and age perspective, the specific needs and vulnerabilities of adolescent girls often remain invisible when programs and policies to end violence against children and women are designed. (Patton et al., 2012)

CRVPF empowers adolescent girls to add a critical voice to the gender equality movement by advocating for the end of discrimination against girls and women which is often manifested through denying them fundamental rights and subjecting them to multiple forms of violence.

3 THINGS WE DID AROUND POWER BUILDING FOR GIRLS

The Adolescent Girls' Power program partners conducted baseline studies to gain a clear understanding of critical issues related to girls. The data was collected from adolescent girls between the ages of 15-19 and parents with female children. Additionally, focus group discussions were conducted with parents, community leaders and adolescent girls to deepen understanding of the issues.

Created **74 safe spaces** and supportive environments

Established in communities and schools, safe spaces host helpful social networks and provide girls with a safe entry point for life-saving services, information and engage in sports and other recreation.

Increased knowledge on **life skills and financial literacy**

CRVPF is developing a life skills and financial literacy manual which will be used for training girls at the safe space which was informed by the power analysis and baseline survey. The modules include confidence-building, financial literacy and ending gender-based violence.

Increase knowledge for stakeholders and power influencers

Community entry meetings were conducted with community leaders to explain the program activities, obtain community leaders' ideas and support and goodwill for the program.



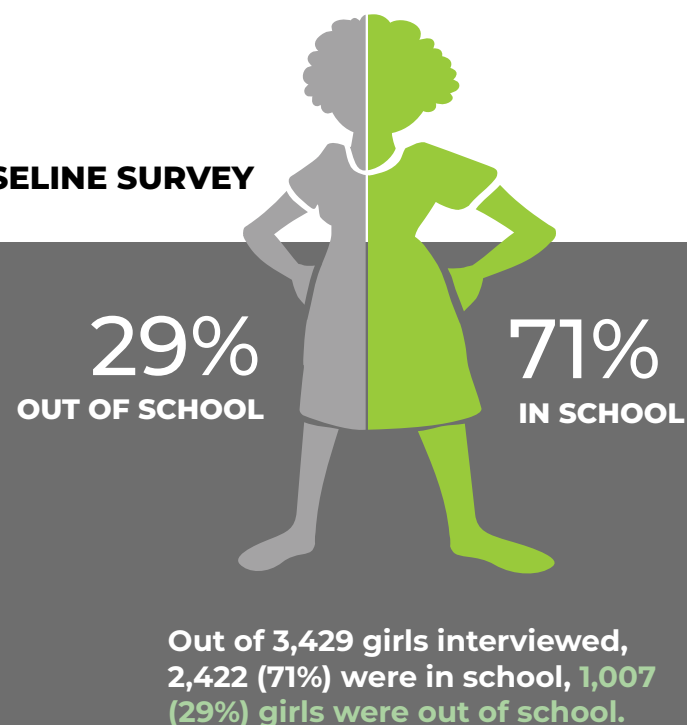
FINDINGS FROM THE 2020 BASELINE SURVEY

On average, girls were married at 16 years of age.

The highest proportion **(35%) of those out of school had dropped out in upper primary level.**

6.8 % of girls gave birth between the ages of 10-14.

37% of girls commonly meet to give counsel to one another; 18% talk about sex education topics.



UTILIZATION OF SAFE SPACES

Safe spaces are managed by leaders and mentors selected by girls to oversee activities of the safe spaces. Training for leaders on the safe space focuses on:

- Identifying girls' safe spaces
- The activities to be done
- How to conduct community meetings, campaigns and dialogs
- How to maintain registers
- Roles and the key responsibilities of mentors



ADOLESCENT GIRLS' PARTICIPATION IN COVID-19 RESPONSE

- **Radio programs** were used in Dar-es-Salaam where adolescent girls participated in 10 different radio programs.
- In Uganda, 13 **local community radios (megaphones)** were used to discuss violence against girls which was increasing according to the CRVPF COVID-19 survey. Two permanent megaphones were placed in two sub counties to ensure continuity of discussions through the program cycle.
- **WhatsApp social groups** were formed to discuss issues related to mental health, teenage pregnancy, child marriage and sexual violence due to their increased prevalence during the lock-down. This was an effective alternative to physical meetings that were restricted during the pandemic.

ADVOCACY MESSAGES FOR BUILDING GIRLS' AGENCY

- Cluster partners commemorated the Day of the Girl Child by bringing girls together to celebrate and exchange experiences. Different stakeholders were invited to attend where they committed to support girls advancement.

Girls' recommendations for their voices to be heard:

- Establishing girls' parliaments where girls can contribute to the formulation of by-laws at community level.
- Conduct a girls' camp where girls can meet other beneficiaries of the program to learn and share.
- The '*End Violence, Build Power*' campaign expresses girls' concerns in a multi-lingual song (English, Swahili and Amharic) which focuses on issues affecting adolescent girls across the region and encourages key influencers to advocate for more power for adolescent girls.



Looking forward in 2021: The Program plans to provide second year grants to 31 partners organized in 10 clusters in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia . The grant budget will be US\$ 800,000.

Song composed by girls during the “End Violence Build Power” campaign

“The female voice and active involvement in decision making at different levels, is a concern to the entire world, within our families our schools and communities.

Girls are silenced and have been discriminated against for generations with no opportunity for their voice to be heard.

Don’t wait for anyone, it starts with you, to stop the violence and say no more, no no no no more, ending violence, building power for adolescent girls.”

04

YOUTH AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

With funding from the Mastercard Foundation, CRVPF is implementing a two-year program to build the capacity of up to 80 community organizations and NGOs led by female and youth to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 in refugee settlements and refugee host communities. We plan to reach out to young people especially adolescent girls in slum communities affected by COVID-19. The program will reach 40,000 adolescent girls in slums and refugee settlements in Uganda, by December 2022.

The thematic areas being tackled by partners are:

- Vocational skills/life skills/formal education
- Social Justice/Human Rights/Litigation
- Village Savings and Loans Associations/Micro-Credit/Business Training/Start-up Capital
- Livelihoods/Agriculture
- Sexual Reproductive Health/Gender-Based Violence
- Safe Spaces/Girls clubs/School Clubs

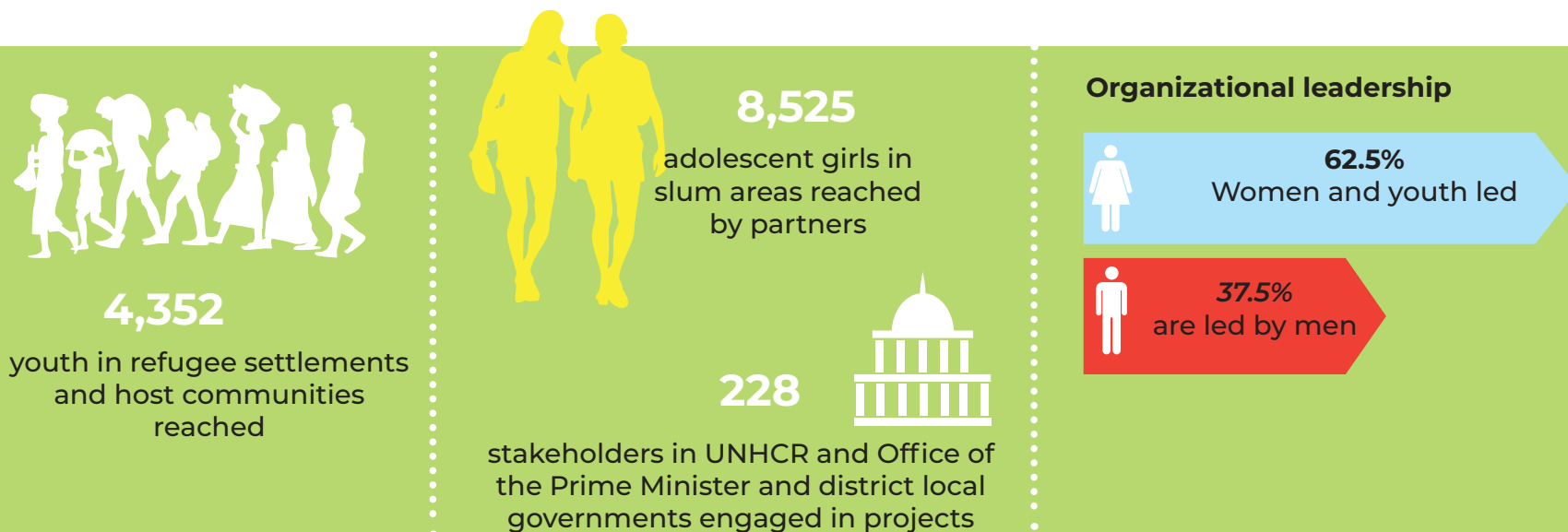
EMERGING SUCCESSES

Despite being a new approach to several organizations, partners have embraced the cluster partnership approach **as an opportunity and platform to learn, share experiences, collaborate, expand their geographical reach** and amplify their work among the communities, decision makers and other civil society platforms.

The story of resilience among youth during the pandemic is not homogeneous as evidenced in the proposed interventions which range from human rights, social justice, technical skilling and awareness creation among others. CRVPF will capture and amplify all these unique and diverse stories as the partners implement their proposed interventions.

CRVPF has noted that **partners are making deliberate efforts to utilize existing community structures** like Village Health Teams, Community Health Workers, paralegals, Youth Collectives, VSLAs, and Savings and Credit Associations, among others. This has enhanced ownership of and adaptation to program initiatives by the community, stakeholders, and beneficiaries.

Over 90% of the partner's projects have two or more themes which implies that they are taking a more holistic approach to ensure the recovery and resilience of youth in refugee settlements, host communities, and adolescent girls in slum communities from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.



WHY OUR WORK MATTERS: GIVING GIRLS HOPE TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

TRANSFORMING THE LIVELIHOODS OF GIRLS THROUGH VOCATIONAL SKILLS

When 19 year old Victoria was sent away from her home for having a second child and dropping out of school, she moved to her partner's house; however, they were both unemployed. Together with other teenage mothers, they formed *Twesige Mukama* group and became beneficiaries in the *Youth Empowerment and Health Initiative Project* implemented by Arise Integrated Development Efforts (AIDE) with support from CRVPF.

The 18 girls received training in village savings and loans association (VSLA) setup, methodology, group dynamics, business and a VSLA saving kit. AIDE is supporting the group to register with sub-county and the district to benefit from other government programs, especially the Youth Livelihood Program.

Nakafeero and other girls happily attend their tailoring skills classes, and together with her partner, they have started a roadside snacks business from a small loan they got from AIDE.

"I hope to use the tailoring skills to work and make money to earn a living and also to take care of my child," says Victoria.



Adolescent being enrolled as a project beneficiary in Mukono / Photo credit. AIDE



Looking forward in 2021: The Program plans to provide grants to 35 community organizations working in refugee, host and slum communities. The budget is estimated at US\$ 550,000.

HOW PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT AND GIRLS' CLUBS IN REFUGEE SETTLEMENTS ARE ENABLING A SAFE SPACE FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS TO SPEAK UP

Shadia Bako is a member of one of the girls' clubs formed in Lira district with support from Children Rights and Violence Prevention Fund. Shadia recalls how her stepmother often physically, verbally and emotionally abused her. The abuse included name-calling Shadia, starving and torturing her, and sent her to the shops in wee hours of the night which often put her in harm's way. Her stepmother also considered education as useless for girls often intimidating her to get married or find a boyfriend to take care of her needs.

When Shadia joined the club they provided psycho-social support and counseling sessions, life skills training, and menstrual hygiene management. Her step mother's attitude has since changed and she has paid school fees for Shadia.

Shadia's dream is to become a social worker. Through the girls' club Shadia has hopes of achieving her career dream because she has learned to speak out and to say no to violence and early marriages.



Shadia Bako, an adolescent girl who has been supported to resume school in Lira. Photo credit: FIDRA, BDI & SOHURA



Top, an adolescent girl practices her tailoring skills; Left, adolescent girls attending a VSLA meeting. Photo credit: AIDE





05 **WOMEN CONNECT:** LEADERS MAKING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



FOR THE RIGHTS OF DOMESTIC WORKERS

ANGELA BENEDICTO is the Executive Director of WoteSewa an organization started and run by former domestic workers in Tanzania. She has been working with CRVPF in Mwanza, Tanzania.

Within its cluster the organization tackles domestic workers' abuse and exploitation through awareness raising, rescue, sheltering and reintegration of the victims.

Wotesewa empowers current and former Child Domestic Workers to understand, safeguard, promote and reinforce their rights in Tanzania through legal and economic empowerment, child abuse monitoring, psychosocial support and policy reforms in conformity to national and international child welfare standards.

Because of her work, Angela has received awards both locally and globally including "The Queen's Young Leaders Award" by Her Majesty the Queen of England in 2015, Superhero by Terres Des Homme in 2020 and honored as a Human Trafficking First Responder by Lawyers Without Borders.



DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

PRIMA KWAGALA, is an avid worker in refugee settlements in Uganda. She vividly recalls as a young girl being thrown out of their home by family relatives because her mother had given birth to only girls. This traumatic childhood experience birthed the dream to form an organization that would provide free legal representation to women unable to afford legal services.

In 2018, she founded Women's Probono Initiative (WPI) in Uganda which has reduced child marriages, conducted anti-human trafficking campaigns, and helped families retrieve the bodies of women laborers trafficked to work in foreign countries. The organization is advocating for laws to regulate labor externalization firms that often abuse vulnerable women and girls' rights. During the COVID-19 crisis, WPI opened toll free lines that women call for emergency legal support to challenge convictions and prison sentences. WPI is also currently advocating for food aid and shelter for vulnerable women and the lifting of the ban on movement of women and girls seeking emergency health care support.



INCREASING ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS

PETRONILLA MARIA NZOMO, works in Kilifi County, Kenya. She started Pad a dada (pads for sisters) in 2014 while still in school to be able to help other girls and herself. By doing simple after-school jobs like washing clothes and making snacks, Petronilla was able to save some money to make the pads.

"After I completed high school I realized that access to menstrual products was a very common challenge for girls everywhere. I started the Pad a dada campaign through Facebook friends where my network grew and I was able to lobby for pads and pass on information related to menstrual health and hygiene. With all the support received from different friends, a road map was designed to have pads distributed in different schools especially for those that had no access completely."

Today, Pad a dada is registered as a CBO with three full time staff and volunteers and continues to distribute menstrual hygiene products to girls in Kilifi County, Kenya.

06 BUILDING EVIDENCE FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

“How do we tell our program is a success/ has made the desired change in the lives of children, adolescent girls, youth, and women?”

To answer this question, CRVPF developed Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning frameworks for three programs, which specified the most significant changes that each program hopes to achieve to when and how the data would be collected to this effect. For each program, the framework works as a guide that gives direction to implementation efforts.

Capacity strengthening on MEL

- Support participants' understanding of the value of MEL for their collective work in the cluster partnership while reducing the fears and uncertainty associated with monitoring, evaluation, and learning;
- Strengthen participants' capacities for undertaking MEL activities in a way that supports community-led work and a collaborative, co-learning approach
- Support partners in reviewing and strengthening their MEL frameworks.

IDENTIFIED FACTORS PROMOTING EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERVENTION PROGRAMS:

- Multi-layered approaches that target combinations of risk factors
- Holistic change that encourages positive change in cultural and inherited norms across society
- Facilitating increased consciousness through reflection, critical analysis and skill acquisition for long-term context dependent impact
- Stakeholder ownership and influence that lends social capital to the cause to improve immediate and long-term impact
- Clarity of purpose and successful outcomes
- Rigorous program design that allows for meaningful quantification of impact

OUR NEXT STEPS: INTERNAL CAPACITY FOR EXCELLENCE

We shall be focusing on developing a learning agenda which will create a framework, structure and process for learning. As a result, what is known and held implicitly by individuals will be shared by the collective.

We shall also continue providing mentorship to our partners, develop a database that will ease information flow to and from our partners. Develop a learning agenda that will enable our partners fill capacity gaps. Monitor the changes as they happen within communities, schools and families, evaluate, learn, share, and improve continuously to achieve our goal.

07 FINANCIAL SUMMARY: ANNUAL EXPENSE REPORT

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2020

1%: Equipment and capital expenditure
(USD\$20,179.74)

2%: Travel and conferences
(USD\$35,995.99)

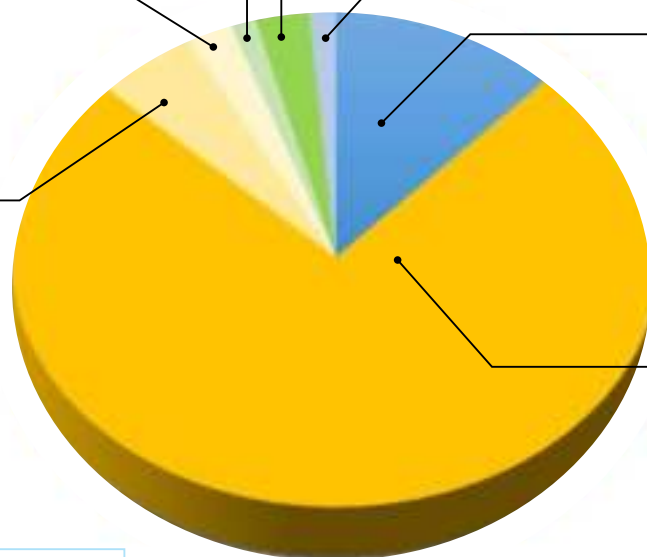
5%: Consultants and other
contracted services
(USD \$80,428.95)

3%: Other direct costs
(USD\$ 42,196.92)

1%: Indirect overhead
(USD\$ 20,845.33)


11%: Staff salaries and related charges
(USD\$ 182,903.00)

76%: Grant making and partners
capacity building (USD\$ 1,172,324.75)



Note: The majority of partners did not utilize the 2020 budget due to COVID-19 and requested CRVPF for a no-cost extension. They expect to use the budget by mid-2021.

TOTAL BUDGET
USD\$ 1,554,874.68



Girls read their recommendations during the 16 Days of Activism in Ethiopia

w HIV infections

slumbwa

Safe spaces in all countries of operation provide girls opportunities to discuss issues that are close to their hearts, share solutions, and receive mentorship and guidance, information and referrals from adult leaders



[Click here to find more information about our work, our progress
and our plans](#)

OUR PARTNERS



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“Ensuring children and adolescent girls are safe and empowered where they live, learn, play and work”

