2014 ANNUAL REPORT



FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI) is an independent, non-governmental, non-partisan and not-for-profit human rights organisation. Established in 1991, FHRI is legally registered as a non-governmental organization under the Non-Governmental Organizations Registration (Amendment Act) 2006. It is duly incorporated under the Companies Act, Cap.110 as a body corporate and incorporated under the Trustees Incorporation Act, Cap.165, Laws of Uganda. The organization seeks to enhance the knowledge, respect and observance of human rights and promotes exchange of information and best practices through training, education, research, legislative advocacy and strategic partnerships in Uganda. FHRI has Observer Status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, is a member of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty and is affiliated to the International Federation of Human Rights Defenders, (FIDH).

FHRI has effectively executed six strategic plans since its inception in 1991. Each of these programs is based on research, monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, human rights education, legislative advocacy and legal aid service delivery. FHRI has been at the fore of the human rights movement in Uganda in the past 22 years through the publication of action oriented research reports, capacity building programs, treaty reporting to regional and UN treaty bodies, campaigns against torture, the death penalty and impunity, electoral reforms, law reform, public interest litigation and provision of legal aid services to the rural and urban poor particularly women and children in hard to reach areas. In addition, FHRI has facilitated the formation of community based human rights groups, sponsored radio and TV talk shows and human rights centred music, dance and drama and established a Human Rights and Democracy Resource Centre to support program implementation.

In 2014, FHRI marked three years in the implementation of its seventh Strategic Plan (2012-2016) titled, *'Bridging Rights and Values: Strengthening the Civic and Democratic Culture in Uganda (2012-2016)'.* This five year program which complements the previous 6th Strategic Plan, seeks to address the democracy and the human rights deficit in Uganda at the policy, legislative and practice levels. The program links human rights and civic values and prioritizes the use of ICTs in human rights advocacy. Uniquely, the program also establishes and spearheads a collaborative framework between civil society and the private sector in order to maximize growth. It has three broad focus themes: social accountability, equality and, democratic governance. Gender, child rights, HIV/AIDS, the elderly, PWDs and minority rights are cross cutting issues in research, legal assistance, policy and legislative review.

FHRI is proud to be associated with a number of implementing partners including: Uganda Prisons Service (UPS), Uganda Police Force (UPF), Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), Parliament of Uganda, Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC), the Justice Law and Order Secretariat (JLOS), the Judicial Studies Institute (JSI), the Directorate of Public Prosecution (DPP), Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Electoral Commission, Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform (UGMP), Children Justice Initiative (CJI), Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN), Coalition Against Torture (CAT), Africa Centre for Treatment of Torture Victims, (ACTV), Wells of Hope, Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF), Kabugo & Co. Advocates, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, NGO Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network Project (EHAHRDP), the Death Penalty Project LTD, FIDH, OMCT, Penal Reform International (PRI), World Movement for Democracy (WMD), Freedom House, World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ – Kenya), Global Rights, International Centre for Not for Profit Law (ICNL), the East Africa Civil Society Forum (EACSOF), Women Leadership Development (WLEDE), the Simmons College School of Social Work (USA), the University of Wyoming (USA), Drake University (USA), Integrity Action (UK), the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), Children Education Society (CHESO) and The Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) both in Tanzania.

FHRI also supports and works with various community based human rights groups such as: Universal Human Rights Defenders and Activists (UHRDA) in Lugazi, Ssese Human Rights and Economic Promoters (SHREP), Hope Orphans and Vulnerable Children Foundation School in Kyenjojo district, Hope After and During Incarceration (MAC) in Entebbe, Voices of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Masaka district, Support the Elderly Persons in Uganda in Masaka district, Human Rights Activists and Monitors (HURAMO) in Amuru district, Community Rural Empowerment and Support Organisation in Gulu district, Koboko Civil Society Network, Soroti Development Association and NGO Network (SODANN), Kamuli District NGO Network (KANENGO), Tororo Civil Society Development Association, National Human Rights Association of Uganda (NHRA) in Tororo, Rwenzori Peace Bridge for Reconciliation (RPBR) in Kasese district, Masindi District NGO Forum, Kalangala Human Rights Defenders, Kalungu Paralegal Association, Sembabule Paralegal Assocation, Human Rights Defenders Masaka, Kumi Human Rights Initiative (KHRI), Pastoral Women Alliance to Break Cultural Chains (PWABCC) in Kiboga district and Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (AHURICA) in Kayunga district. Other groups are Women's Initiative for Development and Paralegal Activities Association in Mukono, Human Rights Target (HRT) in Luwero district, Youth Revival Association (YRA) in Kampala, Lira Women's Peace Initiative (LIWEPI) and Tweweyo drama group in Luwero district.

As a member of several networks and coalitions, FHRI collaborates with a number of civil society organisations including: Human Rights Network (HURINET), Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations in Uganda (DENIVA), Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN), National Coalition of Human Rights Defenders (NCHRDs), Citizens Election Watch-IT (CEWIT), Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) at the School of Law, Makerere University, Platform for Labour Action (PLA), Uganda Land Alliance (ULA), Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF), Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), the Uganda Journalists Human Rights Network (UJHRN), Uganda Parliamentary Press Association (UPPA), Uganda Media Development Foundation (UMDF), Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC), Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF), Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), FIDA-Uganda, Uganda Women's Network (UWONET), Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum in Kampala (HRAPF), National Coalition Against the Death Penalty in Uganda, East African Coalition Against the Death penalty, Refugee Law Project (RLP), Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda (ACCU), the Strengthening Access to Justice – Uganda Chapter (SAJEA), Uganda Coalition on Transitional Justice (UCTJ) and the Human Rights Centre Uganda (HRCU).

Within the framework of the newly established Civil Society-Private-Public Sector Forum (CS-P-PSF), FHRI collaborates with a number of private and public sector institutions including: the National Planning Authority (NPA), National Social Security Fund (NSSF), Embassy of the Republic of Korea, World Bank, Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU), Crown Beverages Ltd, United Bank for Africa (UBA), Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE),

Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA), Uganda Small Scale Industries (USSIA) and Uganda Insurers' Association (UIA).

The University Human Rights Network which was initiated by FHRI in 2006 now has a total of 36 human rights associations including: Busoga University, Ndejje University, International University of East Africa, Livingstone International University, Uganda Martyrs University -Nkozi, Makerere University Business School, Kampala International University (Kansanga), Bugema University (Luweero), Nkumba University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Christian University (Mukono), Gulu University, Mbarara university of Science and Technology, the Islamic University in Uganda (Kaboja), Cavendish University, Mutesa I Royal University, Bugema University (Mbale), Mountains of the Moon University (Fort Portal), Islamic University IUIU (Mbale), Uganda Pentecostal University (Fort Portal), St. Lawrence University, Kumi University, Busitema University, Uganda Martyrs University (Mbale), Uganda Christian University (Arua), Kabale University, Kuluva School of Nursing (Arua), Tertiary Institutions Students' Association (LASA-Joint), Kampala University (Ggaba), National Technical College Unyama (Gulu), Bishop Stuart University (Mbarara), Mbale School of Clinical Officers, Nyondo Primary Teachers Training College Tororo, Core Primary Teachers' Training College (Bushenyi), Uganda College of Commerce (Tororo) and, Kampala University (Jinja).

The print and electronic media are key partners. These include: CBS FM, Super FM, Radio One, Radio Simba, KFM, Vision Voice, Sanyu FM, Prime Radio, Capital FM, Radio Sapientia, Voice of Teso, Dembe FM, Top Radio, Power FM, Joy FM, Radio West, Radio Buddu, Radio Equator, Kiboga Radio, Kalangala Community Radio, Voice of Africa, BBC, UBC, WBS, NTV, NBS, Urban TV, Top TV and Record TV among others.

Newspapers that have supported the campaign include: The New Vision, Daily Monitor, The Weekly Observer, Bukedde, The East African, Reuters, The Independent Magazine, Red Pepper, among others.

FHRI receives financial support for its programs from foundations, individuals and donor agencies that have interest in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Civil Society Private Sector Forum (CS-P-PSF) is supported by civil society, private and public sector institutions.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) is grateful to the following organisations that have supported the implementation of our 7th Strategic Plan (2012-2016).

- British High Commission/UK Foreign and Common Wealth Office (FCO)
- Citizens Elections Watch with Information Technology (CEW-IT)
- Democratic Governance Facility (DGF)
- European Union (EU)
- Freedom House under the USAID Rights and Rule of Law Program
- Integrity Action (UK)
- International Commission of Jurists (Kenya Section)
- National Endowment for Democracy (NED)
- Penal Reform International (PRI)
- Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
- USAID – Supporting Access to Justice, Fostering Equity and Peace (SAFE)

Special thanks go to the World Bank, Embassy of the Republic of South Korea, National Social Security Fund (NSSF), National Planning Authority (NPA) and Crown Beverages Ltd for the support during the Annual Socio- Economic Summit in 2014. St. Lawrence University is acknowledged in a special way for hosting the 7th Annual Inter-University Human Rights Competition.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Rev. Dr. John Kateeba Tumwine
Chairperson, FHRI Board of Directors

It is indeed with great honour that I present to you, the Annual Report of our great organisation, Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (the voice of the voiceless) for the period ended 31st December 2014.

On behalf of all FHRI members and friends, I present this report as a way of giving accountability to all members, partners, the communities with whom we serve and indeed the general public both in Uganda and beyond.

We see this as an opportunity to take stock of the work we have diligently undertaken, the resources both financial and human that we have utilized and the challenges we have faced during the period under review.

FHRI has implemented 6 strategic plans since its inception in 1991. Each of the plans has had a program focus with components on research and human rights monitoring, civic education, legislative analysis, advocacy and legal aid services. More recent programs include the Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU). I am heartily proud of our past successes.

Unfortunately, research by FHRI and other organisations shows little progress in the improvement of the human rights situation in Uganda. The increasing poverty levels, lack of a level playing field for political competition, increased land disputes, the threat on media freedom and judicial independence, limited access to justice, the challenge of increasing impunity amongst our leaders, threats to children's rights and mob justice, among others are some of the struggles.

FHRI has constantly with all diligence responded to these issues, through a variety of programmatic approaches outlined in this report. FHRI has indeed endeavoured to keep human rights high on the agenda within public and private spheres in 2014.

At the institutional level, we have had the Annual General Meeting and regular Board of Directors' meetings in accordance with our Constitution. We established a think-tank group – the Working group, comprising eminent and credible leaders who are passionate about human rights. This bolstered the institutional capability to fulfil our mandate. We thank each one of them for their commitment.

The FHRI Board invested in policy formulation, human resource empowerment and protection of the credibility of the FHRI name in the country and beyond. We are proud of the leadership of Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana and congratulate him upon earning a PhD from the prestigious University of Cape Town, South Africa. All other staff is encouraged to *fata nyayo* – *follow the footsteps.*

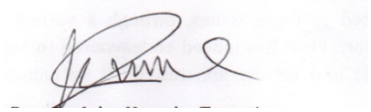
Like in all previous annual reports, this one highlights several of the key activities undertaken by the organisation during the year. It also documents the impact of our work on human rights in Uganda and East Africa.

Finally, I would like to thank in a special way our development partners for supporting FHRI programs. I also thank individuals especially our Patron for the technical support offered to the organisation. Special thanks to all members of staff, practitioners both here at Nsambya and those spread over the country. We have a total of 104 staff including our paralegals and social workers in the field.

I dedicate this report to our Patron, members, friends, trustees, FHRI Board of Directors, staff, partners and human rights defenders in Uganda, elsewhere for the priceless struggle for justice and peace.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

'TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE'



Rev. Dr. John Kateeba Tumwine
Chairperson, FHRI Board of Directors

FHRI PATRON AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Prof. Dr. Justice George Kanyeihamba
Patron



Rev. Dr. John Kateeba Tumwine
Chairperson



Her Worship Justine Atukwasa
Vice Chairperson



Mr. Adrian Jjuuko
Hon. Secretary



Mr.Davidson Sserunjogi
Treasurer



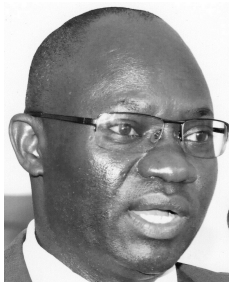
Mr. Celestin O Mugisha
Member



Mr. Edward Peace Obura
Member



Ms. Patricia AtimP'Odong
Member



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Ex-Official

INTRODUCTION

The script on Uganda is akin to other struggling democracies. The developments in 2014 reveal a narrowing of civic space buttressed by a restrictive regulatory framework, a despondent population, a widening gap between the rich and the poor, high poverty levels and weak state institutions. While countries such as ours aspire for economic growth, striking the balance between economic development and respect for human rights is a challenge.

Within this context, in 2014, FHRI championed calls for an accountable, responsive and democratic system as an impetus for balanced growth. In this regard, efforts were made to link human rights to economic empowerment. FHRI engaged with non- traditional structures such as manufacturers, small and medium enterprises, medical workers and associations, teachers' unions, rotary clubs, farmers associations and the transport sector through the newly formed CS-P-PSF. The first ever Annual Social Economic Summit hosted under the auspices of this initiative held on 5th November 2014 at Speke Resort Munyonyo explored areas of mutual interest including the national budget, investment and tax regime, public sector spending, health, education and the environment.

Advocacy and lobbying to open up the political and civic space and guarantee respect for freedoms constituted the second pillar of our undertaking in 2014. As a watchdog, we monitored and exposed abuses perpetuated against citizens through periodic reports and demanded for redress including prosecution, restitution, compensation or administrative action. These actions were taken to give effect to human rights obligations arising out of treaties and conventions to which Uganda is party. These include the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1986), the UN Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (1976), the Cotonou Agreement (2003), the East African Community Treaty (2000), the Protocol establishing the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (1998) and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (2002). FHRI and other civil society groups invited the US Government to subject all trade agreements with African states to a strict human rights audit during the US-Africa leaders' Summit held in Washington D.C in August 2014.

During the year, a series of capacity building activities were held to build the civic competence of the population to demand for change. The beneficiaries hailed from the districts of Lugazi, Kayunga, Luwero, Masaka and Kampala.

By the end of 2014, 36 institutions of higher learning had wholly embraced, facilitated and taken ownership of the University Human Rights Network (UHRN). The network is a product of the FHRI university outreach program that seeks to support upcoming human rights defenders in Uganda. The UHRN empowers students to advocate for change in their communities and the wider society.

The FHRI legal services program took a two track approach to increase access to justice. Legal aid services were extended to cover more districts to including Kampala, Kiboga, Wakiso, Kalangala, Masaka, Jinja, Kibaale and Bundibugyo. FHRI, through the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), advocated for the establishment of a National Legal Aid Scheme.

The legal aid program received 6,638 clients (2,885 male and 3,753 female) and completed 66% of the cases. The clients obtained various forms of redress and benefited from a range of services such as court representation, mediation, counselling, the toll free facility and referral to partner organisations. The legal aid program in partnership with the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) at the School of Law, Makerere University, Public Defender Rescue Foundation (PDRF) and Catholic Lawyers Society conducted human rights awareness sessions.

The National Paralegal Advisory Services (PAS) which promotes the understanding of basic principles and procedures of the criminal justice system, expanded to 11 districts (Kampala, Mbale, Bushenyi, Jinja, Fort Portal, Gulu, Kitgum, Mbarara, Arua, Busia and Soroti) and supported 37,837 persons (31,615 male and 6,222 female). In effect, PAS covers 13 magisterial areas out of 38. PAS interventions took diverse forms namely, legal empowerment, case tracking, promotion of non-custodial forms of punishment such as community service, and aiding applications for bond and bail.

Efforts to improve access to justice were bolstered by a new grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Through the grant, FHRI will implement a 5 year USAID Rights and Rule of Law program in partnership with Freedom House, a US based non-profit. The program builds on previous FHRI initiatives on strengthening the independence of the judiciary through capacity building.

Owing to a sustained mass campaign against the death penalty, the number of inmates on death row, declined further from 301 inmates (283 male and 18 female) reported in 2013 to 229 (216 male and 13 female) in 2014. This was an outstanding achievement, compared to 400 plus inmates, when the initiative first started. The downward trend in the number of accused persons condemned to death, and the recent historic abstention by Uganda during the vote on the UN Moratorium on the Death Penalty signals a fundamental change in public opinion and official end to the opposition of the abolitionist movement by the government. Considered together, these developments are consistent with the overall objective of our program and speak to the overall success of this initiative.

Lastly, mindful of the current electoral pitfalls, FHRI remained at the centre stage of the electoral reform campaign. Following rigorous advocacy and lobbying for electoral reforms, including meetings with the Attorney General and the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee, the Office of the Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament invited the sponsors of the electoral reform bills *(The Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2014 and The Electoral Commission*

Amendment Bill, 2014) to officially present the bills on 4th December 2014. More concretely, the Cabinet incorporated some of the electoral reform proposals on the Electoral Commission in the draft White Paper (2014) due for presentation in Parliament in 2015.

During the period under review, FHRI in preparation for the 2016 General Elections was selected to host the newly formed national domestic election observation network —Citizens' Election Observation Network-Uganda (CEON-U). The network will conduct media campaigns and monitor the national register, campaigns and polls through a Parallel Vote Count (PVC) in order to enhance the credibility and integrity of the electoral process.

At the institutional level, FHRI was subject to a Mid Term Review (MTR) of the current Strategic Plan *"Bridging Rights and Values: Strengthening the Civic and Democratic Culture in Uganda (2012-2016)".* The purpose of the exercise was to assess the progress towards the objectives of the program. The exercise was conducted by AKIJUL, an independent firm. Overall, the MTR report challenged management and staff to innovate and solidify the organisation's leadership position. Areas in need of improvement as well as opportunities for growth were identified and consolidated into the Institutional Strengthening Plan (ISP). It is anticipated that this Plan once implemented, will strengthen the technical, financial, and organisational capacity of FHRI.

As part of corporate social responsibility efforts, FHRI and the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP), hosted the *Katikkiro* (Prime Minister) of Buganda Kingdom, Owekitibwa Charles Peter Mayiga on 30th April 2014. The partners took part in the ongoing fundraising drive (*etofali*) for the reconstruction of the Kasubi Tombs, a UNESCO cultural heritage site that promotes cultural rights. The *Katikkiro* commended both organisations for equipping ordinary persons with knowledge on rights and values.

To crown off the year, on 9th December 2014, FHRI was awarded the World Savers Excellence Human Rights and Justice Award from World Savers Network. The award made recognition of our work and contribution to good governance, the rule of law and the respect for human rights.

This success notwithstanding, a number of challenges still remain. At 23 years, FHRI should go beyond demystifying and deconstructing the rights discourse to building a critical mass of human rights defenders who understand the interplay between rights and duties. The numerical strength of numbers also holds true for human rights activism. To be relevant, more effort should be geared towards linking rights to economic empowerment. Individually or through associations, the citizenry should be awakened to their potential to cause change at all levels.

FHRI would never have recorded these achievements without the support and involvement of our Patron, Trustees, Working Group, Board of Directors, membership, staff, development

partners, peers and allies. Our new partners supporting the CS-P-PSF including the World Bank, Embassy of the Republic of South Korea, National Social Security Fund (NSSF), National Planning Authority (NPA) and Crown Beverages are acknowledged in the same spirit.

'TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE'



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director

CONTEXUAL ANALYSIS

Despite the image tainting reports of homophobia and corruption, Uganda was resolute in remaining an active player in the international community in 2014. Hon. Sam Kuteesa was unanimously elected by acclamation as President of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly with a promise to deliver and implement a transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda. On 20th November 2014, Uganda joined the rest of the world to celebrate 25 years of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in Kampala. Interestingly, after 7 years of opposition to a global moratorium, Uganda, for the very first time abstained from voting against a UN Resolution calling for a global moratorium on the death penalty. Judging from Uganda's response to the execution of two Ugandans in China in 2014, this for abolitionists was an important milestone towards the progressive abolition of the death sentence in Uganda.

Back home, Uganda was at crossroads. In 2014, the government had the difficult task of on one hand adhering to international principles and regulations while at the same time maintaining the electorate's support particularly in the context of the upcoming 2016 general elections. With a regime focusing more on its continued existence and a population that is increasingly despondent due to high unemployment levels, a backlash to democracy was inevitable.

Fundamental freedoms such as the freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly in Uganda were increasingly restricted and media freedoms curtailed. The space available for the opposition, civil society and the media to operate effectively was adversely affected through a restrictive regulatory framework. Legislation such as the controversial Public Order Management Act 2013, the Anti-Pornography Act, 2014, the HIV Prevention and Control Act, 2014 and the annulled Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2014 were enacted for the purpose of controlling actors and institutions rather than enabling them. In 2014, there was growing apprehension within the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) community regarding two new bills- the NGO Bill, which introduces more restrictive operating conditions for NGOs, and the Prohibition of Promotion of Unnatural Sexual Practices Bill, 2014 which entrenches discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. This flurry of repressive and discriminatory legislation represents an increasing use of the law to narrow space for free expression, association and assembly since the re-introduction of multi-party politics in 2005.

Although the commemoration of 25 years of the UNCRC was cause for celebration during the year, child neglect, violence and exploitation continued unabated. High school dropout rates remained high, leaving only 21.6% of girls in the school going age in the institution. Incidences of domestic child abuse were prevalent with the media awash with related reports in 2014. Government came under scrutiny over its Inter-Country Adoption Policy, prompting

the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to table the Children Act (Amendment) Bill 2014, seeking to regulate child adoption and prevent all forms of child related exploitation in Uganda.

Similarly, the number of street children throughout Uganda's urban centres increased. Institutions such as Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), local governments and the police came under public scrutiny for their inappropriate responses and limited capacity to address this problem.

With the forthcoming 2016 general elections, the opposition and civil society organisations were pre-occupied with the electoral reform campaign in 2014. Amid calls for the reform of the Electoral Commission, the Executive remained non-committal on when the reform process would begin. On a parallel course, government mobilised Ugandans to take part in the 2014 national identity card registration exercise with prospects of extracting the 2016 National Voters' Register from the ID register.

The enjoyment of land rights remained contentious in 2014. The controversy surrounding government's land acquisition policy amongst indigenous communities such as Karamoja, where active mining is taking place by investors backed by government, brought into question the process of community consultation, free and informed consent, and adequate compensation. Land rights activists called for a land registration system that ensures security of tenure particularly for communal landowners and respects land rights of indigenous people during the year.

Equally, calls for the appointment of substantive heads of the Judiciary – the Chief and Deputy Chief Justice, persisted in 2014. Significant understaffing in various courts coupled with financial resource constraints adversely impacted the independence of the judiciary and impaired the right to a fair trial.

As the process to develop a National Peace Policy gained momentum in 2014, the ethnic clashes in the Rwenzori region in Western Uganda, which resulted in the death of civilians, exposed the systemic and underlying ethnic tensions in the country. The need to effectively address the root causes while dealing with practices that perpetuate marginalisation and a non- inclusive culture lingers on.

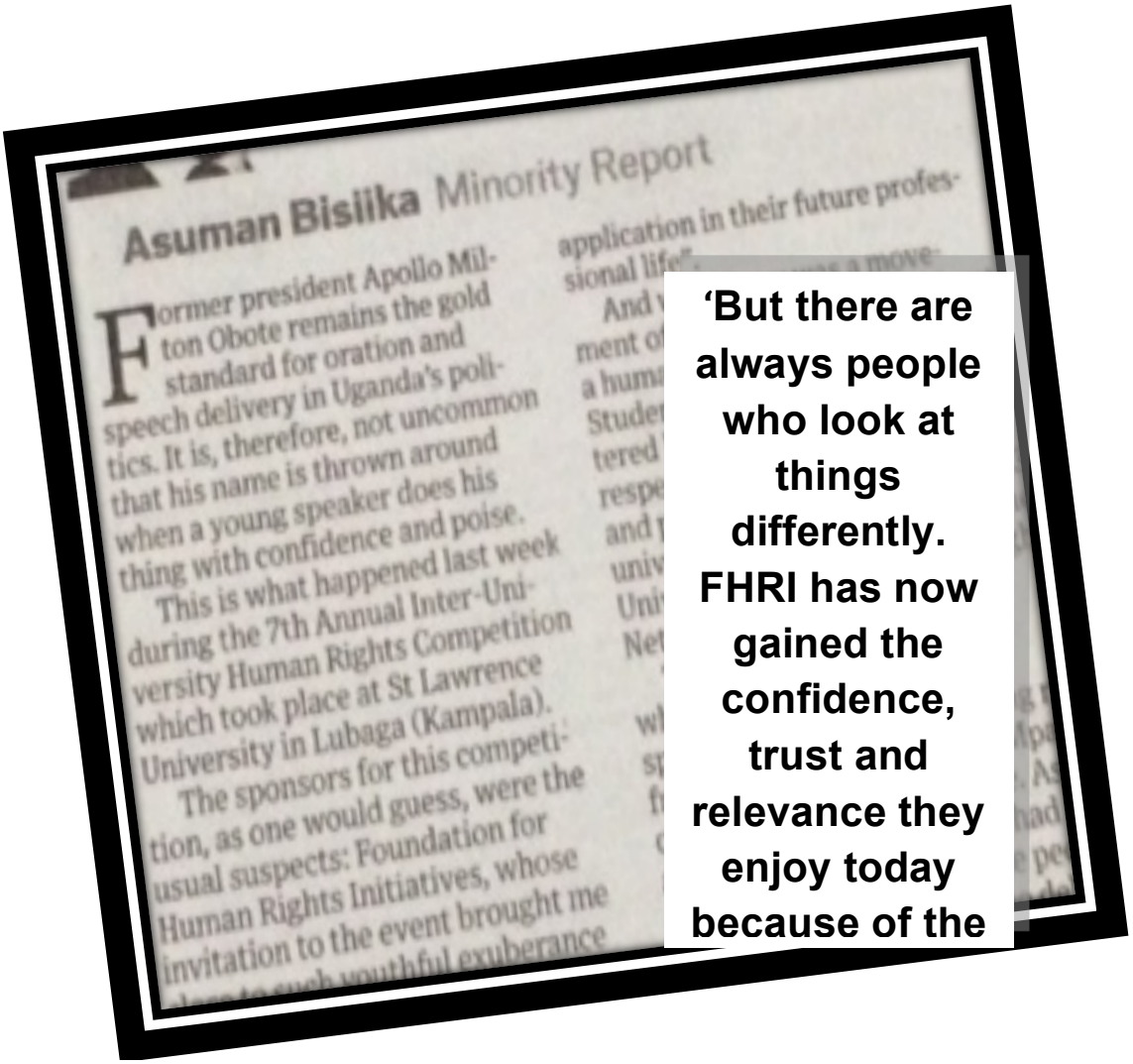
In 2014, a number of reports indicated an increase in crime levels and a limited capacity of the state to respond to these challenges. In the *Uganda 2014 Crime and Safety Report,* the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the US Department of State indicated that Uganda is a destination for crime and susceptible to terrorism and political violence. The Uganda Police Force was credited for improving security through heavy police deployment in metropolitan areas. However, the rampant killings and murders, the failure to rein in on errant officers, and road unsafety, diminished its achievements. The report also highlighted shortcomings related

to under-reporting of crime, insufficient police presence, response capabilities and a poor public image on investigative abilities.

In August 2014, the US President Barack Obama, welcomed leaders from across the African continent to Washington D.C for a three-day U.S-Africa Leaders' Summit to foster stronger ties between the United States and Africa. Various civil society groups from the African continent including FHRI attended the summit and made a case for the need to balance economic development and respect for rights.

With the aforementioned challenges in mind, FHRI in 2014, took advantage of existing opportunities and spaces to build alliances and synergies in order to accelerate progress towards human rights compliance, and deepen democratic values and practices in Uganda. The outcome of these interventions is documented in this Annual Report.

I. PROGRAM ACTIONS



Asuman Bisiika Minority Report

Former president Apollo Milton Obote remains the gold standard for oration and speech delivery in Uganda's politics. It is, therefore, not uncommon that his name is thrown around when a young speaker does his thing with confidence and poise.

This is what happened last week during the 7th Annual Inter-University Human Rights Competition which took place at St Lawrence University in Lubaga (Kampala).

The sponsors for this competition, as one would guess, were the usual suspects: Foundation for Human Rights Initiatives, whose invitation to the event brought me

application in their future professional life

'But there are always people who look at things differently. FHRI has now gained the confidence, trust and relevance they enjoy today because of the

Newspaper clip: Saturday Monitor, March 15th 2014

The program has seven strategic objectives:

1. To monitor and document human rights practices in order to promote dialogue and respect for human rights and democratic development in Uganda.
2. To promote sustainable access to justice for the poor and vulnerable groups in Uganda.
3. To promote the sharing of best practices in the administration of justice in the Great Lakes region.
4. To enhance the capacity of democratic structures with knowledge on legal rights, procedures, remedies and civic obligations.
5. To promote electoral democracy in the run up to the 2016 General elections.
6. To promote leadership development among human rights defenders in the Great Lakes region.
7. To strengthen the institutional capacity and sustainability of FHRI.

This program has three broad focus themes: social accountability, equality and democratic governance. These themes are executed under seven Actions:

Action 1: Research, Advocacy and Lobbying

Action 2: Legal Services

Action 3: Civic Education

Action 4: External Services

Action 5: Special Projects

i. The Paralegal Advisory Services Program (PAS)
ii. Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU)
iii. Civil Society-Private- Public Sector Forum (CS-P-PSF)

Action 6: Partnerships

Action 7: Organisational Development

The 2014 Annual Report highlights each of these Actions, the activities carried out there-under and the progress towards achieving the anticipated results. The report also highlights the corresponding challenges.

RESEARCH ADVOCACY & LOBBYING



FHRI convenes a Focus Group Discussion with some of the residents of Nagonde village, Namutumba district during a fact finding mission on 12th July 2014.

ACTION 1: RESEARCH, ADVOCACY & LOBBYING

For civil society to effectively claim rights and demand for accountability, it is imperative to build an information system that effectively generates data, in order to facilitate external review and engagement with state institutions on human rights practices.

FHRI has a 23 year track record of human rights monitoring, reporting and documentation. Thematic and human rights status reports are published periodically and contribute to policy formulation and democratization debates in Uganda and the global stage. The Action also includes routine monitoring of detention centres, policy and law reform, and a campaign against torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Objective

The Action seeks to influence policy and practice change through human rights research, advocacy and lobbying.

The Action has four components:

1. Thematic human rights reports
2. Treaty reporting
3. Routine monitoring
4. Policy and law reform

Implementation

The focus themes of the Action include *The functioning of multi-party democracy in Uganda; the right to a fair hearing; natural resource management; exercise of legislative powers; food security; decentralised governance; eradication of extreme poverty; and electoral democracy.* The research division periodically publishes and disseminates thematic human rights reports and issue based reports at the national and district level through Lower Level Platforms (LLPs).

Treaty reporting promotes dialogue on the compliance of government with international commitments. This function includes participation in regular sessions of the Human Rights Council, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Union, the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights, the East African Community and the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region framework.

Policy and law reform on the other hand, analyses compliance of laws, policies and bills with international human rights standards.

Planned activities

The following activities were planned in 2014: The publication of two thematic human rights reports – '*The functioning of multi-party democracy in Uganda'* and *'Eradication of extreme poverty in Uganda'*; 2 Lower Level Platforms (LLPs) in Bushenyi and Mbale districts to disseminate the report on multi-party democracy; routine monitoring visits to detention facilities; participation in the 55th session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in Niger and presentation of a shadow report on Uganda's level of compliance to the ACHRP; and critique of the 5th draft of the National Transitional Justice Policy.

Output

1. Thematic human rights reports

A report on multi-party democracy in Uganda titled '*The Functioning of Multi-party Democracy in Uganda'* (2012-2013) was published and released at a press launch on 15th January 2014 at Hotel Africana, in Kampala. Mrs. Margaret Sekagya, former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders and Executive Director of Human Rights Centre-Uganda, launched the report. The event was attended by 175 participants (45 female and 130 male). The report takes stock of the legislative, policy and institutional framework and the extent to which it fosters the enjoyment of human rights in a multi-party context.

500 copies of the report were disseminated to various stakeholders including Parliament, the Electoral Commission, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Uganda Law Reform Commission, the Directorate of Public Prosecution, Uganda Police Force, Uganda Prisons Service, political party activists, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), academia, media houses, and development partners.

3 print media houses took keen interest in the report and published the findings under the following headings, The New Vision *(Cut Parliament Size, 16th January 2014),* The Daily Monitor *(Multi-party politics failing in Uganda, 16th January 2014)* and The Observer *(Why political parties are weak, 17th -19th January 2014).* The report was heavily debated in electronic media and some houses including KFM and CBS radio stations offered free airspace to debate the findings.

Following the national level launch, FHRI, convened a Lower Level Platform in Bushenyi district from 19th – 21st May 2014 at Crane Resort Hotel to deepen the debate and disseminate the findings. 54 participants (8 female and 46 male) attended the platform. These included Members of Parliament, local government officials, academia, police officers, prison officials, CSOs and media houses.

Hon. Jovah Kamateka, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human Rights in Parliament and Woman Representative of Mitooma district officiated at the opening of the Lower Level Platform. In her remarks, she credited FHRI for sustaining the human rights campaign in Uganda over the years. She also congratulated FHRI for convening LLPs, which promote local debate on national issues.

Other presentations at the LLP were made by Mr. Mwangusya Ndebesa, Senior Lecturer, Development and History Studies, Makerere University (*'Realizing the Right to Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Association in Uganda');* Mr. Hilary Kulayigye, Regional Police Commander, Bushenyi district (*'The Public Order Management Act, 2013');* and Ms. Barbara Mulira, Registrar Electoral Commission, Bushenyi district (*'The Election Road map, 2016').*



Front row, 4th from left: Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director FHRI, Mr. Willis Bashaasha, L.C. V Chairperson, Bushenyi district, Hon. Jovah Kamateka, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human Rights in Parliament at Crane Guest Hotel on 20th May 2014.

The presentations were followed by debates on the effectiveness of Parliament, the independence of the Electoral Commission, funding for political parties, tolerance of divergent political views, the impact of the *Public Order Management Act, 2013* on civic space and the use of violence and bribery during elections.

2. Treaty reporting

FHRI and Human Dignity – Switzerland based organisation, jointly prepared a report on the state of economic, social and cultural rights in Uganda. The report examines among others, measures taken by government to align the national budgetary allocation with the 2000 Abuja Declaration target on healthcare, the effectiveness of the proposed National Health Insurance Scheme, and the quality of Universal Primary and Secondary Education in Uganda. The report was submitted to the pre-session Working Group of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR) in preparation for the up-coming 55th Session of the UNCESCR in Geneva in June 2015. Uganda is expected to submit her report at this Session.

In a similar fashion, as a member of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FHRI provided content for the 6th state party report to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR). This report was due for presentation at the 56th Ordinary Session of the African Commission in November 2014 in Niger. However, the session was postponed to April 2015 due to the ebola outbreak in West Africa.

3. Routine monitoring

The research team inspected 12 prisons and 15 police holding cells in 2014. The purpose of the inspections was to assess conditions and practices against international human rights standards on the treatment of suspects and prisoners. The list of prisons and police stations inspected in 2014 is provided in table 1 and 2 below.

Table 1: Prisons visited by FHRI in 2014

No.	Prison	Date of visit
1.	Kigo	31st July
2.	Kitalya	15th and 21st August
3.	Kasangati	26th August
4.	Wakyato	28th August
5.	Busaana	2nd September
6.	Ntenjeru	2nd September
7.	Sentema	10th September
8.	Kapeeka	11th September
9.	Muinaina	16th September
10.	Nakasongola	23rd September and 7th October
11.	Butuntumula	1st October
12.	Kauga Prison	2nd October

Table 2: Police stations visited by FHRI in 2014

No.	Police Station	Date of visit
1.	Jinja road	13th June
2.	Kabalagala	13th June
3.	Katwekibuye	13th June
4.	Wandegeya	1st July
5.	Kampala Metropolitan Police	1st July
6.	Bugiri	4th August
7.	Kasangati	26th August
8.	Kayunga	2nd September
9.	Kapeeka	11th September
10.	Luweero	7th October
11.	Kabalagala	31st October
12.	Kawempe	5th November
13.	Old Kampala	5th November
14.	Entebbe	19th November
15.	Kajansi	19th November

The findings of the inspections supported penal reform advocacy work and informed advocacy efforts in the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS) Human Rights and Accountability Working Group to which FHRI is a member.

To further the penal reform agenda, FHRI jointly convened a consultative meeting with the Uganda Police Force on 23rd May 2014 at the Imperial Royale Hotel in Kampala. The meeting was convened to consult with stakeholders on the proposed name change of the '*Uganda Police Force'* to '*Uganda National Police'*. The Inspector General of Police (IGP), General Kale Kayihura argued that a name change was symbolic of an ideological shift from oppressive to civil policing. The meeting was attended by 43 participants including Members of Parliament, police officers and members of civil society (14 female and 29 male).



General Kale Kayihura, the IGP addressing participants during the consultations held on 23rd May 2014 at Imperial Royale.



Hon. Simon Mulongo, MP Bubulo County East- Manafwa district (holding a microphone) sharing his views at the police name consultative meeting on 23rd May 2014 at Imperial Royale Hotel.

4. Policy and law reform

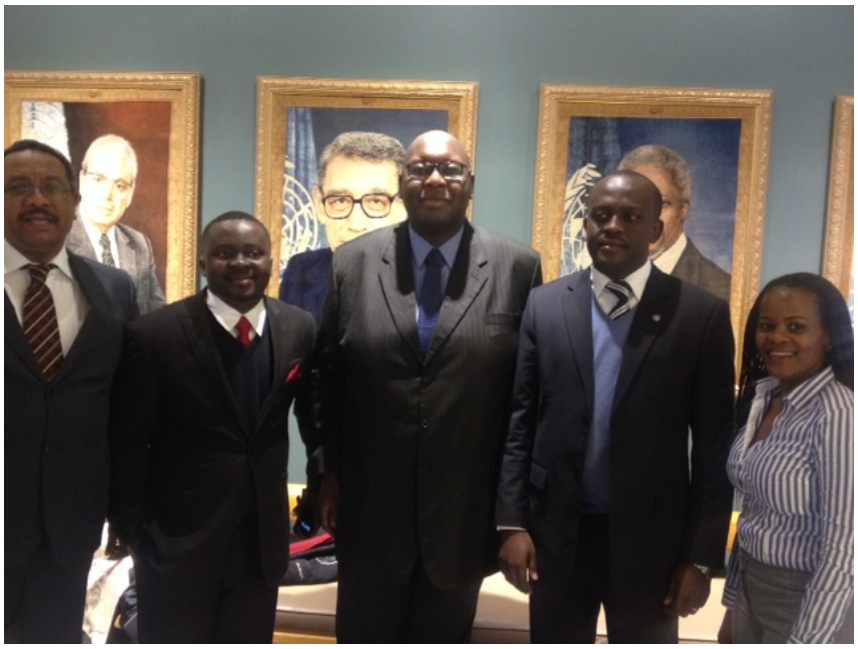
The policy and law reform component examines the compliance of laws, policies and bills with international human rights standards.

In 2014, FHRI examined the 5th draft of the Transitional Justice Policy from a victims' perspective and contributed to the on-going national process on developing a comprehensive legal framework for Transitional Justice Policy in Uganda. Subsequently, on 2nd December 2014, a report titled, *'Back Home but not Really Home: Towards a Victim-Centred Approach to Justice'* was published. The study, inter alia, called for the need to comprehensively address the needs, rights and expectations of victims. This research was conducted within the framework of the Eastern Africa International Criminal Justice Initiative (EAICJI). FHRI and the Kenya Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ-K) jointly implement the EAICJI in Uganda. The initiative promotes international criminal justice in East Africa.

The study report was validated in a regional meeting held on 22nd May 2014 at Colline Hotel, Mukono. The meeting was attended by 47 participants (26 female and 21 male) including all implementing partners of the EAICJI in Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda, development partners, academia, officials from the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS), faith based groups, media houses, victims groups and cultural leaders from the Acholi sub-region.

Ms. Margaret Ajok, the Technical Advisor on Transitional Justice at JLOS gave a presentation on the *'Genesis of the 5th Draft of the Transitional Justice Policy and Amnesty Act CAP 294, 2000'* while Dr. Brian Kalenge and Mr. Dismas Nkunda presented the *'Working Paper on Uganda's Transitional Justice Policy: Towards a Victim-Centred approach'.*

Following the validation meeting, FHRI participated in the EAICJI 2014 planning meeting held from 23rd-27th May 2014 at Imperial Royal Hotel, Kampala. The meeting provided an opportunity for collective appraisal of country based strategies and the possibilities of extending advocacy at the African Union, African Commission and the 13th Session of Assembly of State Parties in New York. Subsequently, FHRI received funding to attend the 3rd International Criminal Justice Civil Society Network conference held from 17th-18th November 2014 in Cape Town, South Africa and the 13th Session of the Assembly of State Parties to the Rome Statute (ASP) in New York from 7th -18th December 2014.



Part of the EAICJI team attending the 13th Session of the Assembly of State Parties to the ICC Rome Statute from 7th -18th December 2014, New York, USA.
Left to right: Mr. Amir Suleiman (Sudan), Mr. Ibrahim Tommy (Sierra Leone), Mr. James Gondi (Kenya), Mr. Armel Niyongere (Burundi) and Ms.Penny Mbabazi Atuhaire, Associate Researcher, FHRI (Uganda).

Outcome

The report on multi-party democracy in Uganda shaped two electoral reform bills, namely, the *Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2013* and the *Electoral Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2014.* Some recommendations in the report were deduced into clauses relating to the appointment process of the chairperson and commissioners to the Electoral Commission, independence/ impartiality of the Electoral Commission, funding of political parties and restoration of presidential term limits.

The research team successfully identified opportunities to generate debate on issues detailed in the report, thereby, raising awareness and public consciousness around the concept of free and fair elections, particularly, the prerequisite political and structural context. This end was achieved through pre-planned lower level platforms, social media campaigns, as well as, sporadic invitations by CSOs, schools and the media.

The FHRI interventions on treaty reporting had significant impact at the regional and international levels. For instance, the pre-session working group of the United Nations Committee discussed the dossier co-authored by the FHRI and Human Dignity on economic, social and cultural rights, on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In similar fashion, FHRI provided content for the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) commissioners' report, in effect, setting the agenda for the 55th ACHPR Session. Part of the 55th ACHPR Session focused on Uganda, deliberating on the country report authored by the ACHPR commissioners following a fact-finding mission during which, they met with FHRI staff and other CSO representatives.

As a result of the penal reform advocacy work in Kitalya prison for instance, renovations of the prison wards was completed and a security wall fence was erected to buffer security. Similarly in Kasangati and Ntenjeru prisons, the water system was upgraded. Both prisons have lavatories as opposed to the bucket system. Water tanks were erected to sustain supply of clean water.

Lastly, some of the recommendations that arose out of the study on the draft Transitional Justice Policy were adopted in the 5th draft of the Policy. These include the recognition of the dual identity of abducted children both as victims and perpetrators thus excluding them from the grant of amnesty.

Challenges

The delay in obtaining permission to access places of detention and the inability to secure appointments with key respondents prevented the research team from releasing a human rights report within the planned timeframe.

LEGAL SERVICES



The FHRI Legal aid team addressing inmates in Kalangala Main prison during a legal aid awareness session on 20th Sept 2014

ACTION 2: LEGAL SERVICES

The Action promotes sustainable access to justice and advocates for best practices in the administration of justice through a four track approach: provision of legal aid services to poor and vulnerable persons, the campaign against the death penalty, capacity building for the judiciary, and diversion of children and women in conflict with the law from the criminal justice system. Through these interventions, FHRI has assisted over 10,000 victims of human rights violations, contributed to jurisprudence on the death penalty, and through the partnership with the judiciary, promoted judicial independence and integrity.

Objective

The Action seeks to promote access to justice for poor and vulnerable persons in Uganda.

The Action has four components:

1. Legal Aid Assistance
2. The Death Penalty Campaign
3. The Rights and Rule of Law (RRL) program
4. The Alternatives project

Implementation

The Action promotes sustainable access to justice and advocates for best practices in the administration of justice. The Action includes pro-bono services for poor and vulnerable persons, the campaign against the death penalty, strengthening judicial independence and, advocacy for alternatives to imprisonment.

Planned Activities

The activities carried out under the legal aid unit included pro-bono legal aid services to at least 240 vulnerable and poor persons, 20 legal aid camps in Wakiso, Kiboga, Bundibugyo, Kampala, Kibaale, Kalangala, Masaka and Jinja districts reaching 1,500 clients, 8 legal rights awareness sessions in Jinja and Masaka districts reaching 800 community members and leaders, 8 radio talk shows in Jinja and Masaka districts on legal rights, 4 capacity building trainings in land matters for 180 local leaders of Masaka and Jinja districts, legal representation for 35 indigent persons in courts of law, legal advice through a toll free line, update the case management system, and design of brochures to support the legal and human rights education campaign.

The following activities were planned under the campaign against the death penalty: 3 Prison staff trainings for Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania, a workshop jointly organized with the East

African Magistrates and Judges Association (EAMJA) on sentencing guidelines, 2 consultative meetings with Members of Parliament in Uganda and Kenya, monitoring of mitigation hearings in the High Court of Uganda for prisoners on death row, submission of the East Africa report on the Death Penalty trends to the UN Secretary General, a continental conference on the abolition of the Death Penalty in Africa, commemoration of the World Day Against the Death Penalty, and prison monitoring visits in Kenya and Tanzania.

The activities planned under the USAID Rights and Rule of Law program included a needs assessment in the Judiciary, and an Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA) for FHRI.

Lastly, the Alternatives project planned the following activities in 2014: a roundtable meeting on alternatives to juvenile detention in Uganda, commemoration of 25 years of the UNCRC, a study on women in prisons in Uganda and publication of the East Africa Criminal Justice Civil Society Network e-newsletter.

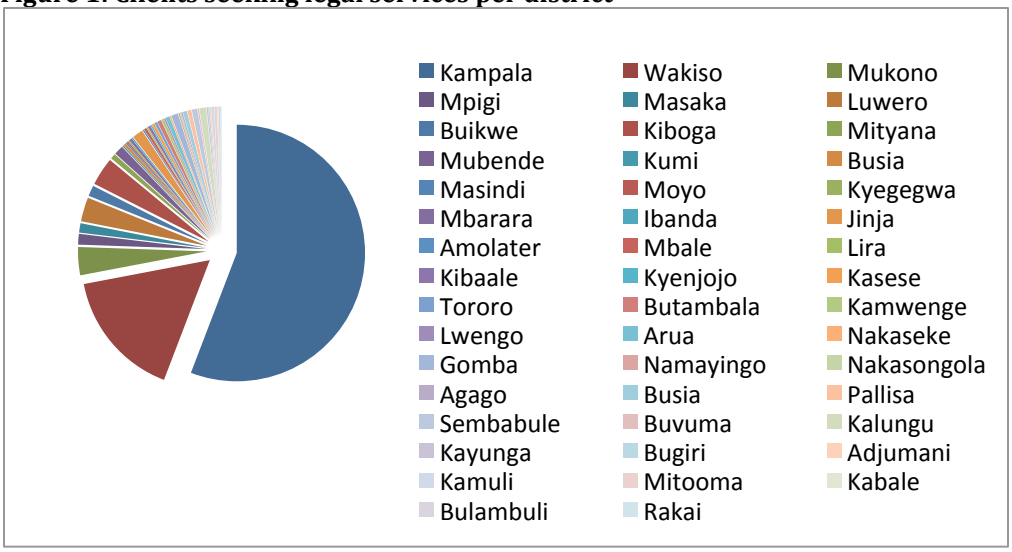
Output

1. Legal Aid Assistance

- **Legal Assistance to walk-in clients**

In 2014, 596 new clients (275 female and 321 male) walked into FHRI premises seeking legal assistance. This marked a 17% increase from the 493 complaints received in 2013. The nature of complaints received related to land matters (124), domestic (119), criminal (130) civil (160) and commercial (63). The clients originated from 47 districts in Uganda.

Figure 1: Clients seeking legal services per district



From figure 1, there was an increase in the number of districts from 31 in 2013 to 47 in 2014. This is attributed to the increase in outreach activities.

- **Legal Aid camps**

FHRI conducted 20 legal aid camps in 8 districts. These include Kiboga district (2 camps between 17th – 21st February 2014), Wakiso district (2 camps from 14th and 17th April 2014), Bundibugyo district (2 camps from 23rd - 27th June 2014), Kampala district (2 camps from 25th – 29th August 2014), Kibaale district (2 camps from 22nd - 25thSeptember 2014), Kalangala district (2 camps from 20th -24th October 2014), Masaka district (4 camps from 10th – 14th March 2014, 26th -30th May 2014, 11th – 14th August 2014 and 10th – 14th November 2014), and Jinja district (4 camps from 24th – 28th March 2014, 16th - 19th June 2014, 8th – 12th September and 24th – 28th November 2014). Table 3 below provides a summary of beneficiaries per district, disaggregated by gender.

Table 3: Clients assisted by FHRI in 2014 per district and disaggregated by gender.

District	Males	Females	Total
Kiboga	55	16	71
Wakiso	40	8	48
Bundibugyo	33	19	52
Kibaale	34	12	46
Kalangala	26	25	51
Kampala	30	24	54
Masaka	207	158	365
Jinja	140	102	242
Total	**565**	**364**	**929**

As illustrated in table 3 above, the camps pulled in another 929 clients (364 females and 565 males) who received pro bono legal services during the legal aid camps. This led to a 35.5% increase in clients assisted in 2014.



FHRI Senior Associate Ms. Lucy Peace Nantume (left) listening to a client during a legal aid camp in Masaka district on 11th March 2014.

When disaggregated per case, land related cases still formed the bulk of cases at 49%, followed by domestic, civil and criminal at 15% each and commercial at 6%. 994 of the total number of cases received were closed, putting the completion rate at 66%.

- **Legal Rights Awareness Sessions**

FHRI contributed to the overall awareness on land rights and procedures through legal rights awareness, trainings for local leaders and call-in radio talk shows.



Ms. Solome Nagadya FHRI Legal Associate (standing at the fore front) conducting a legal rights awareness session in Jinja district at Nalinaibi, Busedde Sub-county on 24th November 2014.

A total of 2,891 community members (892 female and 1999 male) were sensitised on various legal issues during the rights awareness sessions. The sessions were run in Mbuga Prison in Kibaale district, Kalangala prison, Buwunga and Kyanamukaaka sub-counties in Masaka district and Busedde, Walukubba and Masese sub-counties in Jinja district.

Complimentarily, 8 radio talk shows on land matters were supported to promote legal and human rights awareness. The programs were aired on Buddu FM (98.8 FM) on 2 different occasions, Masaka FM (96.2 FM), Suubi FM (88.1 FM), Beat FM (91.0 FM), Basoga Baino (87.7 FM) on 2 different occasions and, NBS Kody'eyo (89.4 FM). The live phone in programs discussed land related matters such as: the obligations of landowners and the land tenure systems in Uganda.



Left to Right: Ms. Maria Kaddu Busulwa, FHRI Senior Legal Associate and Mr. George Musisi, FHRI Legal Associate at BasogaBaino FM, Jinja during the talk show on 8th September 2014.

- **Toll free assistance**

The toll free facility installed in 2014 significantly eased access to justice for poor and vulnerable persons. Since installation, 2,022 people have been assisted. The facility has facilitated access to legal advice, legal assistance and rapid response to legal and human rights issues regardless of where they are reported. The toll free number is *0800100016.*

- **Brochures on *'Frequently Asked Questions'* (FAQs)**

The legal aid unit developed a brochure to provide information on '*Frequently Asked Questions'.* The brochure has so far been translated in 3 local languages namely, Luganda, Runyakitara and Lusoga.

Outcome

The legal aid Unit concluded 994 cases in 2014. Clients obtained various forms of relief including bail, child custody orders, acquittals and consent judgments. The services offered expanded from legal aid assistance and attendance to clients at the FHRI premises, to rights awareness sessions, trainings for local leaders and assistance through the toll free facility. This increased the overall number of people accessing the whole range of legal aid services from 1,274 in 2013 to 6,638 in 2014, an increment of 81%.

Additionally, following a string of successful out of court settlements in Kiboga district, the Chief Magistrate requested FHRI to review cases before the court and apply alternative dispute resolution, where applicable. It is anticipated that the intervention will tremendously reduce case backlog. The request signals formal recognition and appreciation of the role of

FHRI as a key player in legal aid service provision. This edge is further demonstrated by media coverage of legal aid work throughout the year, commending FHRI for valuable services in Jinja and Masaka districts.

The FHRI legal aid team continued to address barriers to access to justice for vulnerable and poor persons through *pro-bono* services, partnerships with CBOs in targeted districts to more effectively follow up on cases arising from legal aid camps, and coordination with other legal aid service providers. Table 4 below illustrates the nature of services provided during the reporting period, the number of beneficiaries per service and the results emanating there from.

Table 4: FHRI legal aid program at a glance

Services	Legal Representation	Legal Empowerment	ADR	Referrals	Legal Advice
No of cases	77	36	220	86	840
Results	Custody and maintenance orders, bail, prison releases, properties redemption, default judgement set aside	Self-representation, knowledge acquisition	Amicable dispute resolution in family, civil and land matters	Specialised and/or more accessible services, strengthened partnerships	Acquisition of knowledge, addressing issues in proper channels.

NB: The numbers not reflected in the table above represent on-going cases.

Lastly, the FHRI legal aid team positively impacted the lives of the poor and some of the most vulnerable persons. The following success stories illustrate the impact interventions made through the FHRI legal aid program had on the lives of beneficiaries.

- ***Success story 1***

Problem

The client approached FHRI seeking legal assistance regarding family neglect and abandonment by her father. Despite having multiple sources of income, including three rental units, the father of three children abandoned the family including an ailing HIV infected child. The family was on the verge of becoming homeless because the client's father acquired a loan using the matrimonial home as collateral contrary to Section 39 of the Land Act (as amended). By the time the client approached the FHRI legal aid unit, the situation was dire because the father objected to any form of intervention in the matter.

Intervention

Bearing in mind the arduous nature of legal proceedings, the urgency of relief for the family and the overall objective to contribute to good practices in the administration of justice, including reducing case backlog, the FHRI legal team convinced the client's father to settle the matter out of the court system. FHRI organized a mediation session, which was attended by all family members. The parties reached a settlement, which made provision for family maintenance and medical treatment for the ill child. An agreement depicting the terms of settlement was signed and the parties were requested to report any deviation therefrom.

Result
Following the FHRI intervention, the family reconciled. During a follow up visit, the legal aid team determined that the agreement was fully honoured.

- ***Success story 2***

Problem
The client is a landowner of land situate at Busege village, Mawokota in Mpigi district. In 2012, the landlord sued him for trespass in Mpigi Magistrates Court. The court ruled in favour of the client. Following the judgment, the landlord continued to harass the client, constantly threatened eviction and arrest. In 2013, the client was arrested and detained for 4 days.

Intervention
Following the intervention of the FHRI legal aid team, the client was produced in court and charged with criminal trespass and theft. FHRI secured bail for the client pending completion of the trial.

Result
The client was acquitted of all charges on 2nd April 2014, and enjoys uninterrupted use of the land. FHRI cautioned the landlord that further harassment of the client would lead to prosecution. Both parties were advised to address all grievances through appropriate channels.

Challenges

The challenge for FHRI has been to respond effectively to an increasing number of clients and to manage clients' expectations.

2. The Death Penalty campaign

The decade old campaign against the death penalty registered positive results. The precedent set by the Susan Kigula Supreme court ruling in 2009 has had multiplier effects including, release of some prisoners on death-row, the commutation of death sentences to life, the development of sentencing guidelines in capital cases that limit the use of the death sentence, the formulation of the Private Member's Bill titled, *Law Revision (Penalties in Criminal Matters) Miscellaneous Amendments Bill, 2013,* the reduction in the number of death row inmates and the on-going mitigation hearings for prisoners on death row. When combined, these achievements perfectly resonate with the anticipated results of the campaign.

Building on these achievements, the on-going regional campaign has prioritised legislative advocacy to limit the use of the death penalty, capacity building for prison staff on humane treatment of prisoners on death row, dialogue within regional and international human rights treaty bodies on death penalty trends in East Africa and coalition building for effective advocacy.

Objective

The overall goal of the campaign is to advocate for the progressive abolition of the death penalty and implementation of humane alternatives.

Output

- **Prison staff training on international human rights standards on the treatment of prisoners on death row**

As part of the advocacy for the implementation of humane alternatives to the death sentence, FHRI run 2 training workshops for prison staff in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. The aim of the training program was to impact knowledge and share best practices and emerging international standards on the treatment of prisoners on death row.

In Tanzania, the training workshop for Tanzania Prisons staff took place from 2nd – 3rd April 2014 at Giraffe Ocean View Hotel, Dar es Salaam under the theme, *'Managing prisoners on death row: International Human Rights Standards.'* The training workshop was jointly organized with the Legal and Human Rights Centre in Tanzania. 30 prison staff (6 female and 24 male) from 15 prisons in Tanzania attended. Mr. John Nyoka, former Commissioner General of Tanzania Prisons and Executive Director of Inmate Rehabilitation and Welfare Service Tanzania (IRaWS-T), addressed the trainees. In his keynote address, he called on the Constituent Assembly of Tanzania to ensure that constitutional provisions that provide for the death penalty are repealed and substituted with life imprisonment. He also urged the Tanzania Prison Service to take advantage of the constitutional review process to address the plight of death row prisoners.

In the discussions that ensued, the prison staff appreciated the need to sustain debate on the impact of the death sentence on condemned prisoners and prison staff in Tanzania. A proposal to integrate a human rights component in the Tanzania prison staff training

curriculum was mooted, and the need to amend existing legislation to promote humane treatment of prisoners on death row was reiterated.



Tanzania Prisons staff , FHRI and LHRC staff at the prisons staff training from 2nd – 3rd April 2014 at Giraffe Ocean View Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

In Uganda, the training for Uganda Prisons staff was held at Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel in Entebbe from 27th -28th August 2014. 13 prison staff (6 female and 7 male) participated. The participants examined the practical challenges faced by prison administrations in dealing with pre-trial detainees and vulnerable prisoners, management of life and long term prisoners and torture. The discussion on the rights of prison staff at the workplace generated unprecedented debate on structural challenges. Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana challenged the Uganda Prisons Service to mainstream and promote human rights in the penal system.

The training for Kenya Prisons staff was conducted from 18th – 19th September 2014 at Silver Springs Hotel, Nairobi.



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI making a presentation on 'Mainstreaming and sustaining human rights in the Kenya Prison Service' , at Silver Springs Hotel on 18th September 2014.

13 participants who included prison staff and representatives of CSOs working on penal reform issues (6 female and 7 male) attended the training. The participants agreed on a set of recommendations that prioritise the adoption of the human rights based approach in prison management and, reforms in the arrest and investigation procedures.

- **Workshop on Sentencing Guidelines for the East African Magistrates and Judges Association (EAMJA)**

Following the adoption of The *Constitution (Sentencing Guidelines for Courts of Judicature) (Practice) Directions, 2013* which limit the use of the death penalty in Uganda, FHRI supported a workshop organised by the EAMJA to create awareness on the Sentencing Guidelines amongst judicial officers. The workshop was held from 29th -30th May 2014 at Royal Suites, Bugolobi and was attended by 25 judicial officers (10 female and 15 male) from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda. The set of recommendations adopted prioritise reform of the sentencing regimes in Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda, using the Sentencing Guidelines in Uganda as a benchmark.

- **Consultative meeting for Members of Parliament in Uganda on the Private Member's Bill titled**, *The Law Revision (Penalties in Criminal Matters) Miscellaneous Amendments Bill, 2013*

On 30th June 2014, FHRI convened a consultative meeting for Members of Parliament (MPs) on '*The Law Revision (Penalties in Criminal Matters) Miscellaneous Amendments Bill, 2013*' at Hotel Africana, Kampala. The meeting was an opportunity to popularise and lobby MPs to

support the bill once it is tabled. The meeting was attended by 58 participants (27 female and 31 male) including members of various parliamentary committees, CSOs and Uganda Prisons staff.

- **Task force meeting for Members of Parliament (MPs) in Kenya**

Following the consultative meeting for MPs in Uganda, FHRI held a task force meeting for MPs in Kenya on 27th November 2014 at Norfolk Hotel, Nairobi. The purpose of the meeting was to update the MPs on the legislative and practice trends with respect to the death penalty in East Africa, and to mobilise parliamentary support towards the progressive abolition of the death penalty in Kenya.

- **Monitoring the special session on mitigation for the beneficiaries of the Susan Kigula Case, 2009**

FHRI monitored the mitigation hearings by the High Court for 89 beneficiaries of the Susan Kigula Supreme Court ruling, from 15th - 22nd July 2014. The team assessed the quality of the mitigation hearings in light of international human rights standards on sentencing in capital cases and the right to fair trial enunciated in the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995. The findings were detailed in a report, which was shared with judiciary. Some of the issues highlighted include the poor preparation by the prosecution, lack of proper evidence to support the mitigation grounds raised by defence counsel and lack of interpreters. The report also provides statistics on the sentences passed in each case. The project research team noted that 11 death sentences were confirmed, 8 prisoners were released, 3 prisoners were given life sentences and the rest were given custodial sentences ranging 15-60 years.

- **Submission to the UN Secretary General on the status of the death penalty in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda**

On the 31st March 2014, the project submitted a report to the UN Secretary General on the status of the death penalty in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. The report included updates on emerging jurisprudence in the region and regulatory developments for example the quashing of the ruling in the *Republic v. Godfrey Ngotho Mutiso* which had abolished the mandatory application of the death penalty for murder cases in Kenya; progress on the *'The Law Revision (Penalties in Criminal Matters) Miscellaneous Amendment Bill*, 2013 in Uganda and the ongoing constitutional review process in Tanzania.

- **Continental conference on the abolition of the Death Penalty in Africa**

At the regional level, the East African Coalition against the Death Penalty represented by FHRI, the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) in Tanzania and ICJ-K attended the continental conference on the abolition of the death penalty in Africa, which took place from 2nd – 4th July 2014 in Benin. The aim of the meeting was to promote awareness on the draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights abolishing the death penalty. State parties to the African Charter, commissioners of the African Commission and CSOs attended the meeting.

- **World Day Against the Death Penalty: 10th October 2014**

In commemoration of the World Day Against the Death Penalty, FHRI within the framework of the National Coalition against the Death Penalty in Uganda organised a series of events to commemorate the 12th World Day against the Death Penalty. These included:

- Radio talk shows on Radio Sapientia (Friday 3rd October 2014) and Namirembe FM (Wednesday 8th October 2014).
- Prayers with the condemned inmates at Luzira Upper Prison (Wednesday 8th October 2014).
- A forum for abolitionists held at the Human Rights House, Nsambya on, 10th October 2014, under the theme, '*Understanding the Mental Effect of the Death Penalty*'.

A panel discussion on the human rights of children with parent (s) sentenced to death held on 17th October 2014 at Hotel Africana. The event was jointly organised by FHRI, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and Wells of Hope in Uganda. 60 participants (40 female and 20 male) from government agencies and child rights NGOs attended the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to create awareness on the 2013 UN Human Rights Council Resolution on the rights of children whose parents are sentenced to the death penalty or executed.

- **Prison monitoring visits in Kenya and Tanzania**

Two prison monitoring visits were conducted during the year. In Kenya the visits took place from 22nd to 24th September 2014, while in Tanzania, monitoring occurred from 3rd – 5th November 2014. The visits are part of the FHRI monitoring mechanisms.

Outcome

Owing to a sustained mass campaign against the death penalty, the number of inmates on death row declined further from 301 inmates (283 male and 18 female) reported in 2013 to 229 (216 male and 13 female) in 2014. This is an outstanding achievement, compared to 400 plus inmates, when the initiative first started.

The downward trend in the number of accused persons condemned to death, and the recent historic abstention by Uganda during the vote on the UN Moratorium on the Death Penalty signals a fundamental change in public opinion and official end to the opposition of the abolitionist movement by the government. Considered together, these developments are consistent with the overall objective of the campaign and speak to its overall success.

Challenges

The global fight against terrorism and the increase in gruesome murders continue to legitimize the death penalty as an appropriate sentence in East Africa. The resurgence of legislation that maintains the death sentence is a common trend.

3. The USAID Rights and Rule of Law program

FHRI in partnership with Freedom House (US) is implementing a USAID Rights and Rule of Law (RRL) program, which seeks to promote the rule of law and protection of human rights in Uganda. The 3 track approach of the program seeks to catalyse change in the Judiciary, civil society and the media. FHRI leads implementation of the component on strengthening judicial independence. The component includes the use of strategic litigation as a tool for social transformation.

Objective

- *To strengthen the capacity and independence of the judiciary in order to reach decisions that uphold human rights.*

Output

- **Needs Assessment**

A needs assessment in the Judiciary was conducted between October and November 2014. The purpose of the assessment was to inform the capacity development interventions

planned under the program. The areas of assessment included establishing the existing training or capacity development initiatives, existing training materials – curricula and/or manuals for capacity building in the Judiciary.

To aid the process, a number of judicial officers from 27 districts were interviewed using a needs assessment tool developed by the program. The tool requested for the respondents' particulars, an opinion on continuous professional development and several other cross cutting issues. 46 judicial officers (19 female and 27 male) were interviewed.

- **Organisational Capacity Assessment**

A participatory assessment exercise was conducted for FHRI staff by an external consultant firm (Ajikul) on 17th December 2014. Five key thematic areas were prioritised for capacity strengthening including learning and evaluation, fundraising and donor relations, external communications, safety and security, and advocacy. Upon completion of the organisational capacity assessment exercise, an Institutional Strengthening Plan (ISP) focusing on the identified thematic areas was developed. The ISP is intended to strengthen systems and establish new ones for efficient and effective leadership and to support evidence based planning, budgeting, program review and reporting.

As part of this partnership, FHRI hosted Dr. Robert Herman, the Vice-President of Freedom House on 20th October 2014 at the Human Rights House. He was accompanied by the USAID Rights and Rule of Law staff, Mr. Otto Saki, Chief of Party and his deputy, Ms. Sydey Letu Ojara.



Left to right: Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director FHRI, Dr. Robert Herman (in a black tie) Vice President Freedom House and Ms. Sydey Letu Ojara, Deputy Chief of Party at the Human Rights House on 20th October 2014.

Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana reiterated the commitment of FHRI to implement the judicial strengthening component of the program. Dr. Herman on the other hand was hopeful that the RRL program would positively impact the human rights situation in Uganda.

Outcome

The needs assessment formed a basis for program interventions, in terms of providing the priority training areas from the perspective of judicial officers. While the needs assessment confirmed preconceived needs, the exercise revealed other priority areas such as case management, record keeping, handling of sophisticated crimes, human and financial resource management, reference and resource materials, among others. Nearly all the respondents reaffirmed the need for professional development and post training support such as post training assessments.

Challenges

The success of the program will primarily depend on the willingness of the judiciary to engage with the program and its own ability to influence policy and practice reforms.

4. The Alternatives project

The Alternatives project is jointly implemented with Penal Reform International (PRI). The project began as a pilot in 2013. This regional initiative is built on previous work by FHRI and PRI on juvenile justice and the promotion of non-custodial sentences. Two years into implementation, the project has created a network of regional child rights activists in East Africa who are championing the implementation of child friendly justice systems and promoting the rights of women offenders using the UN Bangkok rules.

Objective

The project seeks to reduce the unnecessary use of imprisonment, promote child-friendly justice systems and a more sensitive approach to dealing with women offenders using the UN Bangkok Rules on non-custodial sentences for women offenders.

Output

- **Roundtable meeting on alternatives to juvenile detention in Uganda**

FHRI in partnership with Children Justice Initiative (CJI) in Uganda convened a roundtable meeting on alternatives to juvenile detention at Protea Hotel Kampala, on 27th February 2014. The roundtable discussion was held under the theme *"Promoting and implementing alternatives to detention of juveniles in Uganda"*. 35 child rights activists (17 female and 18 male) from the Judiciary, Uganda Police and CSOs participated. The session focused on positive developments and promising practices as well as shortcomings and challenges in diverting children from the criminal justice system.

A follow up meeting was held with FHRI, CJI and Church of Uganda Mbale Diocese Diversion pilot project on implementing the proposed recommendations from the roundtable.

- **Commemoration of 25 years of the UNCRC**

On 27th November 2014, FHRI joined the rest of the world to commemorate 25 years of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). In honour of this milestone, FHRI convened a stakeholders meeting at Hotel Africana in Kampala under the theme '*Protecting children's rights in the criminal justice system.'*

The meeting was attended by 25 participants (14 female and 11 male). Dr. Sylvia Nsemereirwe, a psychiatrist at Butabika hospital, Kampala addressed participants on the impact of detention on children.



A cross section of participants at the round table meeting convened by FHRI in partnership with CJI on alternatives to juvenile detention in Uganda held at Protea Hotel, Kampala on 27th February 2014.

Stakeholders took stock of the progress made within the sector, identified gaps and proposed strategic responses. Participants adopted an Action Plan that addresses the gaps in the provision of probation services to juveniles, the effectiveness of existing juvenile rehabilitation and re-integration programs and the need for JLOS to roll out the Justice for Children (J4C) program.

- **Study on women in prison**

In 2014, the Alternatives project commissioned a study on '*Women in prison*'. The study assessed progress in the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (Bangkok Rules) in Uganda. The respondents were women prisoners in Luzira, Kigo, Kasangati, Butuntumula and Kauga women prisons. A report on the findings will be published in 2015.

- **The East Africa Criminal Justice Civil Society Network (EACJCSN) *e*-newsletter**

As part of its information dissemination strategy, the project produced and disseminated 5 issues of the EACJCSN newsletter amongst the e-network of criminal justice actors in the region. The newsletter promotes best practices, information sharing and dialogue on criminal justice in the region. The thematic focus of the newsletter is alternatives to imprisonment, juvenile justice and the Bangkok Rules.

Outcome

The East Africa Criminal Justice Civil Society e-network formed in 2013 registered more members – from 77 CSOs in 2013 to 131 in 2014. This indicates a growing interest in the discourse.

Challenges

The difficulty experienced in accessing places of detention for purposes of research disrupted the program timeline.

CIVIC EDUCATION



Uganda Pentecostal University students celebrating their victory at the 7th inter-university competition on 7thMarch 2014 at St. Lawrence University. Looking on (in glasses) is the Vice Chancellor of St. Lawrence University, Prof. Kakinda Mbaga.

ACTION 3: CIVIC EDUCATION

The activities under this Action are designed to promote participatory decision making for effective service delivery, build capacity of community based human rights groups to effectively monitor and report human rights violations and to build a cadre of passionate and knowledgeable human rights defenders.

This Action has registered positive results over the years which are well articulated by the FHRI independent program evaluation in 2011, '*Appreciation of human rights is increasing and opinion towards human rights promotion and protection is being shaped positively among current and future policy and decision makers in Uganda.'[FHRI external evaluation:2011]*

Objective

The Action seeks to enhance human rights and civic awareness in order to increase the demand for political and social accountability.

The Action has one major activity with four sub-components:

1. **Public Outreach**

   i. The University Human Rights Network (UHRN).
   ii. Support to community based human rights associations to improve human rights monitoring and reporting.
   iii. Support to community based human rights associations to strengthen social accountability.
   iv. Human rights song (*Ddembe lyo*).

Implementation

In order to strengthen the voice of demand for democratic and social accountability, FHRI uses both conventional and non-conventional platforms to create awareness on rights, duties and civic values.

Public outreach is conducted through Information and Communications Technology (ICT), music, dance and drama, the existing network of community paralegals and community based organizations. Sections of the public that benefit from interventions under this Action include the private sector (manufacturers' associations, small and medium enterprises, trade unions, farmers' associations, rotary clubs, market vendors, transport sector and media associations), public sector institutions, Uganda Local Government Association, faith based groups, universities, tertiary institutions and community based human rights groups.

Planned activities

The following activities were planned in 2014: the 7th Inter-University Human Rights Competition, 3 regional human rights debates, 9 internal university human rights debates, 3 community based outreaches, creation of 2 regional neighbourhood assemblies, support visits to 5 existing neighbourhood assemblies, production of Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials, training of long term election observers, 16 missions on vertical tracking of public expenditure and promotion of the human rights song.

Output

i. University Human Rights Network

- 7th Inter-University Human Rights Competition

The university outreach program seeks to build knowledge, strengthen research skills and stimulate debate on human rights amongst young human rights defenders in schools and institutions of higher learning. In fulfilment of this goal, FHRI in partnership with St. Lawrence University, Kampala convened the 7th Inter-University Human Rights Competition on 7th March 2014.



Right to left: Ms. Akulu Gloria (in a black top), Dean of Students St. Lawrence University handing over a certificate of participation to Ms. Petronela Ochom (centre in white top) of Nkumba University Human Rights Association at the 7th Inter-University Human Rights Competition on 7th March 2014 at St. Lawrence University.

557 students (258 female and 299 male) from 18 universities participated in the competition. These included Mountains of the Moon University, Nkumba University, Uganda Pentecostal University, Kyambogo University, Busoga University, Uganda Martyrs University-Nkozi,

Ndejje University, St. Lawrence University, Kumi University, Kampala University, Makerere University, Kampala International University, Islamic University, Uganda Christian University, Gulu University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Cavendish University and Busitema University.

Mr. Timothy Sejjoba, Principal Education Officer, Higher Education in the Ministry of Education and Sports delivered the opening remarks. He represented the Minister of State for Higher Education, Hon. Dr. John Chrysestom Muyingo. Prof. Kakinda Mbaga, Vice Chancellor of St. Lawrence University and Mr. Peter Mandut, Guild President of St. Lawrence University also graced the competition.

The students submitted research papers and made oral presentations on a wide range of human rights and governance issues in Uganda including corruption, right to a fair trial, constitutional review processes, electoral democracy, education, children's rights, international justice, oil governance, media freedoms and women's rights.

A panel of human rights experts assessed the written and oral presentations and conferred awards upon outstanding performers. The panel of judges included Mr. Charles Mwangushya, a media specialist, Ms. Rosette Sayson Meya, Operations Officer, Human Rights, Conflict and Gender at the Delegation of the European Union to Uganda, Mr. Denis Kibirige, Senior Legislative Drafter in the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs and Ms. Christine Birabwa, Executive Director, Justice Centres, Uganda. Uganda Pentecostal University emerged the overall winner with 91%, Gulu University followed with 88.2% and Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi took 3rd place with a score of 82.8%. The table below shows the winners in 4 other categories.

Table 5: Category of winners at the 7th Inter-University Human Rights competition 2014.

Category	Marks	Position	University
Best written paper	36.6 out of 40	1st Place	Makerere University
	36 out of 40	2nd Place	Uganda Pentecostal Univeristy
	33.6 out of 40	3rd Place	Gulu Univeristy
Best presentation	55 out of 60	1st Place	Uganda Pentecostal University
	54.6 out of 60	2nd Place	Gulu University
	54 out of 60	3rd Place	Uganda Christian University
Best dressed presenter			St. Lawrence University
Most technical presentation			Busitema University

- **Regional human rights debates**

In 2014, FHRI supported regional university human rights debates. The debates promote the participation of students in human rights and governance related activities at the regional

level and build students' research and presentation skills. Through the regional platforms, tertiary institutions and secondary schools have been brought on board.

In 2014, 3 regional debates were supported as summarised here below:

The Northern regional human rights debate was held on 23rdApril 2014 at Gulu University. 7 university and tertiary institutions participated in this event including Gulu University – Main Campus, Gulu University- Lira campus, Gulu University – Kitgum campus, Core PTC, Unyama NTC, Sir Samuel Baker Secondary School and Uganda Christian University – Arua campus. 287 students (120 female and 167 male) attended. Ms. Atim Patricia, FHRI Board member represented FHRI at the event.

The regional debate for the Eastern region was held on 12th September 2014 at Busitema University. Hon. Oboth Markson, Member of Parliament, West Budama was chief guest. 17 institutions and 367 students (77 female and 290 male) participated in the debate. These included, Makerere University Business School (Jinja), Kampala University (Jinja), Uganda Christian University (Mbale), Uganda Martyrs University Nkozi (Mbale), Bugema University, Kumi University, Islamic University in Uganda (Mbale), Livingstone International University, Busitema University, School of Clinical Officers, School of Comprehensive Nursing, Uganda Teachers' College Elgon, Uganda College of Commerce Tororo, St. John Bosco Primary Teachers Training College Nyondo, Teso College Aloet, Wanyange Girls High School and Tororo Girl's High school.

Lastly, Mbarara University of Science and Technology hosted *the* ***Western region human rights debate*** on 6th November 2014. 7 institutions participated including: Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Uganda Pentecostal University, Mountain of the Moon, Bishop Stuart University, Kabale University, Bushenyi Primary Teachers College and Uganda Martyrs University – Bushenyi. A total of 226 students (104 female and 122 male) participated in the regional debate.

- **Internal University human rights debates**

Internal debates are held at the university level. The debates form part of the routine activities of the human rights associations.

In 2014, 8 human rights debates were organised by various university human rights associations. A total of 3,107 students (1,340 female and 1,767 male) participated in the debates as summarised below:

In April 2014, Nkumba University and the Islamic University in Uganda (Mbale) organised human rights debates. The debate at the Islamic University in Uganda was held on 12th April 2014 under the theme *'The role of the youth in human rights advocacy',* while the Nkumba

University debate was held on 14th April 2014 under the theme '*Human rights and law'.* The debates were attended by 351 students (105 female and 246 male) and 145 students (89 female and 56 male), respectively.

In May 2014, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) and Mountains of the Moon held human rights debates on 8th and 10th May respectively. The debate at MUST was attended by 140 students (84 female and 56 male) under the theme *'The role of security agencies in the promotion of human rights',* while Mountains of the Moon University debated child rights and protection. 120 students (57 female and 63 male) participated in the debate.

In July 2014, Uganda Pentecostal University held its debate on 19th July 2014 under the theme *'Has the NRM Government delivered to the expectations of the citizens in the social, economic and political development?'* 215 students (122 female and 93 male) participated in the debate.

In October 2014, Cavendish University held a debate on the death penalty on 17th October 2014. 77 students (42 female and 35 male) participated. The debate in Nkumba University was held on 21st October 2014 on media freedoms in Uganda. 145 students (72 female and 73 male) participated.

In November 2014, Bishop Stuart University held a debate on 6th November 2014. 226 students (79 female and 147male) participated. The focus was on '*The concept of human rights.'*

ii. Support to community based human rights associations to improve human rights monitoring and reporting.

- **Community based outreach**

In 2014, the civic education team proactively utilised various platforms to create awareness on human rights and build capacity in human rights monitoring and reporting. Table 6 summaries the platforms.

Table 6: Rights awareness platforms in 2014.

No.	Platform and Numbers	Date	Issues discussed
1.	Konge in Makindye Division *72 participants (20 female and 52 male)*	16th January 2014	Land tenure system, succession, inheritance and the Local Government Act, Chapter 243 of the Laws of Uganda.
2. 3.	Kisaakye Rehabilitation Home, Makindye Division. *45 participants (30 female and 15 male)* PWD Zone –Makindye Division *30 participants(12 female and 18 male)*	3rd July 2014 11th July 2014	Rights of Persons With Disabilities (PWDs).
4.	Kabalagala parish, Kikuba -Mutwe zone. *71 youth (60 female and 11 male)*	25th July 2014	Human Rights. Youth from Ggaba, Bukasa and Makindye were sensitized during this session.

iii. Support to community based human rights associations to strengthen social accountability.

Under this component, FHRI works towards enhancing the civic competence of community actors in order to strengthen social accountability in the central region of Uganda. In 2014, FHRI implemented this initiative in partnership with CEW-IT. The 5 target districts include, Kalangala, Kiboga, Kayunga, Luweero and Masaka. The beneficiaries are local leaders, vulnerable persons and special interest groups.

In 2014, a series of activities were implemented under this component.

- **Support to neighbourhood assemblies**

Neighbourhood assemblies are 'open membership' pressure groups that operate from the village to the district level. The groups meet regularly to identify and address local problems relating to governance, human rights and service delivery.

- **Creation of neighbourhood assemblies**

In 2014, FHRI facilitated the formation of 2 neighbourhood assemblies in the Northern and Western regions of Uganda.

  - *Northern region*

The 3 day neighbourhood assembly for Northern region was held from 30th June – 4th July 2014 at Pearl Afrique Hotel, Gulu. The assembly was attended by 32 community members (5 female and 27 male) from Gulu, Nwoya, Amuru, Lamwo and Pacu districts. The discussions centred on Uganda's criminal justice system, the concept of human rights, freedom of expression, association and assembly and the land tenure system. In a participatory approach, participants shared practical experiences and challenges related to each of the themes and proposed remedial actions. The Gulu district LC V Chairperson, Mr. Ojara Martin Mapenduzi officiated at the opening of the assembly.

  - *Western region*

The neighbourhood assembly for the Western region was held from 1st - 3rd October 2014 at the Lake View Hotel, Mbarara. The Resident District Commissioner, Mbarara, Mr. Nickson Kabuye officiated at the opening of the assembly which was attended by 63 participants (23 female and 40 male). Participants included representatives from the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS), Local Government, academic institutions, churches and civil society.

The purpose of the assembly was to establish a platform for community members to reflect on emerging social and human rights challenges in the community and to encourage collective action to address the gaps. The assembly discussed five thematic areas including land rights, governance, access to justice, right to education and right to health. A set of recommendations were adopted which prioritised the need to empower rights holders with knowledge and skills to demand for rights, promote participatory policy formulation, and support monitoring of human rights violations in order to aid advocacy for practice change.

- **Support visits to existing neighbourhood assemblies**

As part of capacity strengthening for neighbourhood assemblies, FHRI visited existing community neighbourhood assemblies in 2014. The visits were intended to provide technical support and to identify concerns for collective action. The following assemblies were visited: Asigala Talaama assembly in Buwunga sub county, Masaka district on 17th July 2014, Kyatto assembly in Kayonza sub County, Kayunga district on 24th July 2014, Kisagazi neighbourhood assembly in Lwamata sub county, Kiboga district on 29th October 2014, Bugabo neighbourhood assembly in Dwanilo sub county, Kiboga district on 30th October 2014 and Mabuye A and Mabuye B neighbourhood assemblies in Kamira sub-county, Luwero district on 23rd and 24th October 2014 respectively.

- **Production of IEC materials on the Citizens' Manifesto**

In 2014, FHRI produced a number of IEC materials to support the campaign for political and social accountability in the central region. Among these were posters, stickers, jackets and banners bearing advocacy messages on democracy, good governance, effective service delivery and human rights.



Vests and stickers produced to support the campaign to demand for political and social accountability in the central region in 2014.

- **Training long term election observers**

In preparation for the upcoming 2016 general elections, on 26th August 2014, FHRI trained 30 community monitors (9 female and 21 male) from Buikwe, Kalangala, Kayunga, Kiboga, Luwero and Masaka districts. The training built the skills of the observers in the use of ICT in election observation.

- **Vertical tracking of public expenditure on service delivery**

In 2014, previously trained community monitors in 4 districts, Buikwe, Kalangala, Kayunga and Kiboga, conducted 16 monitoring visits. The purpose of the visits was to track the use of public funds remitted by the central government to local governments for service delivery. 35 government projects were visited in the agriculture, water, education, health and works/transport sectors as summarised in table 7 below:

Table 7: Government projects visited by the community monitors during vertical tracking in 2014.

No	District	Projects monitored
1.	Kalangala	Kasekulo Health Centre (HC) II, maternity ward at Mugoye HC III, pit latrine at Bumagi Primary School, Kibanga Primary School, Bwendero Primary School, Mulabana Primary School.
2	Kayunga	Nakyesa HC II, Lugasa HC III, Kakiika HC II, 5 water points (boreholes) in the villages of Kyamugongo,Nakyesa, Bugonya, Kiseeta B and Nakyesanja.
3	Buikwe	Backyard farming, veterinary supplies, construction of lavatories in the trailer park and a teachers' rest room at Lugazi model school.



Ms. Rose Nanyondo, the FHRI Training Coordinator (3rd from left with brown handbag) and Mr. Celestin Mugisha, CEW-IT Programme Officer and FHRI Board Member (in white shirt) inspecting a dysfunctional borehole during one of the vertical tracking visits in Kayunga district on 21st October 2014.

iv. Human Rights Song (*Ddembe Lyo*)

In 2014, FHRI intensified efforts to disseminate the human rights song titled '*Ddembe lyo'* translated as *'my rights'* through traditional and social media. The song was launched on 9th May 2014 at the Hotel Equatoria parking.

Outcome

The Civic Education Action, through the public outreach component, built civic capacity in 2014. There was a marked change in the attitude of participants on a wide range of issues such as land tenure systems, succession and inheritance of property. Gauging from pre/post training assignments and subsequent discussions following a session on inheritance in Konge, Makindye Division, the idea that women should not inherit property became indefensible. This end was achieved through interventions that challenged cultural practices while at the same time, encouraging critical and independent thinking.

Attitudinal change is a critical milestone in building a society capable of demanding for accountability. Following FHRI interventions, there was a realisation within communities that rights must be demanded. In the immediate aftermath of trainings, for instance, community members actively sought legal aid services from FHRI. In addition, through the neighbourhood assemblies, communities persistently drew the attention of leaders to gaps in service delivery.

More results under this Action relate to the University Human Rights Network. For years, in virtually every university across the country, human rights were regarded a preserve for the law faculty and students. FHRI interventions within this framework have changed attitudes by pushing back against institutional limits placed on the rights discourse to include other disciplines. The result is a diverse body of students with solid knowledge on human rights and related topics. Today 99% of university administrations actively support and facilitate human rights clubs, through mentorship. Several faculty members including deans, offer various forms of support – from serving as patrons to preparing students for debates. Busoga University, for instance, provided free office space for the Busoga University human rights club. Busitema University established a human rights section in the Busitema University library to further promote human rights and facilitate the human rights club.

These developments indicate that the initiative will continue beyond the life of the project. On their own initiative, human rights clubs have created outreach initiatives in surrounding communities and primary schools. The initiatives include human rights lectures and sensitisation sessions. For example, with the support of the university administration, Mountains of the Moon human rights club started a campaign against abortion, unsafe sex and domestic violence, which raised funds for domestic violence victims. Overall, the initiatives

have led to the establishment of human rights clubs in surrounding secondary and primary schools thus replicating the project's success. Ndejje University conducts outreach in Ndejje Senior Secondary School, Makerere University Business School in Kiswa Primary School, Nakawa division, Busitema University in Busitema College School, Tororo district and Uganda Pentecostal University at Kitumba Remand Home, Fort Portal district.

Challenges

Access to government information despite the enactment of the Public Access to Information Act, 2005 remained a major challenge for community monitors. The difficulty in accessing information in the hands of government by community monitors particularly affected the social accountability campaign.

EXTERNAL SERVICES



Staff of FHRI and EHAHRDP with the Katikiro of Buganda on 30th April 2014 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya
Front row: The Katikiro of Buganda, Charles Peter Mayiga (centre in black suit and grey tie). To his left is Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director FHRI. Next to him is Mr. Hassan Shire Sheik (red tie), Executive Director, EHAHRDP.

ACTION 4: EXTERNAL SERVICES

Action 4 is implemented under the Communication and Information Division. This function supports the FHRI human rights advocacy agenda through the use of ICTs and information sharing. The Division also spearheads the FHRI membership drive to promote collective advocacy.

Objective

The Action seeks to improve information sharing and management, promote collective advocacy, maximise participation and build consensus on democracy and human rights issues in Uganda.

The Action has three activities:

1. Communication and Information Services

- The Human Rights and Democracy Information Centre
- Public Affairs Unit
- Documentation Unit

2. Membership development

3. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) support



Some of FHRI's publications on display.

Implementation

FHRI has an Information Centre that provides library, internet and secretarial support services; issues e-newsletters annually; conducts book exhibitions; updates and maintains the FHRI website and social media platforms; conducts media briefings; issues press releases and urgent appeals; oversees the publication and dissemination of the Annual report and brochure; and spearheads membership recruitment and development.

Planned Activities

In 2014, the Division planned to provide information and internet services to users; publish 3 issues of the e-newsletters; participate in 2 book exhibitions; oversee the dissemination of FHRI publications and promotional materials; organise media briefings; pilot the membership fellowships at the regional level; hold the 18th Annual General Meeting (AGM); and update the FHRI website and other social media platforms.

Output

1. Communication and Information Services

Under this component, FHRI disseminated human rights related information to human rights defenders, researchers, students and the general public through the Human Rights and Democracy Information Centre, Public Affairs Unit and the Documentation Unit.

- **The Human Rights and Democracy Information Centre**

In 2014, the Human Rights and Democracy Information Centre provided library services to 21 users (10 male and 11 female). The majority of users were students from higher institutions of learning such as Cavendish University, Kampala International University, Makerere University, Nkumba University and Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi. Other users were from media houses and the general public.

The Centre's collection was boosted by a donation of 322 materials in form of textbooks, reports and periodicals from research institutions, academic institutions and human rights organisations.

To keep the FHRI membership and other stakeholders abreast with new developments at FHRI, the Human Rights and Democracy Information Centre published and disseminated *Volume 12 Issue No. 3 of the FHRI e-newsletter: October 2013 – July 2014 and Volume 13 Issue No. 4 of the FHRI e-newsletter, August - December 2014.*

The Information Centre regularly updated the FHRI website (*www.fhri.or.ug*), the Facebook page and twitter account to allow for more interactive and informative platforms.

As part of the current awareness drive, the Human Rights and Democracy Information Centre conducted 11 exhibitions of FHRI literature at the following events in 2014:

- 7th Inter-University Human Rights Competition on 7th March 2014 at St. Lawrence University, Kampala.
- Makerere University human rights exhibition on 28th March 2014 at Makerere University, Kampala.
- National Child Rights Convention from 10th - 13th June 2014 at Imperial Royale Hotel. Kampala.
- The 4th National CSO Fair 2014 under the theme: *"Celebrating our East African Citizenship"* from 26th – 27th June 2014 at Hotel Africana, Kampala.
- The 2nd National Legal Aid Conference, on 26th June 2014 at Imperial Royale, Kampala.
- HURINET-U 20th Anniversary from 24th – 25th July 2014 at Hotel Africana, Kampala.
- FHRI's Annual General Meeting on 23rd August 2014 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya, Kampala.
- CCEDU Annual Membership meeting on 25th August 2014 at the Democracy House, Nsambya, Kampala.
- The World Day against the Death Penalty on 10th October, 2014 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya, Kampala.
- The CS-P-PSF Annual Social Economic Summit on 5th November 2014 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala.

- **Public Affairs Unit**

The Public Affairs Unit promotes the FHRI corporate image and creates awareness of services rendered by the organisation. The Unit liaises with stakeholders to promote FHRI advocacy messages and programs. This is done through press releases, media interviews, social media campaigns and rapid response fact-finding missions.

Throughout the year, FHRI published on a range of issues including electoral reforms, the functioning of multi-party democracy in Uganda, the right to bail, the death penalty, land rights, the conflict in South Sudan, the national identity card registration exercise, hunger in Karamoja, the proposed *NGO Bill, 2014*, open contracting, torture and the law governing amnesty in Uganda. The highlights of FHRI's work in the media in 2014 are summarised in table 8 below:

Table 8: FHRI in the media (2014)

Media House	Title of the article
The New Vision	
The New Vision, 9th January 2014	EU envoy urges parliament to pass electoral reforms.
The New Vision, 16th January 2014	Cut Parliament's size, Rights activists demand.
The New Vision, 24th April 2014	Media challenged to champion reforms.
The New Vision, 18th May 2014	Can Electoral Reforms ensure free and fair elections?
The New Vision, 20th May 2014	CSO's push for Open Contracting' (On-line).
The New Vision, 28th May 2014	Nordic countries support human rights initiative.
The New Vision, 30th May 2014	Cabinet endorses NGO Bill.
The New Vision, 4th June 2014	Electronic voting not fool proof at all in Africa.
The New Vision, 5th June 2014	FHRI's Livingstone Sewanyana wants issues of good governance, legislation and media reforms in view of 2016 polls addressed at the State of Nation Address.
Saturday Vision, 5th July 2014	The taste of democracy is not in the name but the practice.
The New Vision, 21st July 2014	New Constitutional Amendments coming.
The New Vision, 14th August 2014	Experts want salary board.
The New Vision, 25th September 2014	Human Rights body intervenes in Mukono acid attack.
The Daily Monitor	
Daily Monitor, 9th January 2014	Electoral Reforms Key for 2016-EU.
Daily Monitor, 14th January 2014	Multiparty politics failing in Uganda, says the report.
Daily Monitor, 18th February 2014	Museveni to score at home and loose International support.
Daily Monitor, 21st February 2014	The right to bail is an inherent human right.
Daily Monitor, 7th March 2014	Universities form Human Rights Clubs.
Daily Monitor, 15th March 2014	Another Obote born at the Inter-University debates.
Sunday Monitor, 7th April 2014	Victims of Northern Uganda conflict still need Amnesty Act.
Daily Monitor, 30th April 2014	Logistical challenges slow ID Card Project – says PS.
Sunday Monitor, 4th May 2014	Pictorial for the signing of M.O.U for the CSPPSF.
Daily Monitor, 6th May 2014	Police accuses NGO workers of breaking into own offices.
Daily Monitor, 9th May 2014	Activists advise on 2016 elections.
Daily Monitor, 13th May 2014	Observers trained.
Daily Monitor, 2nd June 2014	Judicial Officers root for harmonized Laws in EAC.
Daily Monitor, 25th June 2014	FHRI celebrates HURINET's growth.
Daily Monitor, 28th June 2014	EU backs opposition on 2016 electoral reforms.
Sunday Monitor, 6th July 2014	MP's demand death penalty alternatives.
Daily Monitor, 10th July 2014	EU welcomes clarification on anti-gay law.
Daily Monitor, 18th July 2014	Justice day should remind us of the struggle to reparation.
Daily Monitor, 29th August 2014	Why Lord Mayor's court battles may not end until August 2015.
Sunday Monitor, 27th September 2014	ID exercise a success- study.
Daily Monitor, 29th September 2014	Uganda still in need of stronger child protection mechanisms.
Daily Monitor, 9th October 2014	Can service providers, leaders have a little respect for citizens of this country?
Daily Monitor, 10th October 2014	A functional policy on peace is long overdue.
Daily Monitor, 13th October 2014	46% against death penalty, says activists.
The Observer	
The Observer, 14th – 16th January 2014	Multiparty Flaws: which way forward?
The Observer, 17th – 19th January 2014	Why Political Parties are so weak.
The Observer, 20th – 30th March 2014	Ugandans should know their Rights-FHRI
The Observer, 2nd – 3rd June 2014	'Kaheru's Passion for good governance is unrivalled'
The Observer, 9th – 10th June 2014	Pictorial of Dr. receiving the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders award.
The Observer, 4th -5th August 2014	FHRI's Sewanyana looks to academia.
The Observer, 15th – 16th October 2014	'Pay families of death penalty hanged victims'

Bukedde	
Bukedde, 20th January 2014	*Omukungu avumiridde abanenya abakulembeze.*
Bukedde, 4th March 2014	*Muleete ebirowoozo ku kulonda Gavumenti*
Bukedde, 27th July 2014	*Mukama weebale kuntusa ku kitiibwa kya bwa dokita.*
The Independent	
The Independent, 2nd – 8th May 2014	Mr. Sewanyana at the Press Freedom Celebrations.
The Independent, 16th – 22nd May 2014	Civil Society Organizations are joining coalition to monitor contracts in different sectors.
Red Pepper	
Sunday Pepper, 28th September 2014	Kamya bashes M7 Constitution during the 5th Annual Membership meeting.
International Press	
University of Cape Town, Communication and Marketing Department, 13th June 2014	PhD graduate at the University of Cape Town (UCT) breaks new ground on the state of regulation of NGOs in his thesis "Towards an Enabling NGO Regulatory Framework in Uganda: Comparative Experiences from Eastern and Southern Africa."
The Guardian, 27th July 2014	Dr. Sewanyana's reaction to Ugandan victims hanged in China.

As part of corporate social responsibility, FHRI and East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP) hosted the *Katikkiro (*Prime Minister) of Buganda Kingdom, Owekitibwa Charles Peter Mayiga on 30th April 2014. The partners took part in the fundraising drive *(etofali)* for the reconstruction of the Kasubi Tombs – a UNESCO cultural heritage site that promotes cultural rights. The Katikkiro commended both organisations for equipping ordinary persons with knowledge on human rights and civic values.

In 2014, FHRI hosted 9 delegations at the Human Rights House during the year:

- The new Head of the European Delegation, H.E Mr. Kristian Schmidt on 8th January 2014.

- Students of the human rights class at the Law Development Centre, Kampala on 13th March 2014.

- The Deputy Electoral Spokesperson Electoral Commission, Mr. Paul Bukenya on 26th March 2014.

- Students from Uppsala University on 15th April 2014.

- Owekitibwa Katikiro Charles Peter Mayiga on 30th April 2014.

- Students from Kibuli Senior Secondary School on 16th July 2014.

- Students from the Law School of the University of Pretoria, South Africa and Makerere University on 7th August 2014.

- MareikeLe- Pelley, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Country Representative on 13th August 2014.

- Dr. Robert Herman, Vice President Freedom House on 20th October 2014.

As is the practice, FHRI commemorated the World day against Torture on 26th June 2014, the World Day against the death penalty on 10th December 2014 and the International Human Rights Day on 10th December 2014. To this end, FHRI released newspaper supplements on International Human Rights Day, the UN Day against Torture, Europe day and, the death penalty. FHRI was also interviewed by the press on these issues.

In recognition of its work and contribution to good governance, the rule of law and the respect for human rights, FHRI was awarded the Human Rights and Justice Award on 9th December 2014 by the World Savers Network.

To enhance the organisation's visibility, FHRI produced promotional materials including T-shirts and lapel pins in 2014. These were sold to members and other interested parties.



The lapel pin and t-shirts

- **The Documentation Unit**

In 2014, FHRI published 750 copies of the 2013 Annual Report. Copies of the report were widely distributed to government agencies, civil society groups, media, academia, FHRI membership and the general public.

2. Membership Development

Membership development takes 2 forms: The membership drive and recruitment and; membership involvement in FHRI activities to enhance collective efforts.

There was a significant increase in membership growth from 1,065 in 2013 to 1,280 in 2014. 215 more members joined FHRI including members from Kenya and Washington D.C, US. This growth was matched by an increase in member participation in the FHRI program activities such as the 7th Inter-University Human Rights Competition and the legal aid camps in Kalangala, Kiboga and Jinja districts.

To encourage active member participation, the Communication and Information Division devised new strategies such as the membership fellowships. The pilot platform was held in Luwero district at N & D Guest House on 6th June 2014. 44 members (22 females and 22 males) attended this inaugural event. The platform created clusters of human rights activists in various communities and enabled networking, information sharing, and an opportunity for FHRI to explain running projects and opportunities for involvement. 12 new members were recruited.



A cross- section of FHRI members at the 18th AGM held on 23rd August 2014 at the Human Rights House in Nsambya.

In accordance with Article 6 (a) of the FHRI Constitution, the 18th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 23rd August 2014 at the Human Rights House. During the meeting, Prof. Dr. Justice George Wilson Kanyeihamba, the FHRI Patron made a presentation titled '*Reflection on key governance issues in the run-up to 2016 general elections*.' 550 members (300 female and 250 male) attended.

3. ICT support

The IT Section ensures that an efficient and effective ICT system is in place to support information sharing and management. In 2014, the Section continued to update and maintain the FHRI website at *www.fhri.or.ug* and FHRI social media platforms including Facebook, twitter, the blog and YouTube. The Section also maintains a Local Area Network to facilitate internal information sharing.

Outcome

By the end of 2014, the FHRI membership had grown from 1,065 in 2013 to 1,280 (560 female and 720 male).

The use of social media in human rights advocacy gained momentum. By the end of 2014, the FHRI website had registered 210,900 visitors from 132,858 in 2013 while the Facebook page had 1,419 likes compared to 894 in 2013. The number of online subscribers for the e-newsletter increased from 468 in 2013 to 620 in 2014.

The work of FHRI did not go unnoticed during the year. The World Savers Excellence Human Rights and Justice Award attests to the significant contribution to human rights and good governance in Uganda. This brings the total number of awards received by FHRI to 10.

Challenges

Dissemination of information and sustaining human right debates across the country is still a challenge.

FHRI ACCOLADES



The Shanti .K. Khinduka Award for Social Development 2013
Simmons College, School of Social Work (USA), the University of Tennessee (USA)



The Vocational Service Award
Rotary Club of Mukono 9200



The Prestigious Founding Members Award 2014
The Human Rights Network-Uganda



Best Exhibitor Annual Human Rights Week Book Fair 2005
Human Rights Network Uganda



Human Rights and Justice Award 2014
World Savers Excellence



Token of Appreciation 2012
Paralegal Advisory Services



Employer of the year Award 2005
Best Small Scale Category Award
Federation of Uganda Employers



Token of Appreciation 2004
The Human Rights Network Uganda



African Human Rights Defenders Award 2013
Pan-African Human Rights Defenders



World Savers Excellence Human Rights and Justice Award 2014
World Savers Network, 2014

ACTION 5: SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. PARALEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES

1. PARALEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES (PAS)

"On December 6th, I was arrested by the DPC Lira together with my pregnant wife and three other Lango youths for engaging in an informal dialogue on peace-building. Having not prepared to be detained for such noble actions, we had not researched the standard procedures and protocols for detainees.

When a PAS staff member was present at a parade one morning, he began informing us that suspect parades are for the benefit of suspects. We were happy to learn that they exist so that suspects are able to inquire about the status of their case. We had previously thought parade was just another way to shame and subjugate inmates. The PAS representative assisted us with researching our case and even came to our cell to share helpful information with us regarding its status, since we had been detained beyond the legally-accepted 48 hours.

Being detained at CPS Lira is an emotionally draining experience. After spending only a few hours locked up, one begins to feel hopeless. The presence of a PAS staff member at CPS Lira was a wonderful morale-booster to us (and other suspects) during a time when it seemed the world had forgotten about us.

There are many NGOs who say they are committed to justice, but PAS is actually doing justice. We need more PAS employees and chapters throughout Uganda so that other suspects can receive PAS services. Whether guilty or innocent, all human beings deserve basic rights, and PAS helps ensure that those rights are being upheld. They are actually following through and making an impact for a part of the population that is so often neglected. When basic rights are not being prioritized by authorities, it is very helpful to have PAS around!"

All the best,
Phil Wilmot

Susan Abong and Phil Wilmot



Solidarity Uganda added 2 new photos.

Special thanks to Paralegal Advisory Services for consulting us during detainment. They visit prisoners and suspects, trace sureties, inform prisoners about their rights, etc all throughout Uganda. Let's commend them for going where other human rights NGOs don't dare to step.

Like · Comment · Share

12 people like this.

Kasozi Mulindwa Muntu cheers@ Nco. paralegal advisory services-PAS

1. Paralegal Advisory Services

The Paralegal Advisory Services (PAS) project commenced in 2005 as a pilot in 4 sites. By the end of 2014 PAS was operating in 13 sites in 12 districts. The Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) hosted 12 sites, which include Arua, Gulu, Lira, Kitgum, Bushenyi, Fort Portal, Mbarara, Soroti, Busia, Mbale, Jinja and Luzira, Kampala. The Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF) hosted one site in Wandegeya, Kampala.

A National Steering Committee headed by a High Court Judge, Hon. Judge Lawrence Gidudu, governs PAS. The body provides leadership and plays an oversight role.

Objective

PAS seeks to improve the understanding of principles and procedures of the formal criminal justice system by both users and criminal justice agencies in Uganda. The program contributes to physical and case file decongestion, links the demand and supply sides and advocates for practice change in the criminal justice system.

Implementation

PAS is implemented by 50 paralegals and 57 UPS social workers. The secretariat comprises 5 staff including the National Coordinator, a Legal Officer, an Accountant, an Office Administrator and a project driver.

Planned activities

The following activities were planned under PAS in 2014: provision of legal assistance to suspects and inmates, 4 PAS National Steering Committee meetings, 10 monitoring visits to project sites, 1 national intra-site meeting and 1 training workshop on plea bargain for paralegals and social workers.

Output

- **Provision of legal assistance to suspects and inmates**

In 2014, the PAS team provided legal assistance to suspects and inmates in police and prisons. This contributed to the process of decongesting prisons and reducing case backlog in target magisterial areas as summarised in table 9 below:

Table 9: Summary of releases secured by PAS in 2014 disaggregated by gender.

Intervention by PAS	Totals	% of total	Male	Female
Mandatory Bail	6,333	17%	5,699	634
Mediation/Diversion	2,018	5%	1,523	495
Court bail	5,058	13%	4,327	731
Police bond	10,542	28%	9,057	1,485
Community Service Orders	2,610	7%	2,315	295
Release on fine payment	591	2%	425	166
Other releases	10,685	28%	8,269	2,416
Grand Total	**37,837**	**100%**	**31,615** (84%)	**6,222** (16%)
Juveniles			**Boys**	**Girls**
Total	**3,958**		**3,497** (88%)	**461** (12%)

From table 9 above, the total number of suspects and inmates released through PAS interventions in 2014 was 37,837 up from 31,302 in 2013 registering a 17% increase. 28% were released on police bond while 17% were released on bail. 28% benefited from other measures including caution sentences, discontinued cases and acquittals. The 17% increase in the number of suspects and inmates assisted by PAS in 2014 is attributed to the expansion of the program.

- **PAS National Steering Committee meetings**

In 2014, 4 PAS National Steering Committee meetings were held on 25th February 2014, 4th July 2014, 4th September 2014 and 11th November 2014 at the Human Rights House. The meetings identified solutions to challenges in order to enable the PAS secretariat to effectively improve access to justice for suspects and inmates in the respective sites.



The National PAS Steering Committee meeting sitting at the Human Right House, Nsambya on 11th November 2014. Far left in red tie is the Chairperson, Hon Judge Lawrence Gidudu.



Hon Lady Justice Damalie Lwanga Judge of the High Court and member of the PAS Steering Committee (in the centre with black outfit) during a monitoring visit in Mbarara Main Prison on 25th November 2014. On her left is the Officer in Charge of the prison, Mr.Ariko Peter and on her right is Ms. Elinor Chemonges, National Coordinator PAS

- **Monitoring visits**

PAS conducted 10 monitoring visits in 2014. The first visit was to Lira site on 30th January 2014, then Mbarara, Mbale, Jinja on 6th, 13th, and 20th February 2014 respectively. Soroti PAS Site was visited on 7th June 2014 while Jinja, Busia and Mbale were monitored between 16th–20th June 2014.



Ms. Elinor Chemonges, PAS National Coordinator (in a doted blouse) and Mr. Binen Samuel, paralegal from Arua meeting with Hon. Justice Vincent Okwanga, the Resident Judge in Arua (in tie and green shirt) during a PAS monitoring visit in December 2014

In November, PAS visited the Eastern region (Busia, Jinja, Soroti and Mbale) between 4th – 8th November 2014, Northern region (Gulu, Kitgum and Lira) between 17th – 20th November 2014 and Western region between 23rd – 27th November 2014. Arua site was visited between 4th – 6th December 2014. The purpose of the monitoring visits was two-fold: to establish gaps within the criminal justice system in the areas of PAS operation and secondly, to popularise the PAS intervention amongst criminal justice actors.

- **National intra-site meeting**

During the year, PAS convened a national intra-site meeting for paralegals and social workers on 13th November 2014 at Royal Suites, Bugolobi. The participants appraised the performance of the project and adopted a set of measures to enhance effectiveness. Members of the PAS Steering Committee, judicial officers and representatives from DGF attended the meeting. The partners acknowledged the positive and demonstrable contribution of PAS to decongesting the criminal justice system in Uganda. The intra-site meeting was attended by 110 delegates (45 female and 65 male).

- **Training workshop on plea bargain**

As part of the capacity development program for the PAS paralegals and social workers, the secretariat organised a training workshop on the new plea bargain procedure and Sentencing Guidelines on 14th November 2014 at Royal Suites Bugolobi. The workshop was intended to enhance knowledge on plea bargaining and equip the paralegals and social workers with skills to facilitate speedy access to justice using plea bargaining. The workshop was attended by 155 participants (56 female and 99 male).

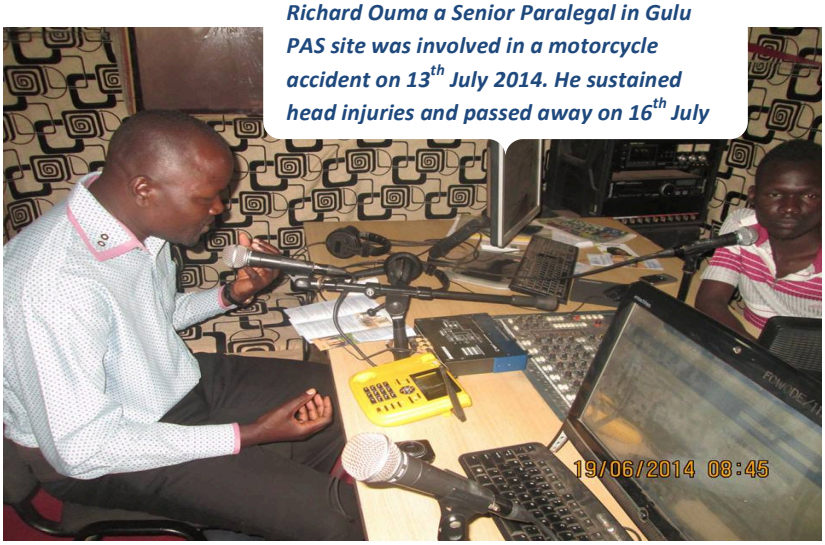


Left –Right seated: 6th from left is Mr. Kururagyire W.J, Assistant In Charge of Inspectorate, Uganda Prisons Service, Ms. Lucy Ladira , member of the PAS National Steering Committee from JLOS, Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, Director of Public Prosecutions, Hon Justice Yorokamu Bamwine, Principal Judge, Hon Justice Lameck Mukasa, Head, Criminal Division of the High Court, Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director FHRI, Hon Justice Gidudu, Chairperson PAS National Steering Committeeand Ms. Elinor Wanyama Chemonges, National Coordinator PAS at the training workshop on Plea Bargain at Royal Suites Bugolobi on 14th November 2014.

- **Partnerships**

PAS maintained partnerships with Uganda Law Society and the Strengthening Access to Justice for Children in East Africa (SAJCEA) program. Similarly PAS staff actively participated in the JLOS Criminal Justice Working group and District Coordination Committees in the project sites.

On a sad note, PAS lost one of its senior paralegals from the Gulu PAS site, Mr Richard Ouma (RIP). He is remembered for his zeal and commitment to improving access to justice for poor and vulnerable persons. May his soul rest in eternal peace.



Mr. Richard Ouma (RIP) (in a white shirt) during a radio talk show on legal rights on Speke FM in Gulu on 19th June 2014

Outcome

The June 2014 Mid Term Review (MTR) of the DGF Legal Aid Program (LEAP) rated PAS very highly. As a proven legal aid model, the review recommended an expansion and roll out of the PAS project.

> *'Provision of legal aid services at first point of contact with the police, remand homes and prisons has proven its worth through the Paralegal Advisory Services. Further investments should only be made if they are making improvements on the model, otherwise the model is ready for roll out. Low cost- high impact ways of roll out are available for the picking. All prisons hosting the service attest to its contribution to the decongestion of prisons. Some have designated staff to work with the Paralegal Advisory Service team to provide advice to inmates, follow up cases as needed. ..... Similar initiatives at Police are likely to have similar impact'*
>
> ***Page 8 of the MTR report, June 2014***



Mr. Kutosi Fred, Paralegal Officer in Mbale, sensitising court users on their legal rights in Mbale Magistrate's Court on 18th June 2014.

Challenges

The absence of juvenile detention facilities in some magisterial areas has exacerbated the vulnerability of children in conflict with the law. PAS needs to sustain advocacy to influence policy and practice reforms in this respect.

2. CITIZEN'S COALITION FOR ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY IN UGANDA (CCEDU)

2. CITIZEN'S COALITION FOR ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY IN UGANDA (CCEDU)



A CCEDU election observer witnesses the counting of votes cast during the Amuru district By-election on 20th November 2014.

2. Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda

Former Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi, launched the Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy (CCEDU) on 19th August 2009. CCEDU is a coalition of over 800 like-minded CSOs and over 15,000 individuals that advocates for electoral democracy in Uganda. The goal of this coalition is to advocate and promote integrity, transparency and active citizen participation in Uganda's electoral process.

The membership of CCEDU has grown from 487 CSOs in 2009 to 828 in 2014. CCEDU also has over 15,000 individual members. The members are spread across the country with 57% in the Eastern region, 29% Northern, 7% Central and 7% in the West.

CCEDU is governed by the CCEDU membership platform, the Advisory Board and Executive Committee. The CCEDU Advisory Board is the think tank of the coalition and comprises 12 configurations elected by the CCEDU membership including the elderly, workers, farmers, faith based networks, media, development workers, student/youth, PWDs, private sector, women, human rights and Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Uganda. The Board hosts representatives of these configurations and provides technical advice on strategy.

The Executive Committee consists of 90 civil society groups run by eminent persons in the area of human rights and democratic governance. This organ oversees policy implementation.

Objective

CCEDU seeks to advocate and promote integrity, transparency and active citizens' participation in Uganda's electoral process.

Implementation

CCEDU mobilises citizens to partake in civic education, advocates for electoral reform and engages in election monitoring.

The CCEDU secretariat comprises of a Coordinator, Communications Manager, Advocacy and Membership Officer, Project Associates, interns and a driver. It is located at the Democracy House, Plot 1111 Lulume Road, Nsambya.

Planned Activities

In 2014, CCEDU planned to popularise the '*The Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2014*' and *'The Electoral Commission Amendment Bill, 2014',* observe by-elections and the National Identity Card registration exercise, and convene the 5th CCEDU Annual membership meeting.

Output

1. Popularise '*The Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2014'* and *'The Electoral Commission Amendment Bill, 2014'.*

Following the launch of the model bills — *The Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2014* and *The Electoral Commission Amendment Bill, 2014*, CCEDU embarked on a series of consultative meetings with key stakeholders on the proposed reforms. The two bills whose focus is on strengthening the independence of the Electoral Commission relate to the appointment process of the commissioners, the security of tenure of commissioners, participation of political parties in the appointment process and the prospective role of the Judicial Service Commission in the appointment process.

To this end, CCEDU presented the electoral reform proposals to the Deputy Attorney General, Hon. Fred Ruhindi on 25th February 2014 in the Attorney General's chambers at the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.

The sponsors, Hon. Alice Alaso (Serere district Woman MP), Hon. Simon Mulongo (Bubulo East MP) and Hon. Sam Otada (Kibanda County MP) made the presentations. The Chairperson CCEDU Advisory Board, Hon. David Pulkol and the CCEDU Executive Committee including Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE), Uganda Association of Women Lawyers (FIDA Uganda), Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Democracy Monitoring Group (Dem Group), Women Leadership Development (WLEDE), Uganda Youth Network (UYONET) and Citizens' Watch – IT (CEW-IT) also attended the meeting.

On this occasion, the Chairperson of CCEDU's Executive Committee, Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana urged the Government to adopt the proposals contained in the model bills and utilise them to inform the Government policy position on electoral reforms.

Hon. Fred Ruhindi welcomed the model bills referring to them as timely. He assured CCEDU that the proposals would be forwarded to Cabinet for further scrutiny. He remained optimistic that the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs would table the Government proposed electoral reforms in Parliament before the end of June 2014.

On 19th March 2014, CCEDU held consultations with members of the Parliamentary Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs on the proposed electoral reforms. Hon. Simon Mulongo presented the model legislation and discussed the rationale behind each of the proposals. The consultative meeting was held on 19th March 2014 at Eureka hotel, Ntinda. The meeting was attended by 37 participants (19 female and 18 male), including Members of Parliament, civil society leaders and development partners. A number of proposals were adopted to strengthen the bills.

During the year, CCEDU held another consultative meeting with members of the Standing Committee on Human Rights in Parliament on 26th June 2014 at Imperial Royale. 76 delegates including 54 Members of Parliament, the President of the Democratic Party, Norbert Mao and representatives of CSOs attended the meeting. Hon. Simon Mulongo and Hon. Sam Otada presented the proposed bills in a session chaired by Ms. Jovah Kamateeka, the Chairperson of the Human Rights Committee of Parliament. The visiting EU Head of Governance, Democracy, Gender and Human Rights in Brussels, Mr. Jean Louis Ville, addressed the participants while Ms. Rosette Sayson Meya and Ms. Sabrina Bazzanella both from the EU attended. Following the presentation, a number of recommendations were proposed by the parliamentarians to strengthen the electoral reform proposals.



From left to right: Hon Sam Otada (sponsor of the bills), Hon Jovah Kamateka (Chairperson, Human Rights Committee of Parliament) and Hon Simon Mulongo (sponsor of the bill) during the stakeholder consultative meeting with the Human Rights Committee of Parliament on 26th June 2014, Imperial Royale, Kampala

On 4th December 2014, the bills were presented to the Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga. The Hon Speaker acknowledged the milestone and pledged her support to the electoral reform campaign.

Outside Parliament, CCEDU made significant progress towards creating awareness and building support for the reforms among the public. To this end, CCEDU and its partners seized the opportunity to collaborate with a cross section of political parties, civil society groups and constitutional bodies to convene an electoral reform consultative forum in the Western region

in Kigezi between 29th and 30th September 2014 at Kirigime Guest Hotel, Kabale. The forum convened under the aegis of the multi-stakeholder *'Call for Free and Fair Elections'* countrywide campaign was designed to solicit regional perspectives on the proposed electoral reforms.

The Kigezi forum attracted 160 participants (40 female and 120 male) representing political parties, religious institutions, the private sector, academia, central government organs, local government leaders and Parliament. The consultations also enlisted the participation of retired civil servants, and opinion leaders from Kigezi region.

As part of the outcome, a '*Kigezi regional consensus'* document was adopted. The document details the priority areas for reform. These were: the independence of the Electoral Commission, balanced media reporting during campaigns and campaign financing.

The reform campaign was strengthened by the active participation of Women in Leadership Development (WLEDE), a member of CCEDU who held consultations with specific stakeholders including the Uganda Women Parliamentary Association (UWOPA) on 15th May 2014, the National Association of Women Organizations in Uganda (NAWOU) on 13th May 2014, the women leagues in JEEMA on 28th April 2014, the Conservative Party (CP) on 6th May 2014 and the Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) on 16th June 2014. These consultations culminated into a framework paper published by WLEDE, titled '*Women's Mainstream Leadership in Uganda.'* It was validated *on* 24th October 2014 at Hotel Africana, Kampala.

2. Observing by-elections and the National Identity Card (ID) registration exercise

During the year, CCEDU observed 3 by-elections in Bubulo West Constituency in Manafwa district on 10th April 2014, Luweero district on 22nd May 2014 and Amuru district on 20th November 2014.

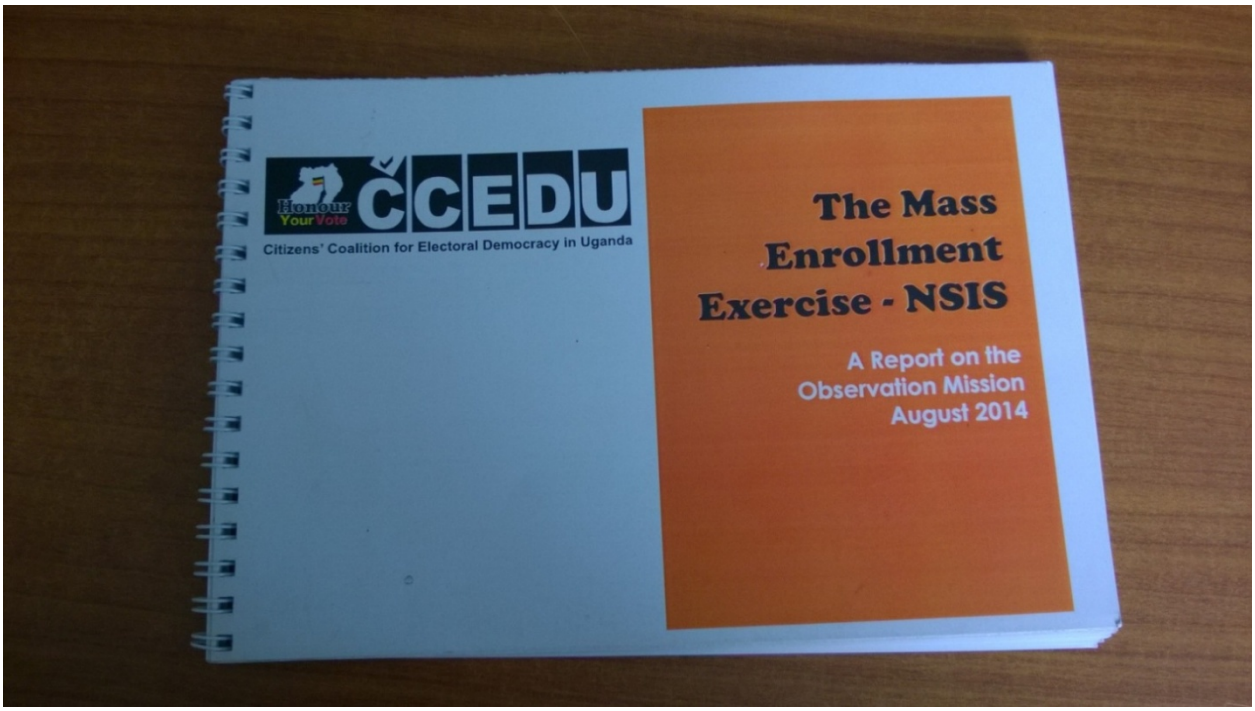
Each of these missions was preceded by a training workshop for CCEDU observers on election observation. To improve data collection and ensure timely transmission, CCEDU partnered with Research World International (RWI) — a professional research firm that introduced the CCEDU observers to the electronic Observer Data Kit (ODK) fast data capturing and transmission system. The reports from the observer missions were shared with the Electoral Commission, media, political parties, the CCEDU membership and other civil society activists.



Electoral Commission officials prepare to count ballot papers cast during the Luweero Woman MP by-election held on 22nd May 2014.

With prospects of extracting the 2016 National Voters' Register from the National Security Information Systems (NSIS) database/National Identity Card (ID) registration, CCEDU deployed 360 observers in 8,000 parishes countrywide to observe the 4 month national ID mass enrolment exercise. The exercise was conducted between 5th–11th August 2014. Research World International (RWI) supported CCEDU with data analysis and processing.

Following the exercise, CCEDU presented the report titled *'The Mass Enrolment Exercise –NSIS: A report on the observation mission August 2014',* to the Minister of Internal Affairs, Hon. Gen Aronda Nyakairima on 23rd September 2014 at the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The report was subsequently launched at Protea Hotel on the same day. The report raises critical questions around the citizenship and age verification process and the adequacy of the time allocated for the registration exercise.



The NSIS observation report authored by CCEDU

Lastly, as part of the preparations for the upcoming 2016 general elections, CCEDU and WLEDE identified through a mapping exercise, 200 potential community election observers. The observers from 36 districts, will be trained and deployed to observe and report on pre-polling, polling and post-election events in 2015 and 2016.

3. 5th Annual membership platform

On 25th September 2014, CCEDU held the 5th Annual membership platform at the Democracy House in Nsambya under the theme *'CCEDU towards the 2016 General Elections; Opportunities and Options"*. The membership platform provides an opportunity for the CCEDU membership to appraise the performance of CCEDU and to reflect on their role in the electoral process in Uganda. The 361 members who attended were addressed by a panel of 4 including Hon. Sam Otada, sponsor of the electoral reform bills, Ms. Jackie Asiimwe, an individual member of CCEDU, Mr. Nicholas Opio from Chapter Four and Hon. Betty Turomwe Kamya, President of Uganda Federal Alliance.

4. Institutional capacity

In order to strengthen institutional capacity, CCEDU procured a four wheel drive pickup, 2 laptop computers, 360 android mobile and power banks to support election observation, 6 desktop computers and resource centre furniture.

Outcome

Following strategic methodical and rigorous advocacy for electoral reforms, the office of the Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament invited CCEDU to officially present its proposals. The Speaker commended the efforts and called for the proposals to be included on the agenda of Parliament at the earliest opportunity.

More concretely, Cabinet incorporated some of the proposals on Electoral Commission and remuneration of public servants in the White Paper on constitutional reforms.

Lastly, the Electoral Commission adopted the recommendations contained in the election observer reports. The recommendations, led to among other changes, the installation of a hotline to allow for timely reports and rapid responses to electoral irregularities and/malpractices.

Challenges

The electoral reform campaign is prone to politicisation. CCEDU reported serious misconceptions around some of its activities by key stakeholders including political parties and some CSOs during the year.

3. CIVIL SOCIETY- PRIVATE- PUBLIC SECTOR FORUM (C

3. CIVIL SOCIETY- PRIVATE- PUBLIC SECTOR FORUM (CS-P-PSF)



H.E Ambassador, Park Jong-Dae, (right) South Korean Ambassador to Uganda discussing with Prof. Dr. Margaret Kigozi, (2nd right in red and black outfit) Co-Chair of the CS-P-PSF at the 1st Annual Social Economic Summit at Speke Resort Hotel, Munyonyo, Kampala on 5th November 2014. Looking on is Rev. Fred Phillp Kato (standing in yellow tie), a member of CCEDU Executive Board.

3. Civil Society-Private-Public Sector Forum

The Civil Society-Private-Public Sector Forum (CS-P-PSF) was launched on 11th July 2013. The Forum is a consortium of civil society, the private and public sectors. It aspires to champion innovative approaches and to exploit the full potential of the tri-partite partnership for economic and social transformation of Uganda.

A core group comprising the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), National Planning Authority (NPA), Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU), Uganda National NGO forum (UNNGOF), Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), FHRI, and Crown Beverages Limited (CBL) governs CS-P-PSF. The group is co-chaired by Prof. Maggie Kigozi, Executive Director, Crown Beverages and Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by these agencies to formalise this partnership.

The membership of the forum increased from 54 in 2013 to 60 in 2014.

Objective
To provide a common platform for dialogue and collective advocacy for economic and social transformation of Uganda.

Implementation

The forum has adopted four main program areas: monitoring the national budget framework, review of the national tax policy regime, promotion of education and technical skills and fostering good governance practices.

The Coordination unit of the CS-P-P-SF is set up at the Democracy House located at Plot 1111 Lulume Road, Nsambya. The unit comprises of a National Outreach Coordinator and volunteers.

Planned Activities

In 2014, 2 core group meetings and the Annual Social Economic Summit were planned.

Output

- **Core group meetings**

2 core group meetings were held on 9th April 2014 and 4th July 2104. The meetings were hosted by NSSF. During these meetings, the core group members adopted and signed the Memorandum of Understanding to formalise the CS-P-PSF partnership, agreed on key program areas and held preparatory discussions for the 2014 Annual Social Economic Forum which was held on 5th November 2014.

- **The 2014 Annual Social Economic Summit (ASES)**

The 2014 Annual Social Economic Summit (ASES) was held on 5th November 2014 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala, under the theme '*Achieving Uganda's Vision 2040 through Smart Partnerships.'*

The Summit provided an excellent opportunity for dialogue on challenges related to the national budget, investment, taxation and policy review, governance, education, skills development and deployment, health and social protection, and peace and conflict resolution mechanisms. 549 delegates from civil society, private and public sectors attended the event.

Prof. Dr. Margaret Kigozi, the co-chair of CS-P-PSF delivered the opening remarks. The 2014 Summit was also graced by H.E Ambassador Park Jong-Dae, South Korean Ambassador to Uganda, Mr. Ahmadou Moustapha Ndiaye, Country Manager, World Bank, Dr. Ian Clarke, Chairman and CEO International Medical Group, Hon. Dr. Abbey Rwendeire, Deputy Chairperson National Planning Authority, Mr. Patrick Ochailap, Deputy Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and Dr. Vincent Sinabulya, Chief Executive Officer, LIRACCOE Ltd.

The World Bank, National Planning Authority and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Uganda funded the 2014 Summit.

Outcome

The success of the 1st Annual Social Economic Summit in 2014 attests to the willingness of the public and private sector to work with civil society to promote common goals. The deliberations and commitments secured in this respect speak to the enthusiasm within the 3 sectors to exploit this partnership for social and economic change.

And as rightly noted by the FHRI Mid-Term Review in 2014,

> '*The forum is relevant because of its focus on economic growth and role of the private sector. The private sector, CSOs and government have common concerns about governance, regulation and accountability.'*

Challenges

The forum is not immune to start up challenges faced by entities in their formative years. Some of these include inadequate resources and constituency building.

PARTNERSHIPS



Left to right: Ms Daisy Schmitt, Women's Rights desk, FIDH, Ms Connie Numbi, Project Associate FHRI, Ms Alice Mogwe, Deputy Secretary General, FIDH, Mr. Dan Van Raemdonck, Secretary General, FIDH, Ms Lucy Nantume, Senior Associate, FHRI, Ms Jill Kyatuheire, FHRI partner and Ms Christine Nakirya, Project Assistant, CCEDU at the Human Rights House during the FIDH mission to Uganda on 29th January 2014.

ACTION 6: PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships remain one of the key strategies employed by FHRI to strengthen national and international lobbying and advocacy for more respect of international human rights standards. The range of partners working with FHRI has continued to grow, with a number of new partnerships emerging. This strategy has enhanced the visibility and influence of FHRI. It has also provided FHRI with platforms for advocacy at the national and global human rights and governance agenda.

In 2014, FHRI in partnership with Integrity Action implemented a series of activities on the concept of 'open contracting' and monitoring service delivery for better development outcomes.

1. INTEGRITY ACTION

Objective

The objective of the Integrity Action (IA) is to scale up inclusion and citizen participation in monitoring service delivery.

Planned Activities

The following activities were planned for 2014: An Integrity Leadership for Africa Course (ILAC), a training workshop on integrity monitoring for CSOs and local integrity monitors in Masaka district, a participatory assessment exercise in Kabonera and Mukungwe sub – counties of Masaka district and a social accountability day in Masaka district.

Output

1. **Integrity Action**

- **Integrity Leadership for Africa Course**

ILAC was jointly run with IA and FHRI between 12th and 15th May 2014 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala. The course objectives were to build knowledge on integrity concepts and to equip civil society leaders, public officials and academics with skills to strengthen integrity at the work place. The course was attended by 42 participants (16 female and 26 male) from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Liberia, Nigeria, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, UK and Israel. The selection of participants was merit based.

The course opened with a panel discussion on *"Open Contracting: How Can We Achieve Better Development Outcomes?"* The discussion was interactive and focused on the approaches, challenges and opportunities for advancing open contracting in Africa particularly, in countries dependent on aid and natural resources.



Participants attending the ILAC visit a water source in Nangabo Sub County, Wakiso district on 15th May 2015.

- **Training workshop on integrity monitoring for CSOs and local integrity monitors in Masaka district.**

A 2 day workshop on integrity monitoring was held in Masaka district from 3rd - 4th April 2014 at Masaka Municipal Council Hall. Participants were drawn from Kabonera and Mukungwe sub-counties in Masaka district. The workshop equipped the local monitors with skills in integrity monitoring and service delivery. 32 local monitors (12 female and 20 male) were trained.

- **Monitoring social service delivery centres in Kabonera and Mukungwe sub-counties, Masaka district.**

Following the training workshop for local integrity monitors in Kabonera and Mukungwe sub counties, a planning meeting was held with the monitors to identify target service centres for purposes of monitoring. Subsequently, 18 centres in Kabonera and Mukungwe sub-counties were identified and monitored. The participatory assessment exercise was undertaken throughout April and May 2014 by 18 monitors (8 female and 10 male).

- **Social accountability day in Masaka district.**

As planned, the social accountability day was celebrated on 11th June 2014 at County grounds in Masaka district. To commemorate this day, FHRI held a roundtable meeting to disseminate findings from the participatory assessment of service delivery points carried out by the monitors in April and May 2014.

The meeting was attended by 35 participants (14 female and 21 male) including the Masaka district Vice Chairperson, the Community Development Officer, Head Teachers, the District Education Officer, Buganda's representative in the Masaka region (POKINO), the District Health Officer and the District Water Engineer. The district leaders committed to supporting CSO led social accountability and integrity campaigns in the district.



Left to right: Ms Isabella Bwiire, Executive Officer, FHRI, Dr Fredrick Galtung, CEO, Integrity Action, Ms. Ellen Goldberg, World Bank, Mr Ssekuuma Isaac, Communications Intern, FHRI, Ms Judy Tuwei, Program Coordinator , Community Integrity Building, Integrity Action and Dr Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI at the Human Rights House, Nsambya on 16th May 2014

2. African Civil Society Organisations at the USA-Africa Leaders' Summit, Washington D.C

Much more work still needs to be done to uphold the rule of law, respect for human rights, democracy and sustainable development in African Countries .' **Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana.**

As part of the civil society contingent, Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana attended the USA-Africa Leaders' Forum between 4th and 6th August 2014. Freedom House, based in Washington D.C, US, funded his participation. He attended meetings and made a presentation on human rights

in Africa at Capitol Hill, on behalf of human rights groups present. 3 priority areas were collectively identified by civil society for further advocacy. There include respect for freedom of expression, association and assembly; promoting respect for diversity and equality; and enhancing inclusive socio-economic rights.

On this occasion, human rights groups called on the US Government to subject all trade agreements with African states to a strict human rights audit to promote balanced growth.



Some of the delegates attending the summit: 2nd from right is Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI. To his left is Mr. Hassan Shire Sheikh, Executive Director, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project followed by Mr. Robert Sempala, Coordinator, Human Rights Network for Journalists, Uganda on 7th August 2014, Washington D.C, USA.

NETWORKNIG AND COLLABORATION



The delegation from Simmons College (USA) pose for a photo with the Executive Director, FHRI at the Human Rights House, Nsambya, 2014

II. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

FHRI continues to work closely with a wide range of institutions and groups pursuing similar objectives at the local, national and international levels.

Objective

To work closely with other actors in order to promote adherence to human rights standards at the national and international level.

Implementation

In 2014, networking took diverse forms-joint campaigns, country visits, internships, volunteer placements and, participation in national, regional and international events.

Output

- **Membership to Networks**

FHRI is an active member of 15 networks and coalitions including: EAHRDP, HURINET-U, DENIVA, LASPNET, UCRNN, ULA, CCEDU, UGMP, CAT, CEAC, World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), the East African Coalition Against the Death Penalty (EACADP), Uganda National Working Group on Access to Justice (SAJEA) and the Uganda Coalition on Transitional Justice (UCTJ). The Organization is also affiliated to the International Federation for Human Rights Defenders (FIDH).

In 2014, FHRI held leadership positions in some of these networks as shown in table 10 below:

Table 10: FHRI roles in networks/coalitions

Network/Umbrella	Position
East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EAHRDP)	Chairperson, Board of Directors
The East African Coalition Against the Death Penalty (EACADP)	Coordinator
Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU)	Chairperson, Executive Committee
Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN)	Chairperson, Executive Committee
Federation of International Human Rights Defenders (FIDH) – Paris	Vice President
NGO Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and People's Rights (CEAC)	Focal Point, Eastern Africa

- **Events attended in 2014**

Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana attended several events throughout the year. Some of these included:

Media related:

- Live broadcast panel discussion on the Electoral Roadmap, *20th February 2014,* Wizarts auditorium, Kampala.

Conferences, meetings & workshops:

- DGF workshop on domestic election observation, *1st April 2014,* Entebbe.
- Uganda Police Force consultative meeting on the proposed name change; *11th April 2014,* Hotel Africana, Kampala.
- Focal point meeting for East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, *5th May 2014,* Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala.
- NGO dialogue with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, *9th May 2014,* Silver Springs, Kampala.
- East Africa Magistrates and Judges Association (EAMJA) conference on the Sentencing Guidelines, *29th May 2014*, Royal Suites Bugolobi, Kampala.
- UCRNN Annual General Meeting, *10th June 2014*, Imperial Royale, Kampala.
- Defenders Protection Initiative (DPI) workshop on security of human rights defenders, *27th June 2014*, Serena Hotel, Kampala.
- Disability Rights Fund (DRF) workshop on disability rights, *9th July 2014,* Hotel Africana, Kampala.
- The US –Africa leaders' Summit, *4th – 6th August, 2014*, Washington D.C, USA.
- Freedom House –Rights Rule of Law program stake holders meeting, *22nd October 2014*, Golf Course Hotel, Kampala.
- The WLEDE workshop on women participation in elections, *24th October 2014*, Hotel Africana, Kampala.
- Panel discussion on the rights of children whose parents face the death sentence,*17th October 2014,* Hotel Africana, Kampala.
- Regional workshop on protecting civic space, *17th -18th November 2014,* Pretoria, South Africa.
- African Centre for Media Excellence (ACME) public lecture under the theme *'Media and Politics in Africa', 26th November 2014,* Golf Course Hotel, Kampala.

- DGF human rights workshop, *1st – 2nd December 2014*, Kampala.

- Meeting with the Hon. Speaker of Parliament on the Electoral Reform Bill, *4th December 2014* at Parliamentary building, Kampala.

Training courses:

- Integrity Leadership Africa Course, *12th* to *15th May, 2014*, Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala.

- Plea bargain training workshop for paralegals, *14th November 2014,* Royal Suits Hotel, Bugolobi, Kampala.

In 2014, FHRI staff also participated in several events organised by partners, civil society actors and government institutions on human rights, governance and democracy. Some of these include:

Conferences, meetings & workshops:

- Meeting on public interest law organised by the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) at the School of Law, Makerere University, *20th January, 2014*, Kampala.

- The 16th Annual Judicial Officers conference organised by the Judicial Studies Institute, *27th January, 2014*, Kampala.

- Meeting on the minimum wage organised by Platform for Labour Action, *07th February, 2014*, Kampala.

- Meeting on restorative justice organised by Uganda Law Society, *17th February, 2014*, Kampala.

- Meeting on Civil Liberties and Human Rights organised by Chapter four (4), *19th February, 2014*, Kampala.

- Legal aid conference organised by LASPNET, *3rd January, 2014,* Kampala, Uganda.

- CSO consultative meeting on the land policy and implementation organised by Advocates Coalition for Development (ACODE), *7th March, 2014*, Kampala, Uganda.

- Meeting on Witness Protection organised by the UNOHCHR, *11th March, 2014,* Kampala.

- Meeting on mental disability rights organised by HURINET-U, *11th March, 2014,* Kampala.

- East African Civil Society Organisation Forum organised by National NGO Forum, *12th March, 2014,* Kampala.

- Article 8 dialogue with the EU Delegation organised by the European Union, *14th March, 2014,* Kampala.

- Public dialogue on Anti –pornography, Anti – gay and Public Order Management laws organised by HURIPEC, *20th March, 2014*, Kampala.

- Dissemination workshop of the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disability shadow report organised by National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda, *26th March, 2014,* Kampala.

- Roundtable and litigation on sexual violence organised by Equality Now, *05th May, 2015,* Kampala.

- Annual forum to promote the rights of detainees organised by Uganda Human Rights Commission, *19th June, 2014*, Kampala.

- Public dialogue on, *"Women towards 2016: Overcoming Gender Barriers"* organised by UWONET, *19th June, 2014*, Kampala.

- Stakeholders' dialogue and launch of the Amnesty Commission Report, organized by Amnesty International, *29th June, 2014*, Kampala.

- Dialogue on, *"Networking beyond borders"* organised by the Human Rights Centre-Uganda, *24th June, 2014*, Kampala.

- Annual Strategic Plan review workshop organised by UNESCO, *24th July, 2014*, Kampala.

- 53rd State of the Nation meeting organised by ACODE, *25th July, 2014,* Kampala.

- Consultative meeting on the EU Country Roadmap, *7th August, 2014*, Kampala.

- JLOS Criminal Justice Working Group meeting, *29th August, 2014*, Kampala.

- UN Human Rights Council meeting organised by Open Society Justice Initiative, *29th August, 2014,* Kampala.

- Annual symposium workshop on legal aid needs of people with disabilities organised by NUDIPU, *9th September, 2014*, Kampala.

- 2nd Annual SAJEA workshop organised by Uganda Law Society, *15th September, 2014*, Kampala.

- Dialogue on, 'Girls not brides' organised by Uganda Alliance to End Child Marriage, *23rd September, 2014*, Kampala.

- Meeting on 'Taxation for NGOs' organised by Stanbic Bank, *23rd September, 2014*, Kampala.

- Centenary celebrations of the Uganda Police force organised by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, *2nd October, 2014*, Kampala.

- Paralegal training on 'Plea Bargain' organised by the High Court of Uganda, *6th October, 2014,* Kampala.

- Evaluation of the Irish Aid Country Strategy Paper (2010- 2014), *22nd October, 2014,* Kampala.

- 19th Annual JLOS –Government - Development Partner review meeting, *29th October, 2014,* Kampala.

- Dialogue between Civil Society Organisations working with People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLHA) organised by the Archdiocese of Kampala, *27th November, 2014*, Kampala.

- Consultative meeting on the 'National Human Rights Action Plan' organised by the UNOHCHR, *28th November, 2014*, Kampala.

- Access to Justice regional conference organised by Justice Centres Uganda, *28th November, 2014*, Kampala.

- Meeting on the prevention of torture in Africa organised by the African Union and the Uganda Human Right Commission (UHRC), *15th December, 2014*, Kampala.

Processions:

- Peaceful procession in commemoration of International Human Rights day, organised by UHRC, *5th December, 2014*, Kampala.

Launches:

- Launch of a Handbook on Justice organised by Moslem Centre for Justice and Law, *12th February, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of the community policing program organised by the Uganda Police Force, *26th February, 2014,* Kampala.

- Launch of the Cavendish University human rights club organised by Cavendish University, *20th March, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of the Uganda Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2013 organised by Uganda Human Rights Commission,*9th April, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of the Uganda mediation chamber organized by Justice, Law and Order Sector,*25th April, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of a regional report on the 'Status of Poverty in Uganda' organised by CHRI, *5th May, 2014,* Kampala.

- Launch of the National Land Policy organised by Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, *13th May, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of '*Accountability can transform Health programs*' organised by Goal, *12thSeptember, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of the 5th Annual National Local Government Council Scorecard report organised by ACODE, *27th November, 2014*, Kampala.

- Launch of the 'Mental Health report' organised by Mental Health Uganda, *8th December, 2014,* Kampala.

Outcome

> *'FHRI has established important relationships with key institutions (state and non-state), which bodes well for its lobbying and advocacy work, especially its ability to influence the policy positions and practices of targeted institutions. The influence and visibility at regional and international level adds credibility and possibly gravitas to FHRI and its ability to 'speak and be heard' by key stakeholders'.* **The 2014 FHRI Mid Term Review report**.

Challenge

The challenge is for FHRI to maximize these platforms in order to positively impact on the human rights situation in Uganda.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Some of FHRI staff in a group discussion during the Board- Staff retreat on 17th December 2014 at Sir Jose Hotel, Kampala

III. ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The implementation of the current five year program requires efficient systems, a well-trained and motivated staff and creative leadership.

Objective

To build a sustainable and innovative human rights advocacy organization in Uganda.

The Action has four components:

1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
2. Human Resource Development.
    - Staffing
    - Staff training and development
3. Governing Bodies
4. Office Administration.

1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Objective

The M&E component tracks progress of program implementation, outcomes and impact for effective human rights advocacy.

Planned Activities

The following activities were planned for 2014: Update of the annual work plan, year planner and budget 2014, 3 quarterly program review meetings, 2 Board of Directors meetings, 2 strategic partnership meetings, 1 end of year Board- Staff retreat and the FHRI-DGF Mid-Term Review (MTR).

Output

1. Monitoring and Evaluation

The annual work plan, year planner and budget for 2014, form part of the M & E system. These instruments were updated in 2014.

In 2014, 3 quarterly program review meetings were held for staff to review progress against set targets, respond to challenges and plan collectively. The meetings took place on 6th January 2014, 4th April 2014, and 1st August 2014.

Similarly, 2 quarterly Board of Directors meetings were held on 5th April 2014 and 16th August 2014 to monitor progress and approve work-plans and budgets.

FHRI held 2 strategic annual and bi-annual partnership meetings within the cooperation framework with DGF on 27th February 2014 and 1st September 2014 at the Human Rights House. These meetings examined the progress towards implementation of FHRI 5 year Strategic Plan (2012-2016).

As an established practice, the Board- Staff retreat was held on 15th – 19th December 2014 at Sir Jose Hotel, Gabba. The retreat facilitated review of progress towards implementation of the 5 year program and the impact of FHRI work on the human rights situation in Uganda.

During the year, DGF and FHRI jointly conducted a Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the current strategic plan. The purpose of the review was to assess progress towards the objectives of the program and ultimately use the findings to inform programming and institutional strengthening.

The MTR report prompted internal reflection and guided planning and future strategies during the annual Board-Staff retreat. The recommendations detailed therein were critically analysed by staff members, to assess both feasibility and practicability prior to adoption. Several of the recommendations were wholly adopted while others were modified to suit the FHRI context and dynamics. Overall, the MTR report challenged management and staff to innovate and solidify the organisation's leadership position. Areas in need of improvement and opportunities for growth were identified and consolidated into the Institutional Strengthening Plan (ISP).

2. Human Resource Development

Objective

To improve staff capacity for effective implementation of the program.

Human Resource Development has three components:

1. Staffing
2. Internship program
3. Staff training and development.

Output

1. Staffing

The FHRI team comprises technical and administrative support staff. Below is the FHRI staff line up for 2014.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director



Ms. Sheila Muwanga
Ag. Deputy Executive Director (Programs)



Ms. Milly Nakakande
Executive Officer



Ms. Isabella Bwire
Executive Officer



Ms Connie Numbi
Project Associate



Ms.Ntanzi Rosabella
Programs Associate

RESEARCH DIVISION



Ms. Josephine Kankunda
Senior Researcher



Ms. Penny Mbabazi Atuhaire
Research Associate



Ms. Lizet Vlammings
Research Fellow



Mr. Rashid Bunya
Research Assistant



Ms. Claire Nampala
Research Assistant



Mr. Sam Ssemakula
Research Intern

LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION



Dr. Josephine Ndagire
Director Legal Services



Ms. Lucy Nantume
Senior Associate



Ms. Maria KadduBusuulwa
Senior Legal Associate



Ms. Solome Nagadya
Associate



Mr. George Musisi
Associate



Ms. Caroline Obbo
Legal Assistant



Ms. Josephine Namukasa
Legal Assistant



Mr. Richard Kisuze
Legal Assistant



Ms. Asiimwe Editor
Legal Intern



Ms.Mugabekazi Primah
Legal Intern



Ms.Nakabugo Nassim
Legal Intern



Ms. Esther Kaggwa

Legal Intern

RIGHT TO LIFE



Ms. DoreenNamyalo
Senior Associate



Ms. Catherine Komuhangi
Project Assistant

ALTERNATIVES PROJECT



Ms. Diva Mukisa
Project Coordinator



Mr. Denis Angeri
Project Assistant

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



Ms. Alice Nassaka
Ag. Director Civic Education



Ms. Rose Nanyondo
Training Coordinator



Mr. Elly Kasirye
Project Intern



Ms. Talent Musingyiza
Project Intern

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION DIVISION



Ms. Elizabeth Nantamu
Ag. Coordinator External Services



Ms. Teddy Namayanja
Public Relations Officer



Mr. Daniel Ntambi
Marketing Officer



Ms. Winnie Munyegera
Administration Intern



Mr. Isaac Ssekuma
Communication Intern



Ms. Hannah Taremwa
Project Intern



Ms. Sandra Nsimire
Project Intern



Ms. Doreen Kyobutungi
Project Intern

PARALEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES



Ms. Elinor Wanyama Chemonges
National
National Coordinator –PAS



Ms. Faith Mutumba
Legal officer



Mr. Emmanuel Otim
Administrative Assistant



Mr. Hannington Musisi
Driver

CITIZENS COALITION FOR ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY IN UGANDA



Mr. Crispy Kaheru
Coordinator



Mr. Charles Mwangushya
Communications Manager



Mr. Moses Ngorok
Project officer Advocacy and Membership



Ms. Christine Nakirya
Project Assistant



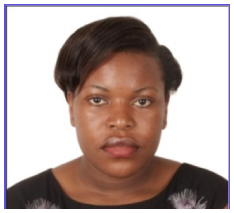
Ms.Faridah Lule
Project Associate



Ms. Ronah Adong
Project Associate



Mr. Moses Nyanzi
Driver



Ms. Susan Nalukwago
CCEDU Intern



Ms. Dorothy Twerinde
CCEDU Intern

CIVIL SOCIETY PUBLIC PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM



Mr. Edmond Nkalubo
Executive Secretary

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



Ms. Rose Kamuli Mwesigwa
Ag. Director Finance and Administration



Mr Patrick Lugunga
Accountant



Mr. Keneth Raffer Wanda
Accounts Assistant



Ms. Gladys Mirembe
Finance and Administration Assistant

ADMINISTRATION



Mr. Ssebaana Steven
Office Manager



Ms. Elizabeth Nakato
Front Desk Officer



Mr. Matthew Sekitto
Office Assistant



Mr. Moses Kyazze
Senior Driver



Mr. Allan Semalulu
Senior Driver



Ms. Olivia Kigozi
Welfare Assistant



Mr. Godi Hassan
Gardener



Mr. Sendawula Frank
Cleaner/Gardener



Mr. Richard Okeya
Security Guard

2. Internship program

In 2014, FHRI hosted a total of 57 interns (47 female, 10 male) from different universities in Uganda and abroad. The students understudied FHRI's programs and strategies.

Table 11: Interns hosted by FHRI in 2014.

NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	HOSTING DIVISION
1.	Kazigaba Anne Marie	Kampala University	Capacity Development
2.	Nambwaayo Rachael	Kampala University	Capacity Development
3.	Katende Sharifk	Makerere University	Capacity Development
4.	Kyakuwa Shafirah	Makerere University	Capacity Development
5.	Nyakato Sharon	Ndejje University	Capacity Development
6.	Nakibuuka Lillian	Makerere University	Capacity Development
7.	Mangeni Milton	Makerere University	Capacity and Development
8.	Nandawula Rowena	Makerere University	Capacity Development
9.	Nakalema Nabila	Kyambogo University	CS-PS-PSF
10.	Musiime Primah	Makerere University	CS-PS-PSF
11.	Nabaye Tricia Gloria	Makerere University	CS-PS-PSF
12.	Aganyira Sandra	Makerere University	CCEDU
13.	Kasibante Gideon	Makerere University	CCEDU
14.	Nadia Batenga	Makerere University	CCEDU
15.	Nansubuga Ritah	Makerere University	CCEDU
16.	Ndibalekela Violah	Makerere University	CCEDU
17.	Namirimu Deborah	Uganda Christian University	CCEDU
18.	Alobo Joy	Makerere University	Paralegal Advisory Services
19.	Mugerwa Tadeo	Makerere University	Paralegal Advisory Services
20.	Karungi Juliet Pearl	Uganda Christian University	Paralegal Advisory Services.
21.	Mukisa Edwin	Makerere University	Paralegal Services
22.	Birabwa Fiona	Makerere University	Paralegal Services
23.	Kasokabajja Erinest	Makerere University	Alternatives project
24.	Atuheire Lois Rita	Uganda Christian University	Communication and Information
26.	Nakiragga Martha	Makerere University	Communication and Information
27.	Nyakato Lydia	Y.M.C.A.	Communication and Information
28.	Namusoke Christine	Makerere University	Communication and Information
29.	Seluk Rawinter	Makerere University Business School	Communication and Information
30.	Ntanzi Rosabella	ÀboAkademi University – Finland	Executive Office
31.	Okafor Mildred	IU&C (legal) Citizen's Justice	Executive Office

32.	Kabanyoro Enid	Kampala International University	Executive Office
33.	Nabukeerera Geraldine	Makerere University Business School	Finance
34.	Nakabugo Esther	Makerere University Business School	Finance
35.	Namugosa Annet	Law Development Centre	Legal Services
36.	Wassanyi Sepi	Law Development Centre	Legal Services
37.	Kwesiga Diana	Institute of Legal Practice and Development – Rwanda	Legal Services
38.	Wandera Ogwani David	Law Development Centre	Legal Services
39	Nakandi Hilda	Makerere University	Legal Services
40.	Ampairwe Cynthia	Makerere University	Legal Services
41.	Namasinga Teddy Lubowa	Law Development Centre	Legal Services
42.	Anyango Enid	Kyambogo University	Death Penalty
43.	Nakawei Salimat	Makerere University	Research
44.	Nansereko Edith	Makerere University	Research
45.	Helen Masawi Namataka	Curtin University – Australia	Research
46.	Sarah Abaasi	University of Scotland – UK	Research
47.	Mary Owusu	Osgoode Hall Law School - Canada	Research
48.	Samantha Weng	Osgoode Hall Law School – Canada	Research
49.	Katherine Culver	Yale Law School - U.S.A	Research
50.	Elizabeth Bramon	Harvard Law School – U.S.A	Research
51.	Matilda Stromberg	Stockholm University - Sweden	Research
52.	Imke Charlotte Vonalt	Kammergericht Berlin – Germany	Research
53.	Dennis Schleppi	University of Bremen – Germany	Research
54.	Jonathan Beirne	Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po – France	Research
55.	Lydia Howe	Durham University – UK	Research
56.	Hanna Winterhalder	Munich University - Germany	Research
57.	Kyarimpa Ednah	Uganda Christian University	Research



Some of the interns hosted by FHRI in 2014 with the Executive Director, Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana (in the centre in blue golf shirt) on 14th August 2014 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya.

3. Staff training and development

In 2014, FHRI staff attended several trainings as listed below:

- Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director successfully completed his PhD program in Public Law at the University of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa and graduated on 13th June 2014.

- Sheila Muwanga, Ag. Deputy Executive Director, Programs participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) under the theme, *' NGO Activism'* supported by the US Embassy and US State Department, 12th January – 4th February 2014, US.

- Elly Kasirye, Coordinator, Students Human Rights Network (Capacity Development Division) attended a Tech camp under the theme: '*How to use ICT in advocacy* by

Communities of Democracies' supported by the U.S Government, 10th – 12th June 2014,Gaborone, Botswana.

- Elly Kasirye, Coordinator, Students Human Rights Network (Capacity Development Division) participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) under the theme*, 'Minority rights in the U.S.A Context'* supported by the US Embassy and US State Department, 20th September – 18th October 2014*,* USA.

- Alice Nasaka, Ag. Director, Civic Education, attended a DGF training program on *Monitoring and Evaluation*, 23rd September 2014*,* Kampala.

- Ms. Sophie Racine, Component Manager, Rights Justice and Peace, DGF, addressed FHRI staff on '*Impact Monitoring'* at the Board –Staff retreat held at Sir Jose Hotel on 16th December 2014, Ggaba, Kampala.

- FHRI hosted DGF's Isaac Galiwango, Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, addressed staff on *'Results based reporting'* on 17th December 2014*, Sir Jose Hotel, Kampala, Uganda*.

3. Governing Bodies

FHRI is a membership organisation with an organisational structure that comprises the General Assembly, Patron, Trustees, Board of Directors, the Working Group and the secretariat.

While the General Assembly is the supreme governing body of FHRI, the Trustees are the custodians of FHRI Constitution and property. The Patron on the other hand promotes awareness of the values and mission of FHRI while the Working Group is a think-tank of the organization, with a mandate of providing strategic direction on emerging issues. The Working Group is elected by the General Assembly.

The Board of Directors provides strategic direction to the organisation while the secretariat is the implementing arm.

FHRI holds Annual General Meetings (AGM) for its membership to reflect, adopt and approve new strategic plans, annual reports and the audit reports. FHRI also convenes General Assemblies every three years to elect new members to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meets three times a year to appraise staff, discuss and approve activity reports, budgets and program work plans.

Objective

- *The governing bodies provide strategic leadership to the organization.*

Planned Activities:

In 2014 the planned activities were the 18th AGM and 2 Board of Directors meetings.

Output

In 2014, FHRI held the 18th AGM on 23rd August 2014 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya. The meeting was attended by 550 members (300 female and 250 male). In his presentation titled '*Reflection on key governance issues in the run to the 2016 General Elections*', the FHRI Patron, Prof. Dr. Justice George Wilson Kanyeihamba, discussed the controversy surrounding the annulment of the anti-gay law by the Constitutional Court; self-censorship by the media and the effectiveness of political parties in Uganda.

During the AGM, the Chairperson of the Board Rev. Dr. John Kateeba and Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, presented the reports for the period, September 2013 – August 2014. The members also received the audit reports and the Annual Report (2013). By the end of 2014, FHRI membership had grown to 1,028 from 1,065 members in 2013.

Table 12: FHRI Trustees: 2014

Name	Affiliation
Mrs. Mary Sewamuwe	Minnesota Health International
Mrs. Sarah Mukiibi. S.	Libra Consultants Limited
Mr. Albert Mukundane	Consultant
Mr. Wycliffe Birungi	Birungi & Co Advocates
Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)

Table 13: FHRI Patron

Name	Affiliation
Prof. Dr. Justice George Kanyeihamba	GW Kanyeihamba & Co. Advocates

Table 14: FHRI Working Group

Name	Position
Rev. Dr. John Kateeba Tumwine	Member
Mr. James Kizito-Mayanja	Member
Her Worship Stella Amabilis	Member
Mr. Mwambustya Ndebesa	Member
Mr. Patrick Semwogerere	Member
Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana	Ex-Officio

Table 15: FHRI Board of Directors: 2012-2015

Name	Position
Rev. Dr. John Kateeba Tumwine	Chairperson
Her Worship Justine Atukwasa	Vice Chairperson
Mr. Adrian Jjuuko	Hon. Secretary
Mr. Davidson Sserunjogi	Hon. Treasurer
Mr. Edward Peace Obura	Member
Mr. Celestin O. Mugisha	Member
Ms. Patricia Atim P'Odong	Member
Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana	Ex-Officio

5. Office Administration

In 2014, FHRI paid its salary and utility bills on a regular basis. Assets were regularly maintained despite the high operational costs. Acquisitions in 2014 included one 4-wheel drive Pick- Up, two desktop computers and accessories, five laptops, two HP laser jet printers and office furniture (reception chairs, 3 office desks and one office chair). The organisation duly insured, serviced and repaired its equipment including vehicles, photocopiers, the generator, computers and accessories.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

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8 Kyaggwe Road
P. O. Box 6293, Kampala, Uganda
Phone: +256 (0)41 4258458/42 36732
Fax: +256 (0)41 4236796
E-mail: carrstan@carrstanyersims.com

Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Foundation for Human Rights Initiative

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)** as set out on pages 24 to 60, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at **31 December 2014**, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as the management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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 judgement, 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 control 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 the Board, 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 opinion.

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

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8 Kyaggwe Road
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Phone: +256 (0)41 4258458/42367 32
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Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Foundation for Human Rights Initiative

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company at 31 December 2014 and of the financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and comply with the Companies Act 2012.

Reporting on Other Legal and Statutory Requirements

The Companies Act requires that in carrying out our audit we consider and report to you the following matters. We confirm that:

(i) We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

(ii) In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Company, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and

(iii) The Financial Statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

30 APR 2015
Kampala, Uganda

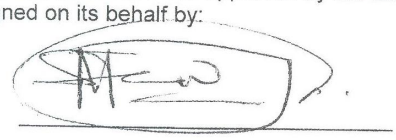
FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee, and not having a Share Capital)

Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2014

	Note	2014 Ushs.	2013 Ushs.
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	3	1,954,385,166	1,933,818,619
INVESTMENTS			
Shares	4	44,645,464	38,425,040
CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables and Prepayments	4	25,508,021	1,563,044
Cash at Bank	6.1	441,508,028	805,363,916
		467,016,049	806,926,960
TOTAL ASSETS		**2,466,046,679**	**2,779,170,619**
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
LONG TERM LIABILITIES			
Loan amount payable after more than one year	7	175,022,052	214,979,715
CAPITAL FUND	8	1,954,385,166	1,933,818,619
GENERAL AND RESTRICTED FUNDS	9	147,994,575	519,932,887
		2,277,401,793	2,668,731,221
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables and Accruals	10	108,904,654	104,586,456
Bank Overdraft	6.2	79,740,232	5,852,942
		188,644,886	110,439,398
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		**2,466,046,679**	**2,779,170,619**

These financial statements were approved by the Board on ....30.04.2015..... 2015
and were signed on its behalf by:



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



HONORARY TREASURER

FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee, and not having a Share Capital)

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	2014 Actual Ushs.	2014 Budget Ushs.	2013 Actual Ushs.
INCOME				
General Grants	11	5,249,101,017	5,848,894,898	4,329,137,355
FHRI Income	12	311,955,025	470,000,000	346,366,222
TOTAL INCOME		5,561,056,042	6,318,894,898	4,675,503,577
Less: Capital Expenditure		(169,915,952)	(199,800,376)	(32,223,004)
Balance available for recurrent expenditure		**5,391,140,090**	**6,119,094,522**	**4,643,280,573**
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE				
PROGRAMMES				
Research, Advocacy and Lobbying				
Routine Monitoring		47,839,000	58,398,300	58,972,066
Thematic report production		16,967,976	17,000,000	27,774,998
Treaty Reporting		5,295,710	6,983,000	1,705,400
Lower level Platform		23,845,515	37,120,000	5,869,500
Salary costs		153,704,869	153,844,000	104,999,279
Sub-total Research, Advocacy and Lobbying		247,653,070	273,345,300	199,321,243
Legal Services				
Legal Aid Services		153,788,826	203,743,600	60,593,205
Mobile legal Camps		98,994,197	98,300,540	45,925,019
Representation of Death Row Inmates		302,971,948	302,190,111	455,611,972
Public Interest Litigation/Legislative Advocacy		117,320,399	202,184,502	21,935,772
Salary costs		226,702,249	226,857,460	156,301,625
Sub-total Legal Services		899,777,619	1,033,276,213	740,367,593
CIVIC EDUCATION				
Support to Community Based Human Rights		22,644,000	43,478,875	-
Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting		-	-	222,635,765
Social Accountability		45,766,720	46,016,736	223,371,664
University Human Rights Network		62,343,500	62,080,000	14,296,000
Private Sector Outreach		50,540,299	50,761,116	29,714,982
Civic awareness camps		10,197,500	16,680,874	54,104,408
Human Rights Concerts and Anthem		-	-	14,627,660
Salary costs		186,908,024	187,552,000	108,319,388
Sub-total Support to CBHR		378,400,043	406,569,601	667,069,867
External Services				
Communication and Information Management		31,931,026	31,833,800	24,895,388
Documentation		42,667,913	42,730,640	48,432,628
Public Affairs		18,990,012	19,120,000	18,238,600
Volunteer and Internship fund		42,341,306	43,761,600	45,030,323
Salary costs		108,731,392	108,992,000	82,944,382
Partnerships		63,561,465	79,844,295	103,350,636
Sub-total External Services		308,223,114	326,282,335	322,891,957

FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee, and not having a Share Capital)

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	2014 Actual Ushs.	2014 Budget Ushs.	2013 Actual Ushs.
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE (Continued)				
Organisational Development				
Monitoring and Evaluation		48,807,482	66,015,280	36,323,875
Periodic Review and Staff Retreat		14,972,500	15,048,000	21,102,250
Human Resource Development		42,527,000	43,060,000	36,732,808
Governing bodies		-	3,960,000	3,449,250
Accounting software - Pastel		-	-	12,264,450
Alarm System (Human Rights House)		201,600,012	201,600,000	203,863,208
Salary costs		4,737,123	15,000,000	22,610,024
Sub-total Organisational Development		312,644,117	344,683,280	336,345,865
Special Projects				
CCEDU				
National ID Registration (NSIS)		248,052,649	245,521,900	-
Human Resource		205,233,000	205,128,000	173,960,000
Electoral Reform Advocacy		97,531,452	82,092,000	202,140,374
Election Observation (By elections)		86,226,838	70,640,070	102,505,722
Membership Management Information System		40,565,796	44,200,000	90,599,519
Institutional Development		10,901,800	10,000,000	10,934,150
Monitoring and Evaluation		6,432,154	5,600,000	6,000,000
Equipments		1,505,000	4,641,396	600,000
Administrative costs		18,889,233	12,858,440	28,337,539
Sub-total Special Projects CCEDU		715,337,922	680,681,806	615,077,304
PAS				
One OFF COSTS		12,280,450	13,794,929	12,168,750
Coordination costs		191,761,227	192,610,227	120,293,817
Investment costs		-	1,940,000	786,000
Running costs		1,090,052,226	1,095,011,500	910,138,806
Administrative costs		100,615,566	100,506,400	93,895,326
Sub-total Special Projects PAS		1,394,709,469	1,403,863,056	1,137,282,699
Special Projects				
HURINET Exchange Programme		-	-	11,976,797
Promoting the Electoral Process in Uganda		277,840,217	294,953,619	-
INTEGRITY ACTION		38,384,000	39,595,000	-
ICJ Kenya		37,340,796	38,000,000	15,437,813
Sub-total Special Projects PAS		353,565,013	372,548,619	27,414,610
Total Programme Expenditure		**4,610,310,367**	**4,841,250,210**	**4,045,771,138**

CONCLUSION



FHRI Kodak moments in 2014

V. CONCLUSION

The findings of the Mid Term Review of the 7th Strategic Plan renewed our drive. 23 years down the road, the independent assessment affirms the impact that FHRI has had on rights, governance, and development in Uganda.

> *'FHRI has gained legitimacy because of its human rights defenders work and its membership/constituency. It represents real issues, has had long time involvement, has built a profile/portfolio on human rights consistently for 20 years, they are well known. Their source of power is in their influence. They have been able to establish partnerships and presence in the grassroots- through paralegals and work with CBOs. They lobby and engage based on evidence. They have legitimacy at regional level. Some staff are not only knowledgeable, but also passionate. They also have their own house, therefore no constant threat of disappearing. FHRI is willing to intervene in even 'complex' issues.* ***[2014 MTR report]***

With such feedback from our partners and beneficiaries, it is evident that the positive impact of our work on the human rights situation in Uganda is visible.

This notwithstanding, the goal to nurture an accountable, responsive and democratic culture in our country is still far off. We each have a part to play – in our homes, neighbourhood, community, workplace and within the various associations we subscribe to. We shall count on you, our partners, friends and peers to move forward.

'TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE'.



FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

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Foundation for Human Rights Initiative

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www.youtube.com/user/fhriuganda