



Foundation
for
Human Rights
Initiative (FHRI)

2010
ANNUAL REPORT

THE FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI) is an independent, non-governmental, non-partisan and not-for-profit human rights organization. Established in 1991, FHRI is legally registered as a Non-governmental human rights organization under the Non-governmental Organizations Registration Statute 1989. It is duly incorporated under the Companies Act, Cap.110 as a body corporate. The organization seeks to enhance the knowledge, respect and observance of human rights, promote exchange of information and best practices through training, education, research, legislative advocacy and strategic partnerships in Uganda. The organization 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 five 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. In its 18 years of human rights advocacy, FHRI has spearheaded the human rights movement in Uganda and beyond through publication of action oriented research reports, capacity building programs for community based human rights associations, treaty reporting to Regional and UN human rights bodies, campaigns against torture, the death penalty and impunity, law reform and provision of legal aid services to the rural and urban poor especially women and children in hard to reach areas. In addition, the organization has facilitated the formation of community based human rights groups, sponsored weekly radio talk shows and human rights centered drama and established a Human Rights and Democracy Resource Centre to support program implementation.

While the fifth strategic plan (2006-2008) titled "From Theory to Practice: Advancing the human rights agenda in Uganda" sought to deepen engagement of the "supply and demand" side of rights, the current sixth strategic plan (2009-2011) code named; Put our World to Rights: Deepening Democratic Practices in Uganda (2009-2011) whose objective is to enhance meaningful citizen participation in democratic governance for sustainable development in Uganda, addresses the question of deepening human rights practices through building a democratic ethos across the political and social spectrum of Ugandan society. The program seeks to enhance meaningful citizen participation in democratic governance in order to build sustainable structures that would contribute to eradication of poverty, promote stability and challenge practices of impunity, corruption, political intolerance and exclusion of vulnerable sections of Ugandan society in the run up to the 2011 General elections.

FHRI is proud to be associated with a number of partners at the national, regional and international level. In 2010, FHRI actively maintained close collaboration with its implementing partners including: Uganda Prisons Service, Uganda Police Force, Uganda Human Rights Commission, Parliament of Uganda, Uganda Law Reform Commission, the Justice Law and Order Secretariat, The Judicial Studies Institute/Judicial Training Committee, the Directorate of Public Prosecution, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Gender, Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uganda Governance Monitoring Project (UGMP), Coalition Against Torture, African Centre for the Treatment of Torture Victims, (ACTV), Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF), Foundation for Needy Communities (FDNC), Kabugo Tamale & Co. Advocates, Katende Sempebwa & Co. Advocates, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, NGO Coalition on the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Death penalty project LTD, FIDH, OMCT, Penal Reform International (PRI), World Democracy Forum and the International Centre for Not for Profit Law (ICNL).

FHRI also supports and works with a number of Community based human rights groups such as: Pastoral Women Alliance to Break Cultural Chains (PWABC) in Kiboga, Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (AHURICA) in Kayunga, Rwenzori Peace

Bridge for Reconciliation (RPBR) in Kasese, Women's Initiative for Development and Paralegal Activities Association (WIDPAA) in Mukono, The Uganda Paralegal Society (UPS) in Kampala, The Foundation for Needy Communities (FDNC) in Mbale, Human Rights Target (HRT) in Luwero, Association of Human Rights Organisations (AHURIO) in Fort Portal, Youth Revival Association (YRA) in Kampala, Shape African Children Initiative in Wakiso, Kalangala Human Rights Defenders (KHRD) in Kalangala district, Bukoggolwa Widows and Orphans' Care Centre, Mpigi, Uganda Ey'enkya Development Project Group in Masaka, Lira Women's Peace Initiative (LIWEPI) in Lira district and Human Rights and Paralegal Services (HUPAS) in Busia district.

FHRI is a member of and collaborates with a number of civil society networks, coalitions/platforms and civil society groups including: Human Rights Network (HURINET), Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations in Uganda (DENIVA), Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN), National Union of Researchers and Research Users (NURRU), Coalition Against Torture (CAT), Uganda Governance Monitoring Project (UGMP), Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), Platform for Labour Action (PLA), Uganda Land Alliance (ULA), 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 Law Society (ULS), ANPCANN, Uganda Debt Network (UDN), Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), FIDA-Uganda, UWONET, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Uganda), Uganda Land Alliance (ULA), Refugee Law Project (RLP), Anti Corruption Coalition Uganda (ACCU), the Strengthening Access to Justice – Uganda Chapter (SAJEA), and the National NGO Forum.

The University human rights network which was initiated in 2006 now has a total of 14 Human Rights associations comprising of Busoga University, Ndejje University, Nkozi University, Makerere University, Kampala International University (Gaba), Kampala International University (Kansanga), Kibuli Teachers' Training College, Bugema University, Nkumba University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Christian University Mukono, Gulu University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology and the Islamic University, Mbale.

The print and electronic media have emerged as key partners in the sector during the year including: CBS FM, Super FM, Radio One, Radio Simba, KFM, Vision Voice, Sanyu FM, Capital FM, Voice of Teso, Dembe FM, Top Radio, Power FM, Radio West, Voice of Africa, BBC, UBC, WBS, NTV, Top TV and Record TV among others. Newspapers that have supported the campaign include: New Vision, Monitor publications, Weekly Observer, Bukedde, The East African, Reuters, The Independent Magazine, the Sunrise Newspaper, 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 and democratic governance worldwide.

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The Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) is indebted to countless individuals and organizations that made our work possible in 2010.

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- DANIDA (Legal Aid Basket Fund).
- DANIDA (Deepening Democracy Program)
- National Endowment for Democracy (NED).
- Finnish NGO Foundation for Human Rights (KIOS).
- Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD).
- International Commission of Jurists (Kenya).
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK)
- TIRI (Pro- Poor Integrity)

Special thanks to The Death Penalty Project Limited (UK), International Commission of Jurists (ICJ-K), The Westminster Consortium (TWC), Penal Reform International, Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, International Center for Non- Profit Law (ICNL), Housing Finance Company (Uganda) Ltd and National Housing and Construction Corporation (NHCC) for the excellent partnership and support to FHRI during the year.

To the many individuals and companies that supported our work, thank you very much.

Last but not least, to the victims of human rights abuse, communities and groups who sought our assistance, thank you for the confidence and trust in our services.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Wycliffe Birungi
Chairperson
FHRI Board of
Directors



It is indeed with great honour that I present to you the 19th Annual report of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) for the period ended 31st December 2010! FHRI views this tool as an accountability mechanism to its members, partners and the communities among whom we work. We see this as an opportunity to take stock of the work we have undertaken, the resources we have utilized and the challenges we have faced during the period under review.

As we take stock of our achievements in 2010, we are aware of the fact that FHRI will be marking 20 years of human rights advocacy in Uganda in 2011. To FHRI therefore, the year 2010 is yet another important step in the organization's growth curve as it looks forward to celebrating two decades of human rights activism in Uganda.

'Democratic accountability' became the catch word within the justice sector in 2010. Our goal therefore was to position the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) appropriately in order to navigate a potentially volatile political and economic environment. The results, we are confident, speak for themselves.

Indeed, our interventions include engagement with State organs on their human rights record as well as civic action geared towards demanding for better services at the national and local government levels. The release of two thematic human rights reports on the right to healthcare in Uganda and on political space rights in the run up to the 2011 elections were central to this goal. The campaign against the death penalty, the submissions to the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee on electoral reform, legal assistance to pre-trial detainees under the Paralegal Advisory

Services program are all innovative interventions designed to improve human rights respect in Uganda.

The Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), the Great Lakes human rights defenders program, the civil society organizations and schools outreach initiative and the legal aid scheme were all flagship initiatives that made citizen participation at all levels possible.

At the regional level the Campaign Against the Death Penalty was extended to Kenya. The landmark ruling of the Court of Appeal of Kenya in the case of Mutiso delivered on 30th July 2010 outlawing mandatory death sentences presents us with an opportunity to extend the campaign to this region. Relatedly, FHRI remained a key actor in international democracy and human rights initiatives. FHRI participated in the 48th session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Banjul, Gambia, the ICC Review Conference, and the AU Summit in Kampala, the 6th World Assembly on Democracy in Jakarta Indonesia, the 4th World Congress on the Death Penalty in Geneva, Switzerland and the 12th UN Convention on Crime Prevention and Access to justice in Brazil among others.

At the institutional level, we convened the 14th Annual General Meeting on 21st August 2010 that gave an opportunity to FHRI members to discuss issues which in their view are critical to the future sustainability of FHRI. The Donor Review meeting was convened on 17th May 2010 and the solidarity expressed by our development partners to the work and growth of FHRI was very re-assuring.

In line with our constitutional mandate, the Board of Directors of FHRI invested substantially in exploring and searching for practical solutions towards the sustainability of the organization. Although we have made some progress, much more needs to be done. The Board of Directors ably discharged its oversight role and judiciously participated in the activities of the organization.

Like in previous Annual reports, we have highlighted several of the achievements recorded by the organization and where possible outcomes of our work. The report also points out a number of challenges which the organization and the sector still have to contend with and in some instances proposes some possible solutions.

As we embark on the last year of the sixth Strategic Plan (2009 -2011) and prepare to mark 20 years of human rights activism, our gratitude goes to our development partners, members, trustees, staff, peers and government for making this possible. I would also like to thank all those individuals and companies who have supported our work and in a meaningful way contributed to our success.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

WYCLIFFE BIRUNGI (MR.)
**CHAIRPERSON,
FHRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS**





FHRI members at the 2010 Annual General Meeting,
Human Rights House, Nsambya, 21 August 2010

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Livingstone
Sewanyana
Executive Director
FHRI



As we look back at the growth of FHRI over the 19 years since its inception, we are extremely proud of what we have achieved and even more excited about an equally promising but challenging future. We have successfully grown from a local human rights group to become a respected entity garnering support and partnerships across the world while earning our partners' cherished trust along the way. It is also gratifying to know that we can help victims of human rights abuse and other vulnerable persons get assistance that they would otherwise never have been able to. Playing our part and working with similar institutions in shaping the destiny of our country, to us is the reason we exist.

Although the global economic conditions are improving, they are not yet robust. And for Uganda, the spiral down effects of this recession continue to be felt. Nonetheless, in this continually evolving political, social and economic environment, we have in 2010 continued to keep human rights on top of the national agenda and in doing so, have ensured that we do not renege our set strategic priorities. At the core of our cause is FHRI's sixth Strategic plan code-named: Put our World to Rights: Deepening Democratic Practices in Uganda (2009-2011) which focuses on issues of civic participation, access to justice, freedom of expression, association, assembly including the media, right to life, liberty and security of person, judicial independence and integrity and leadership development of human rights defenders.

Being a pre-election year, 2010 posed enormous challenges. Although general elections have been held every five years since 1996, we have since learnt from the global uprising in the Arab world, North Africa and West Africa that the test for a properly functioning multiparty democracy does not lie in the mere ability to exercise the franchise

once every four or five years but in the institutional framework and democratic structures that are nurtured to uphold democratic principles and ensure democratic accountability.

The run up to the 2011 elections thus presents significant challenges to the democratic development process in Uganda which would still need to be addressed beyond 2011 in order to consolidate the gains so far achieved. Key human rights freedoms essential to a functioning multiparty system remain restricted thereby undermining the effectiveness of political parties and independent actors in the quest for democratic accountability. Even under a widely acclaimed multi-party political system, freedom of expression, association and assembly for independent political actors in Uganda remains restricted. Notwithstanding several Judicial decisions affirming this right and demanding for government restraint, in practice impediments that restrict holding of public rallies and demonstrations still exist. Even where the law requires organizers of demonstrations to inform the police to hold a public rally, the police have continued to insist that permission must be sought and obtained

before a public meeting can take place. In this respect, the police continues to use excessive force in dispersing rallies and sometimes where permission was sought, unnecessarily holding back permission for members of the opposition to hold rallies and gatherings.¹ Of equal concern was the re-emergence of the 'kiboko squad', a militia group which has been allegedly employed by the police to disperse political rallies. This group made its first appearance in Uganda during the anti- Mabira giveaway demonstration in Kampala in 2007.

Freedom of expression and equal access to the media especially for opposition figures remained restricted. Although Uganda was rated by the Freedom House as the 13th most media free country of 48 countries in sub-saharan Africa in 2005, in 2010, the same agency ranked Uganda as 'partly free' in media freedom. The continued closure of radio stations perceived hostile to government, the outright interference of state machinery in state media through denial of coverage to opposition parties as well as interference of private media through the use of state agencies to intimidate owners of media houses, overcharging the opposition for air time, verbal and physical threats against journalists and panelists has had a chilling effect on the enjoyment of media freedoms.

The 1995 Constitution of Uganda provides for separation of powers however this is rarely the case. The fusion between state institutions and the NRM party structures does not contribute to a level playing field. State interference whether direct or not in the functions of the Judiciary and Parliament is common.

The operating legal framework remains restricted. Existing laws including the Anti- Terrorism Act (2002), the Public Order Management Bill, (2009), the Press and Journalists (Amendment) Bill, (2010) and the Cultural Leaders Bill, 2010 are examples of such restrictive legal frameworks.

Notwithstanding these restrictions, Uganda's opposition parties have shown tremendous resilience since the restoration of multiparty democracy in Uganda in 2005. Leading opposition

¹ On January 18 2010 the 'Women for Peace', peaceful sit down in-front of the Electoral Commission was violently dispersed by the police. In July 2010, police disrupted an anti Electoral Commission rally in Rukungiri, Bushenyi, Mbarara, Kabale, (western Uganda).

figures have endured state oppression and harassment including imprisonment; party supporters have braved police brutality in pursuit of their right to demonstrate, associate and assemble and through court litigation, legal precedents for better respect for human rights in Uganda have been set. Torture and cruel treatment is still common. Internally, the opposition is yet to demonstrate ideological coherence in engaging with civil society and the private sector; lack a clear and comprehensive youth and gender policy, alternative policy agenda on income generation and strategies to address corruption and relate to the rural poor.

The right to a fair hearing in Uganda still remains contentious given that basic rules and minimum guarantees such as the right to be tried by a competent, independent court established by law and the right to be tried without undue delay were constantly violated. Just like the pre and post 2006 election period, the post 2011 election period is likely to record abuse of this right within the context of election related issues and in the adjudication of election related cases. The increased intolerance of divergent political views and political competition, disagreements arising out of the election of flag bearers during party primaries and subsequent emergence of candidates standing as independents in competition with flag bearers in the same parties, the overzealous security agencies, continued threats to judicial independence and the appointment of cadre judges, disregard of judicial decisions from time to time and the reluctance by Government to effect amendments to laws that prescribe lengthy periods of detention before trial despite nullification by the Constitutional Court, were all key human rights issues. Partly due to high poverty levels in the country mainly in the rural areas, several cases of defilement were also reported during this period although they were hardly disposed of.

On a sad note, Uganda recorded two national tragedies during the year; on 16th March 2010, Kasubi Tombs the 130 year old UNESCO-certified World Heritage Site, where four Buganda Kings were buried was burnt down by unknown arsonists. This action sparked off public outrage. Angry crowds who attempted to bar the President from visiting the site were violently dispersed and three people shot and killed. This incident contributed

to the ever growing rift between Buganda and the Central Government. Police investigations had not been concluded by year end.

On July 11th 2010 World cup fans at Jinja Road Rugby Club and Kabalagala Ethiopian restaurant were killed when two bombs went off simultaneously. In reaction to this incident Government enacted the Interception of Communications Bill 2007 which empowers government to tap any form of individual communication which if misused could undermine the right to privacy. A number of terrorism suspects including Al-Amin Kimathi, a vocal human rights activist in Kenya were arrested. Trials of these are yet to commence. International and national pressure for the release of Al-Amin Kimathi had not yielded any positive outcomes.

Maternal mortality rates remain alarmingly high. For every 100,000 live births, 435 mothers died while 76 child deaths were recorded in the same year.

In 2010, the Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy (CCEDU) championed a National election reform agenda. Citizens were mobilized in the run up to the 2011 General elections to take active part in the electoral process through a multi-media messaging campaign. With its secretariat at FHRI, CCEDU has grown to a membership of over 900 civil society groups and 6000 individual subscribers. CCEDU has an Executive Committee of 84 member organizations. With support from the Deepening Democracy Program (DDP), CCEDU kick started a national media campaign on 30th April 2010. The Advisory Board and Executive Board of CCEDU have ably played their oversight and management roles during the year.

In 2010, the organization continued to strengthen its regional presence within East Africa through implementing programs such as the 2nd regional human rights summer course for Human Rights Defenders in the Great Lakes region held from the 24th – 29th October 2010 in Naivasha, Kenya. The campaign against the death penalty has been extended to Kenya. To this effect FHRI hosted a one day training workshop on the death penalty on 16th November 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya at which stakeholders discussed the application and suitability of the sentence.

In 2010, the human rights research and policy advocacy function focused on the right to health and electoral reform in Uganda. A report on the 'Right to Health Care in Uganda' was launched in July 2010. The report examines the state of health care in Uganda and its human rights implications. On the other hand, the political space rights report titled: 'Uganda: Leveling the Playing Field; The Race to 2011' released in December 2010 provides a useful set of actions for election observers, democracy activists and the general public relevant to the 2011 general elections.

The Paralegal Advisory Service (PAS) program now covering 11 magisterial areas has been rated very highly. The Program provides cost effective 'legal first aid' to poor people caught up in the criminal justice system and in doing this, has secured the release of 30, 375 inmates from prisons and police through access to bond, bail, fines, among others in 2010.

Relatedly, the Legal Aid Unit continues to provide legal support to deserving cases through facilitating access to remedies for victims of human rights violations. In 2010, 46 children received maintenance from benefactors, 8 clients were compensated for losses incurred, 8 had their property redeemed, 8 were released on bail and bond and 74 received legal advice. Outreach and legal aid services have been extended to victims of human rights abuses in the districts of Abim, Amuru, Busia, Gulu, Kalangala, Kalungu, Kasese, Kiboga, Koboko, Lira, Luwero, Masaka, Masindi, Sembabule and Soroti among others.

In 2010, the death penalty campaign recorded outstanding and far reaching results; a total of 152 prisoners on death row were commuted to life, 5 on death row were released and mitigation hearings continue in the High Court. The death row inmates have acknowledged FHRI's role and support in this campaign through letters and visits to the organization during this period.

The Capacity development function has continued to broaden. Engagement with schools and universities, religious institutions, the rural community, Local Government, Judiciary, community based associations, the disability movement and the elderly has deepened. FHRI

trained over 430 human rights defenders who joined the already existing network of human rights activists and monitors in schools, universities, local government, faith based institutions, community based associations and informal civic groups.

FHRI also delivered 4 guest lectures: on the role of NGOs in human rights promotion to students of the LLM program at Kampala International University (KIU) on 8th June 2010, on human rights in Uganda for students of Drake university, USA on 2nd June 2010 at the Human Rights House, on leadership development at Namilyango College on 22nd June 2010 and on human rights for students of the Simmons College, Boston, USA on 12th July 2010 at the Human Rights House.

Outreach to faith based institutions was a priority concern for FHRI during the year. In this respect, FHRI conducted and financed a human rights seminar for Mukono Diocese from the 19th – 21st May 2010. 100 copies of the 1995 Uganda Constitution were disseminated to senior members of the clergy. The university outreach network grew considerably as it had registered 14 university human rights associations that were actively involved in research, debates and human rights sessions by the end of the year.

As part of technical support to community based groups, FHRI handed over 4 computers, 5 bicycles, 4 motorcycles and legal reference materials to 9 Community Based Organizations on 29th December 2010 at a function held at the Human Rights House. The beneficiaries were; Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (Kayunga), Kalangala Human Rights Defenders (Kalangala), Human Rights and Paralegal Services (Busia), Human Rights Target (Luwero), Youth Revival Association (Kampala), Kasubi Community Development Association (Wakiso), Bukoggolwa Widows and Orphans' Care Center (Mpigi), Lira Women's Peace Initiative (Lira) and Rwenzori Peace Bridge for Reconciliation (Kasese). This institutional support extended to these groups is meant to strengthen their capacity to monitor and engage government structures at the local level on human rights compliance and improved service delivery.

Building strategic partnerships informed our strategic cooperation in 2010. We conducted joint

activities with the Kenya Section of the International Commission of Jurists under the Eastern Africa International Criminal Justice Initiative (EAICJI), TIRI under the Pro-Poor Integrity program, the NGO Coalition for an effective African Court and Penal Reform International (PRI) on the campaign for the abolition of the death penalty.

At the institutional level, the organisation has invested time in institution building through deliberate investment in staff, organisational policies and systems as well as equipment and technology. In light of the global economic melt down, FHRI emphasised cost cutting measures and took steps to expand its local revenue base in order to meet its objectives.

Lastly, FHRI continued to make contributions to national processes and mechanisms like the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), the Justice Law and Order Sector Strategy, strengthening Parliament of Uganda strategy, the Donor Human Rights Working Group periodic meetings, the Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform (UGMP) annual review as well as the development of the National Development Plan 2010 -2015.

In view of current challenges to democratic development in Uganda, FHRI counts on the support and involvement of all stakeholders, not least, our membership, staff, Board of Directors, development partners, peers and allies to counter them decisively and innovatively.

As FHRI looks towards 20 years of human rights activism in Uganda, we are proud to re-affirm our commitment to the cause of human rights in Uganda. Each new day offers us a chance to work together to improve the respect for human rights for every Ugandan. Quality is our passion and success is our dream!

'TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!'



Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director



SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL BACKGROUND

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL BACKGROUND

In his New Year 2011 Address to the Nation on the 31st December 2010, President Yoweri Museveni while enumerating the achievements of his Government in the past 24 years, informed the nation that there had been sustained growth of the Ugandan economy. This he said had been translated into a significant decline in poverty across the country. Quoting the recent National Household Survey that was conducted by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics between May 2009 and April 2010 he explained that the findings showed that the number of Ugandans living in absolute poverty had continued to decline throughout the country. Based on the survey, the percentage of the population below the poverty line had declined from 56 percent in 1992 to 24.5 percent in 2010. What this meant therefore was that in a period of eight years, 2.3 million Ugandans had been lifted from poverty on to the path of prosperity.

This remarkable improvement he reiterated, had occurred in spite of the high population growth rate. He attributed the decline in poverty to the policies, programs and projects implemented by the NRM Government for the last two decades. Universal Primary Education he stated, had improved the literacy and numeracy rates, free primary health care programs had increased the productivity of Ugandans and increased their life expectancy; Plan for Modernization of Agriculture which includes NAADS had improved the capacity of Ugandans to adapt new methods of production and vocational training had equipped Ugandans with the skills to adapt to the employment needs of the private sector as well as creating self-employment through establishing small and medium sized enterprises.

On 19th of April 2010, the Government of Uganda launched the National Development Plan 2010/11 – 2014/15. Ugandans generally remained optimistic that if the Plan was to be implemented to the letter, Uganda would be transformed significantly from a peasant economy into a modern one within the next 30 years. The Shs. 50 Trillion Plan puts additional emphasis on economic transformation and wealth creation as opposed to the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) of 2004/5 – 2007/8 which stressed poverty eradication and prioritised social services.

In 2010 much of the political activity was centred around the 2011 general elections. At the start of 2010, the majority of Ugandans remained uncertain about the possible outcome of the general elections. Five years after the first election under a multi-party political system in 20 years, Uganda was on the cusp of yet another election which would attest to the progress the country has made in fostering an enabling political environment for multi-party democracy.

Nonetheless, Ugandans remained steadfast in their demand for quality service delivery. These demands were directed at the presidential and parliamentary candidates. According to a country wide poll conducted by New Vision during this period, urgent priorities were: an improvement in the social services sector and delivery of services; urgent need to address the crisis in the health sector and repair of the poor road network.

In April 2010, Parliament debated amendments to electoral laws and four laws¹ were enacted into law. A number of civil society groups including CCEDU and DEM Group submitted memoranda with proposals for comprehensive reform to the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee. However, the proposal advanced by political parties to disband the Electoral Commission was deferred by the Speaker of Parliament due to insufficient time to discuss the matter. In protest, the opposition under the Inter- Party Cooperation platform staged an anti Electoral Commission rally on 9th June 2010 which was disrupted by a group of men wielding sticks code named “kiboko squad”. The Uganda Police Force denied knowledge of the group and assured the public that investigations of this group of vigilantes, their origin and motive were underway.

¹ *Political Party and Organization Act 2010, Parliamentary Election Act 2010, Presidential Election Act 2010, Electoral Commission Act 2010*

The violence perpetrated by such militia group was condemned by human rights activists who called upon the state to respect the rule of law and avert violence.

The Post-election violence in Kenya in the 2007 elections was still very fresh in the minds of many Ugandans and this explains the public heightened outcry and condemnation of such electoral violence. A report to the US Congress released by the Secretary of State urged the Uganda government not to undermine the electoral process. Government dismissed the report describing it as the 'usual banter from western governments' and alleged that this was the work of local NGOs and opposition.

Security agencies were pre-occupied with recruitment and training among their ranks in order to quash any form of uprising before, during and after the elections. The police and army were heavily deployed on the streets of Kampala and regularly displayed modern armory and equipment that would be used to confront protesters during elections. The involvement and heavy deployment of the army was criticized by political parties and civil society groups who questioned government motives. Civil society groups like CCEDU and its members and the DEM group however continued to call upon Ugandans to shun violence and peacefully participate in the electoral process.

The independence and capacity of the Electoral Commission to deliver a free and fair election was often questioned. The Inter-Party Cooperation, a coalition of key political parties, dissatisfied with the independence of the Commission announced a plan to set up their own independent parallel tally centre and to declare independent election results, a step that was heavily contested by the Electoral Commission.

On a more positive note, the Electoral Commission was complimented by some sections of the public for making the national voters' register accessible on-line. The opposition however discredited the voters' register and accused the Commission of registering foreigners from the neighboring countries of Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Kenya and Sudan. On its part, the Commission called for vigilance from the public during the display of the voters register.

Largely peaceful, the pre- election period provided an opportunity to citizens to question leaders vying for political office. 'Face the Citizens series' and 'local debates' organized at national and constituency level and spearheaded by the Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy (CCEDU) provided a platform for debates on issues like agriculture, youth employment, health service delivery, access to justice, quality education, roads, markets and the economy, land, oil, peace and recovery. The debates drew issues from; a document which was a Citizens Manifesto which was developed after country wide consultations by the Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform. The "manifesto" contains a list of demands and key development issues that Ugandans want their leaders to focus on ahead of the 2011 elections.

To complement this work, a number of groups released election related reports with commentaries on the playing field and election management. While FHRI concluded that the playing field was tilted in favour of the incumbent in its report that assessed the playing field ahead of the 2011 elections, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders, in her report: Uganda: Management of Elections asserted that the Electoral Commission was not ready to hold the 2011 elections and that Uganda's compliance with International Standards of conducting elections was found wanting due to a number of challenges including: the constant harassment, arrest and intimidation of opposition politicians by the police, the re-emergence of the 'kiboko squads' and the inaccuracy of the national voters' register. These shortcomings, she argued had severely undermined the credibility of the electoral process.

The judiciary remained pro-active during this period and pronounced itself on very key issues critical to fostering a free and fair election. In a High Court ruling on a petition filed by a member of parliament, the presiding judge ordered the Electoral Commission to relocate polling stations from army barracks while on the other hand, the Constitutional court ordered the High Court and General Court Martial to stop the hearing of a terrorism case against the Forum for Democratic Change President, Dr. Kizza Besigye and others.

During the period under review, the legislative framework was less conducive for the proper functioning of multiparty democracy which was threatened with attempts by government to introduce the Public Order Management Bill, (2009), the Press and Journalists (Amendment) Bill, (2010) and the Cultural Leaders Bill, 2010. These Bills were received with suspicion ahead of the 2011 elections; viewed by human rights defenders and the media as draconian, with a potential to restrict freedom of expression, association and assembly including media freedom.

Two opposition leaders were blocked from appearing on radio talk shows; radio stations were reluctant to host government critics for fear of being shut down by Government. Notwithstanding the re-opening of 2 radio stations closed in the aftermath of the September 2009 riots, the highly critical Buganda Central Broadcasting Station (CBS) remained off air in the first half of 2010. The CBS management had been advised to apologise to Government for allegedly inciting the public during the September 2009 riots. Instead, CBS dragged Government to Court over the illegal closure of the station and loss of earnings. The station has since been re-opened.

On World Press Freedom day held on 3rd May 2010 journalists and human rights activists held a peaceful procession in Kampala. Journalists and human rights defenders used the occasion to denounce the proposed amendments to the Press and Journalist Statute of 1995. The amendments which pose a challenge to media freedoms have been opposed by political and human rights activists because they give excessive powers to the Minister of Information to renew licenses of newspapers and to censor stories that are perceived by government as prejudicial to national security, unity and stability. The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders as well as FHRI called for a review of the bill.

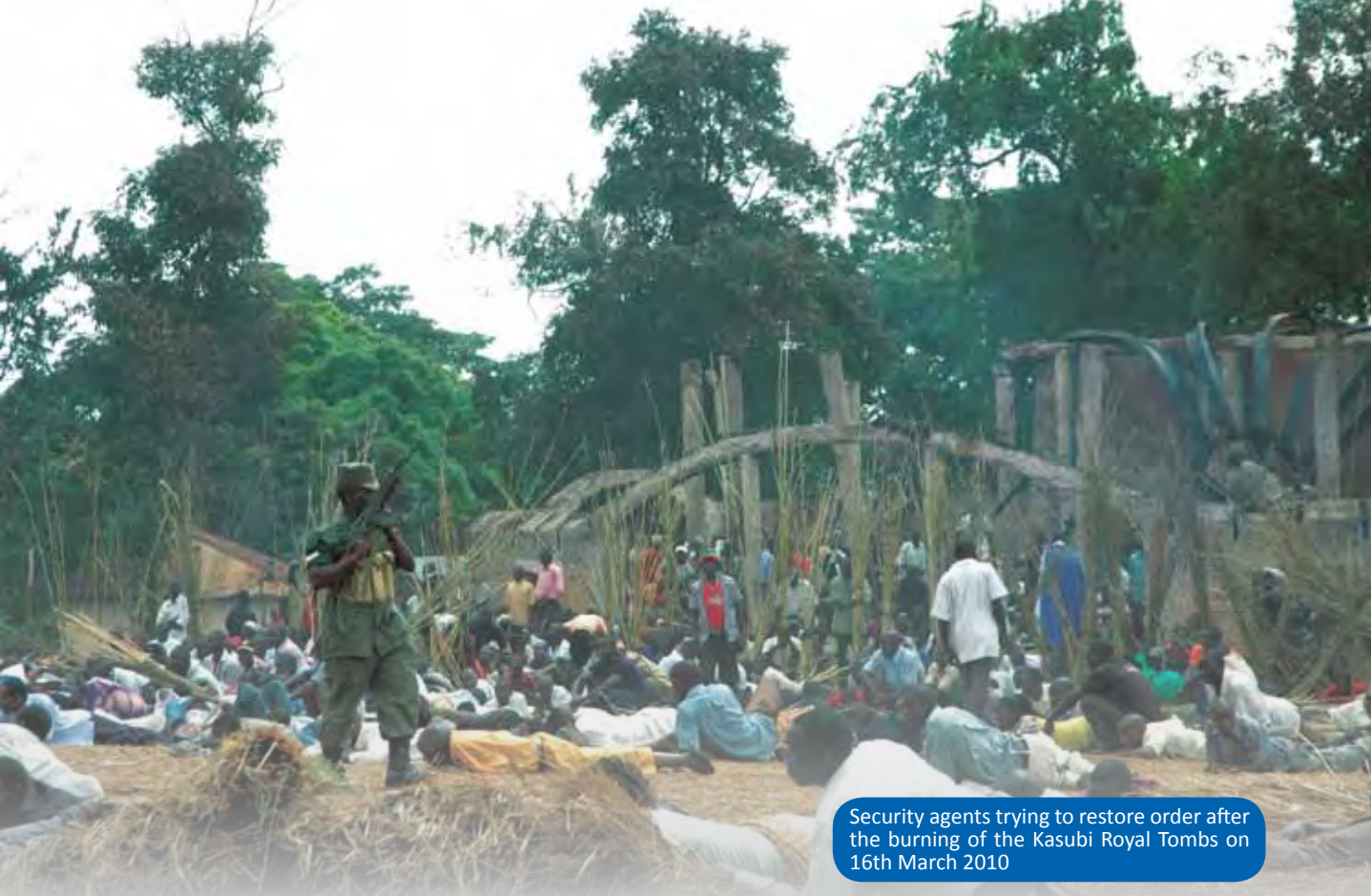
The Judiciary must be applauded for taking keen interest in dealing with the case backlog. In 2010, the Chief Justice of Uganda Hon. Justice Benjamin Odoki launched the Justice, Law and Order Sector Case Backlog Clearance programme code named "Case Backlog Reduction Quick Win Programme". The pilot phase scheduled to run between April and September 2010 was expected to result in clearance of 15,000 cases. Through this effort, disposal of cases would be enhanced thereby addressing the recurrent problem of congestion in prisons that held five times beyond their normal capacity.

On 25th August 2010, the Constitutional Court declared the law on sedition as unconstitutional. The media fraternity and human rights defenders welcomed the Constitutional Court ruling as an important step in furthering the enjoyment of freedom of expression including the media. The Government of Uganda appealed the court ruling on grounds that the law was still relevant in ensuring orderly government. The Constitutional Court has also outlawed Female Genital Mutilation on grounds that the practice was inhuman and degrading and therefore unconstitutional.

In view of potential threats to judicial independence, the Judiciary continued to resist attempts and attacks on its institutions. At the 12th Annual Conference of judges held on 11th January 2010, the Chief Justice criticized the Government for interfering with the execution of court orders, especially those related to land matters. He however defended the appointment of what is known as 'cadre' judges, reassuring the public that the Judiciary had a code of conduct which restrains judges from being partisan.

The debate on the suitability and applicability of the death penalty in Uganda continued unabated. The judiciary took time to reflect on the implications of the landmark case in *Suzan Kigula vs. AG* in which the Supreme Court had earlier ruled that if 3 years elapse without execution taking place after confirmation of sentence by the Supreme Court, the sentence would automatically be commuted to life imprisonment.

The African Peer Review Mechanism progress report, 2009 released on 29th January 2010 decried the lack of political will to fight corruption, noting that the state had not implemented the key recommendations of the different anti-corruption commissions. On its part, the Government of Uganda welcomed the



Security agents trying to restore order after the burning of the Kasubi Royal Tombs on 16th March 2010

formation of the Uganda Governance Forum, an initiative of the African Peer Review Mechanism, (APRM) that would review and follow up on its findings.

Parliament intensified its fight against corruption when in the exercise of its mandate it passed the Whistleblowers Bill, 2010 while the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament continued its probe into the misappropriation of shs 5b during the 2007 CHOGM meeting held in Kampala.

In 2010 Government with support of some members of parliament threatened to re-table the Anti-homosexuality bill, 2009. This followed the publication of names of alleged supporters of LGBTI movement in a local tabloid, Rolling Stone. Whereas the judiciary and some human rights activists denounced this as a violation of the right to privacy, the “Forum for Kings and Cultural Leaders in Uganda” denounced homosexuality as a human vice and called on legislators to expeditiously enact the law.

Reports of child abuse were rife during the year. The Uganda Police carried out investigations on the ever increasing cases of child sacrifice and human trafficking. In a report released by the Uganda Police a total of 29 ritual murders were registered in 2009, 123 people had been reported missing, 15 of whom were juveniles suspected to be victims of child sacrifice. 125 suspects were arrested in connection with ritual murders and 56 were prosecuted in court for murder, kidnap, abduction, sale of children and witchcraft. A number of child trafficking cases were reported at the Kenya- Uganda border police station among them sex slaves and domestic workers. A Judicial Commission of Inquiry was setup to investigate the root causes of the ever increasing ritual murders cases.

Although Northern Uganda continued to experience relative peace, a number of issues remain unresolved. Land wrangles attributed to the return of displaced persons to their villages with no clear boundaries without effective reparations have adversely affected the victims. The implementation of the Peace, Recovery and Development Program meant to improve the quality of lives of the people of Northern Uganda has been unfortunately very slow.

The Uganda Human Rights Commission released its 11th Annual report in which it cited security agencies as the leading perpetrators of human rights violations in the country. In 2010 FHRI also released a periodic human rights thematic report; 2010 titled: The Right to Healthcare in Uganda, on 25th August 2010. The periodic report details a number of structural and institutional gaps within the health sector and interrogates the state of health care services in terms of access, availability, acceptability and affordability. The poor funding to the health sector by government is one of the major factors that undermine the sector according to the findings of the report.

As a key international player in global politics, Uganda was applauded for hosting the International Criminal Court (ICC) Review Conference held in Kampala between 28th May and 11th June 2010. The prosecutor of the Hague-based Court, Morino Ocampo, speaking at the conference warned politicians who rig elections and use their incumbency to fraudulently stay in power to be aware of possible prosecution by the International Criminal Court which at the time was investigating the role of politicians in Kenya's post election violence in 2007. Relatedly, the enactment of the International Criminal Court Act, 2010 was a good indication of commitment of Government to deal with impunity. Uganda was also applauded for hosting the 15th Ordinary AU Summit from 19th – 27th July 2010 under the theme, 'Maternal, infant and child health and development in Africa.'

On a very sad note, two national tragedies befell the country during the year. On 16th March 2010 Kasubi Tombs, the 130 year old UNESCO-certified World Heritage Site, where four Buganda Kings were buried was burnt down by unknown arsonists. This action sparked off public outrage. Angry mobs who attempted to bar the President from visiting the site were violently dispersed and three people shot and killed. This incident has contributed to the already strained relations between Buganda Kingdom and Central Government. Although a Commission of Inquiry was set up to investigate the matter, a report of the same had not been released.

On July 11th 2010, Kampala was hit by terrorist attacks. World Cup 2010 fans at Jinja Road Rugby Club and Kabalagala Ethiopian restaurant were killed when two bombs went off simultaneously. Government has as a consequence thereof enacted the Interception of Communications Bill 2007 which empowers government to tap any form of individual communication effectively undermining the right to privacy. Arrests were made of a number of terrorism suspects including Al-Amin Kimathi, a human rights activist in Kenya. To date the trials of these terror suspects have not commenced. International and national pressure for the release of Al-Amin had not yielded any positive results.

There were fears that food security in Uganda was likely to worsen in the next 40 years as the population increases amidst the country's finite resources. The country's current population stands at 33 million people. At this rate the population is expected to reach 130 million by 2050. Experts say this population growth rate is predicted to be the third highest in the world, contributing to food scarcity. The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) – Uganda office expressed fear that the number of hungry people was likely to increase, up from the current 9 million people countrywide. FAO warned that if Government does not invest heavily in agriculture, research and advisory services to increase food production, there was a likelihood that the figure of hungry people may exceed the existing projections.

Given these challenges, FHRI had to intensify its advocacy efforts in order to respond to some of these pressing issues in 2010.



PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

2010 was the 2nd year in the current 6th Strategic Plan of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI). Code named: Put our World to Rights: Deepening Democratic Practices in Uganda (2009-2011), the objective of the plan is to enhance meaningful citizen participation in democratic governance for sustainable development in Uganda.

The FHRI 6th program agenda has the following strategic objectives:

1. To monitor the electoral process and advocate for electoral reforms for free and fair elections in 2011.
2. To monitor and document human rights practices in order to promote dialogue and respect for human rights and democratic development in Uganda.
3. To upscale our engagement of the national, regional and international human rights protection mechanisms to maximize compliance with human rights standards.
4. To advocate for best practices in the administration of Justice.
5. To promote sustainable access to justice for the poor and vulnerable groups in Uganda.
6. To build the civic competence of the media, political parties, local government and educational institutions for effective participation in governance
7. To build the capacity of grass-root associations for systematic exposure of human rights abuses and effective participation in democratization processes in Uganda.
8. To establish a leadership program to advance knowledge in the field of human rights for human rights defenders.
9. To strengthen the institutional capacity and sustainability of FHRI.

This program has six themes: civic participation, access to justice, freedom of expression, association, assembly including the media, right to life, liberty and security of person, judicial independence and integrity and leadership development of human rights defenders. These key themes are executed under six operational divisions: Research Division, Legal Services Division, Capacity Development Division, Communication and Information Division, Program Development Division and the Executive Division.

The program utilizes a mixture of strategies depending on the target group, issues at hand and desired outcome including the following: investigative field research, focus group discussions, petitions, media briefings, court litigation, public lectures, talk shows, publications and through networks and coalitions.

I. RESEARCH DIVISION

Objective

The Research division aims at monitoring and documenting human rights practices in order to promote dialogue and respect for human rights and democratic development in Uganda.

The Research Division has three key activities namely;

- Research and Documentation of human rights violations.
- Treaty Reporting.
- Election Observation.

Implementation

The areas of focus include; juvenile justice, rights of persons with disabilities, right to healthcare, labour rights, freedom of expression including the media, political space rights, freedom of association and assembly, right to life, liberty and security of the person, freedom from torture, electoral democracy and rights of women and children. The project periodically publishes and disseminates thematic human rights reports.

Planned activities

Four (4) activities were planned in 2010 including; publication of the annual country human rights status report 2009, issuance of three (3) human rights thematic reports on the right to health, labour rights and political space rights, participation in the 48th ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and research for a stakeholders' report under the UN Universal Periodic Review mechanism.



A mid wife wearing gloves to attend to a mother at Oraba Health Center II in Koboko district, 23rd March 2010

Output

The first thematic human rights report titled: 'The Right to Healthcare in Uganda; January – June 2010' was issued on 25th August 2010 at a press launch held at hotel Africana. It was officially launched by the Director General of Health Services in the Ministry of Health, Dr. Kenya Mugisha. The report examines state practices relating to the right to the highest attainable standard of health in Uganda and includes an assessment of the human rights situation in Uganda for the period January-June 2010. The report proposes a set of recommendations for improvement. During the launch, FHRI condemned the increased incidents of mob justice and the restriction on media freedom.

Two hundred and fifty (250) copies of the report were printed and distributed to the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization, private healthcare providers, alternative medicine practitioners, political parties, parliament, judiciary, security agencies, constitutional bodies, advocates, academia, the media, development partners and the wider civil society.

Within the context of FHRI's Uganda National Elections Assessment and Monitoring Project (UNELAMP II), the second thematic report titled; 'Uganda: Leveling the Playing Field; The Race to 2011' was launched on International Human Rights day -10th December 2010 at Grand Imperial Hotel. The report which was launched by the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, Dr. Badru Kiggundu highlights key concerns on the legal, administrative and human rights situation in the run up to 2011 elections. The report calls for electoral reforms, questions the Electoral Commission's preparedness towards the upcoming elections, interrogates the motives in the demarcation of electoral units, appraises the state of political freedoms in particular media coverage and harassment and intimidation of opposition candidates.

Five hundred (500) copies of the report were printed and distributed to political parties, Inter Party Organisation for Dialogue, the Electoral Commission, Parliament of Uganda, the Justice, Law and Order Sector, development partners, civil society organizations, local and international NGOs, Election Observer missions/groups, the academia and the media.

Both events were attended by a total of two hundred fifty (250) delegates including: development partners, Members of Parliament, representatives from Ministry of Health, Electoral Commission, political parties, media, civil society organizations, political parties, government departments, partners, transnational organizations, academia, FHRI Board members and subscribers.

The reports document findings from field missions undertaken in the districts of Lira Kitgum Gulu Kasese, Kabale, Mbarara and Bushenyi districts as well as findings from courts, police stations, prisons and remand homes.

Following the release of these reports, a number of articles were published on some of key human rights issues raised in the report as indicated in figure 1 below:

Figure 1:

<i>Title of the Article</i>	<i>Source</i>
<i>Herbalists treat most Ugandans</i>	<i>The New Vision, Thursday, August 26th 2010</i>
<i>Poor funding cripples health sector-report</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Thursday August 26th 2010</i>
<i>Juveniles in Gulu Prison</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Thursday November 18th 2010</i>
<i>EC cannot hold free elections-report</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Monday December 13th 2010</i>
<i>EC needs to prove that it can deliver fair verdict</i>	<i>Sunday Monitor, January 2nd 2011</i>

FHRI conducted interviews with the electronic media on political space rights as indicated in fig 2 below:

Figure 2:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Media House</i>
2011 Elections	Record TV: 2 nd October 2010
2011 Elections	Bukedde FM: 23 rd November 2010

Under the treaty reporting component, FHRI participated in the 48th Ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and People Rights from 10th- 24th November 2010, in Banjul, the Gambia as well as the pre-session NGO Forum that was held from the 7th-9th November 2010. At the NGO Forum FHRI participated in an event organized by the Swedish NGO Fund which analyzed the possible roles that civil society can play in following up on the UN mapping exercise in Congo. A total of five hundred and twelve (512) delegates representing states parties, National Human Rights Institutions, International and Inter-governmental organizations and African and International NGOs were represented at the session of the African Commission. At the session, FHRI presented a brief report highlighting key human rights issues in Uganda including: the state of healthcare in Uganda, political space rights in the run up to 2011 elections, mob justice, domestic violence, torture trends, among others.

FHRI also participated in the UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR) initiative spearheaded by HURINET by providing information to the civil and political rights cluster. On 11th May 2010, FHRI hosted the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Mrs Margaret Sekagya who conducted an awareness session on the UPR mechanism and the role of stakeholders in preparation and presentation of the stakeholders' report on Uganda due in 2011. 16 stakeholders attended the session including, Human Rights Network (HURINET), Human Rights Centre, FHRI, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network, African Centre for Treatment of Torture Victims (ACTV), Tweraneho Listeners' Club and the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC).

Hon Winne Kiiza MP Woman Member of Parliament, Kasese District (c) and Ms Helen Kaweesa, PRO, Parliament of Uganda (R) at the launch of the Health rights report at Hotel Africana on the 25th August 2010



Outcome

‘The thematic reports are special offshoots of this project whose benefits will not only be felt by the human rights monitors alone, but also other persons and organizations advocating for the promotion of human rights in Uganda. The reports have been widely disseminated and used in advocacy for the improvement of service delivery and respect of human rights’[Pg 6: End of project evaluation report: Building capacity of community based associations to monitor and report human rights violations: 2011]

In documenting the gaps and challenges within the health sector and the electoral process, the two thematic reports provide useful references crucial to the ongoing debates and dialogue on the state of the health care system in Uganda, the electoral system in Uganda and the human rights situation in the run up to the 2011 general elections.

For example, the right to health care report has been a useful and credible reference in the dialogue on the right to health care in Uganda between the Ministry of Health and key stakeholders in the sector. The report which has been acknowledged by the World Health Organization (in Uganda) as the first of its kind that comprehensively assesses state practices relating to the right to the highest attainable standard of health in Uganda has raised key institutional and operational issues that the Ministry of Health has to address.

During the launch of the report, Dr. Kenya Mugisha, the Director of Health Services in Uganda, while acknowledging some of the challenges that are cited in the report relating to access, availability and quality of health care services in Uganda acknowledged the issues raised in the report such as the poor regulation of traditional practitioners, the poor welfare of health workers, the ineffective drug purchase policy and promised to use the report to expedite the process of developing a regulatory framework to increase funding to the Ministry of health consistent with the Abuja Declaration. He supported Government’s decision to revise the drug procurement policy which requires health centres to procure drugs exclusively from the National Medical Stores (NMS). The feedback that FHRI has received from the Ministry of Health indicates that the drug procurement policy has since been revised with respect to Health Centres II and III which are now using the Push system to procure the needed drugs using the credit line without necessarily waiting for a stock out.

Due to the continued advocacy for a comprehensive monitoring healthcare system, Government has stepped up its health care monitoring system by setting up a Medicines and Health Service Delivery Monitoring Unit to monitor the availability and management of drugs in the system. The police have stepped up the crackdown on shrines and traditional healers in the wake of reports on the adverse effect of their services to the population. Lastly, the Government’s recent move to shut down clinics that offer reflexology services intended to regulate the operations of these providers is viewed by many as an effort towards regulation of health services.

Twenty copies of the Health care report were requested for by the Ministry of Health in preparation for a meeting between FHRI, World Health Organization (Uganda) and the Ministry of Health to further the dialogue on some of the issues that have been raised in the report.

With respect to the Political space rights report, one key outcome has been the unprecedented debate and dialogue on the credibility of the Electoral Commission, its capacity and readiness to conduct free and fair general elections in 2011 amongst members of the public. The media has captured such public debates as compiled in figure 3 here below:

Figure 3:

<i>Title of the Article</i>	<i>Source</i>
<i>EC cannot hold free elections-report</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Monday December 13th 2010</i>
<i>EC needs to prove that it can deliver fair verdict</i>	<i>Sunday Monitor, January 2nd 2011</i>

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Media House</i>
<i>2011 Elections</i>	<i>Record TV: 2nd October 2010</i>
<i>2011 Elections</i>	<i>Bukedde FM: 23rd November 2010</i>
<i>Leveling the Playing Field Report</i>	<i>NBS: 13th December 2010</i>

The presence of the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission at the launch of the report on political space afforded an opportunity to members of the public, political party activists and stakeholders to constructively engage and dialogue with the Electoral Commission (EC) on issues of election management and the performance of the Commission. While acknowledging the challenges cited in the report, the Chairperson said: ‘we cannot be perfect, but we try to reach that measurable target.’

The report which commended the EC for the tremendous progress registered in terms of voter education and voter registration, also called upon the same body to enforce compliance with electoral laws by all parties in a uniform manner, to accord equal treatment to all candidates in the electoral process, ensure



The Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, Dr Badru Kiggundu launches the Political Space Rights report on 10th December 2010 at Grand Imperial Hotel, Kampala. Looking on is Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI

the operationalisation of the National Political Party Consultative Forum for candid and robust dialogue and debate in the forthcoming elections and ensure transparency at every stage of the electoral process.

Following numerous calls for reform of the Electoral Commission, the Electoral Commission prioritized efforts to improve its public image and minimize negative perceptions. The findings of the Afro barometer survey conducted between January 20 -30 2011 indicate that the number of people who trust the Commission had increased to 51% compared to 47% in December 2010 and those who thought the Commission was well prepared also rose to 61% from 58% in the same period.

The demand for the thematic human rights reports has been overwhelming. Consequently, FHRI run out of all the hard copies of the report. Over 50 institutions and individuals requested for more copies of the report including the ministry of health, judiciary, development partners and particularly the human rights working group, justice law and order sector, independent researchers, civil society groups at the national and international level, students and the academia, election observer missions and the general public who made regular reference to the findings of FHRI.

The Electoral Commission requested for additional copies of the report which were distributed to each of the commissioners and commission staff while a number of election observer groups/missions from the Commonwealth, the AU, EU, IGAD, DEM Group, RWECO-CEW-IT, CCEDU took advantage of the findings in designing their own election campaigns strategy.

Uganda's reporting record and participation particularly to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights has continued to improve. Uganda was ably represented at the 47th and 48th session of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights by the Deputy Minister of Justice and Attorney General and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who have continuously provided information and updates to the Commission on the situation of human rights as required under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. These submissions and reports of FHRI and other independent actors form the basis of dialogue on Uganda's human rights record. The cooperation between Government and civil society groups in the preparation of state party reports has also improved and is now formalized under the working group on the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights. FHRI is part of this working group.

Challenges

The level of responsiveness of the state to human rights challenges raised by non-state actors leaves a lot to be desired. Although there has been an effort by the state to dialogue on some of these issues, acting on these commitments remains a challenge. It is important for civil society to hold the state accountable and hold leaders to their election promises through sustained campaigns and calls for reform. Civic action at the lower levels of society will have to be mobilized around contentious human rights issues raised at the national level such as freedom of expression, association and assembly so that the pressure from below is also felt.

II. LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION

Objective

The Division seeks to promote sustainable access to justice for the poor and vulnerable persons/groups in Uganda. It also seeks to advocate for best practices in the administration of justice.

The Legal Services Division has three major activity areas that include;

- Pro bono Legal Assistance to women and children.
- Criminal Legal Defence (assistance to Victims of torture, representation of death row inmates, paralegal advisory services).
- Public Interest Litigation / Legislative Advocacy.

Implementation

The campaign to promote sustainable access to justice and advocacy for best practices in the administration of justice involves; research, strategic litigation, pro-bono legal aid services to the poor and vulnerable persons; legal support to victims of torture, death row inmates, suspects in police cells and inmates in prison; community outreach and rights awareness of criminal justice procedures, tracer services for prisoners and their family members and legislative advocacy for policy and practice change.

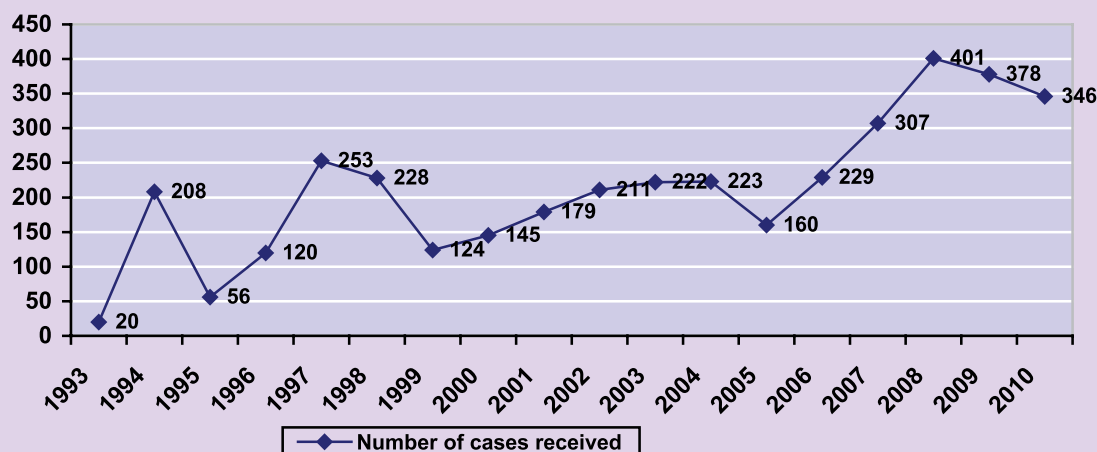
Planned Activities

In 2010, among the planned activities under the division were: to offer pro-bono legal aid services to at least 250 clients, lobby for a National legal aid policy, offer legal support to at least 10 victims of torture, advocate for the enactment of the Anti Torture Bill, support mitigation hearings for at least 10 prisoners on death row, convene a 3-day judicial roundtable on sentencing, convene a one day lawyers training seminar on sentencing, convene a one day meeting for parliament on the death penalty and sentencing, undertake tracer services for at least 22,000 sureties, conduct community awareness sessions on criminal justice processes using mass media and meetings, convene a 2-day roundtable on the right to bail, publish a Handbook on the right to bail and submit memoranda to parliamentary committees in respect of electoral reform laws.

Output

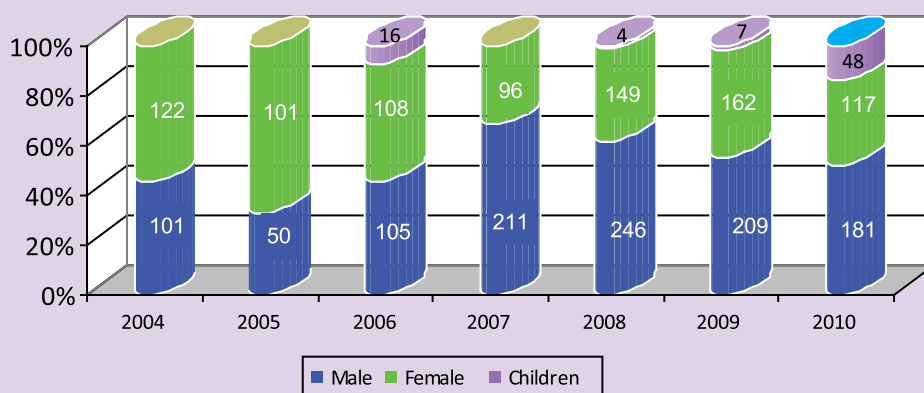
a) *Legal Aid Assistance*

FHRI Legal Aid Unit attended to walk-in victims of human rights violations and provided legal support to reported cases. In 2010, the unit received and handled three hundred and forty six (346) cases of human rights abuse. Figure 4 below illustrates the number of cases attended to by FHRI since 1993 while figure 5 disaggregates the cases received in 2010 by gender.

Fig. 4: Number of cases received by FHRI since 1993 to 2010

As illustrated in figure 4 above, the total number of cases handled by the unit in 2010 indicates a decline in comparison to those received in 2009 and 2008. The decline could be attributed to increasing poverty amongst Ugandans and therefore the inability of the poor to afford the associated expenses like transport to report abuses suffered.

Both women and men sought legal support as illustrated in figure 5 below:

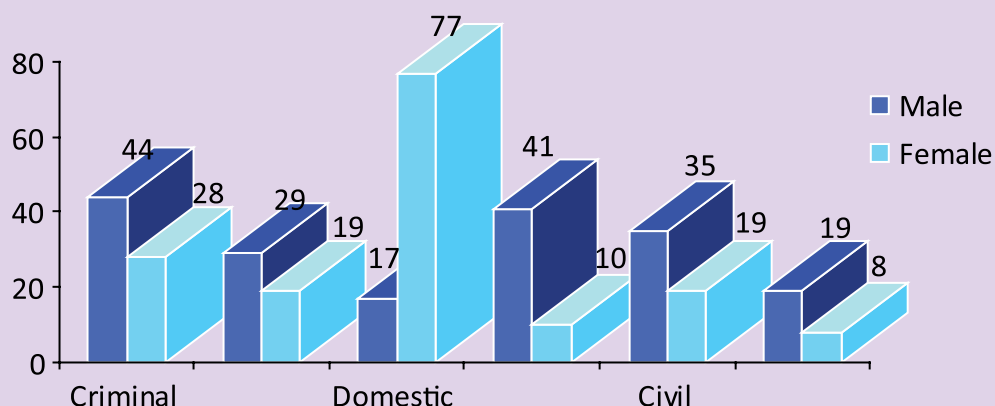
Fig. 5: Category of cases disaggregated by Gender; 2004-2010

Cases from male clientele constituted the bulk of cases totaling 181, women reported 117 cases while child related cases stood at 48. This trend could be attributed to the following: the majority of cases reported by women are domestic related, a number of women in Uganda are generally reluctant to report such cases for fear of rejection and desertion by their husbands and families. The accepted cultural norm that women should persevere in the face of 'difficulties' in the institution of marriage largely plays a big part in reinforcing this. Moreover more men than women in Uganda are aware and knowledgeable of their rights including the available remedies and redress when these rights are violated may explain this trend. [Report on the state of human rights awareness and promotion in Uganda: 2011]

In 2010, the majority of cases handled were domestic related cases, with majority reported by women.

Figure 6 below illustrates the nature of complaints reported in 2010 disaggregated by gender.

Fig. 6: Nature of violations and prevalence by Gender:2010



Domestic cases comprised of; child neglect, child custody, desertion, inheritance and succession and domestic violence. For most of these cases, parties opted for mediation and agreed through signing memoranda of understanding to meet some of the associated obligations.

Criminal cases ranked second including assault, threatening violence, theft, robbery, defilement, forgery, possession of fire arms, malicious damage to property, murder, assault occasioning grievous bodily harm. The legal aid bureau provided assistance in the form of facilitating police bond, bail and fast tracking case files to ensure fair and speedy disposal of cases within the criminal justice system.

Cases of a civil nature were also handled by the bureau comprising of torts, breach of contract, pension claims, insurance claims, loan repayments, rent arrears among others. The category referred to as 'others' comprised of accident claims and refugee cases.



Participants at the Judicial Colloquium
hosted by FHRI, Imperial Resort Beach
Entebbe on 13th June 2010

b) Criminal Legal Defence

This component has three key activity areas: reparation for torture survivors, representation of death row inmates and the Paralegal Advisory Services project.

i. Representation of Death Row inmates

Following the Supreme Court ruling in the Susan Kigula case, FHRI provided legal support to 525 death row inmates. This assistance took the form of: obtaining psychiatric assessments, witness tracking in the eastern, western, southern and central regions of Uganda and preparation of mitigation statements, all undertaken to support the mitigation hearings for death row inmates.

Under the Death Penalty Campaign, FHRI in partnership with the Judicial Studies Institute (JSI) and the Death Penalty Project (UK) organized a 2-day judicial colloquium from the 13th – 15th June 2010 at the Imperial Resort Beach Hotel in Entebbe. Together with the Uganda Law Society a sensitization workshop for 188 lawyers was held on 16th June 2010 at the Grand Imperial hotel and a roundtable for 32 Members of Parliament on 17th June 2010 on sentencing in capital offences in Uganda.

Under the theme: ‘Sentencing in Capital Offences: An Appraisal of Susan Kigula & 417 others vs the Attorney General’, the roundtable debated the implications of the Supreme court decision on sentencing in Uganda. Attended by 70 delegates from the judiciary, Directorate of Public Prosecution, Uganda Law Reform Commission and Uganda Prisons Service, the roundtable was officially opened by the Chief Justice Hon Justice Benjamin Odoki. Eminent speakers at the event were Judge Eldad Mwangushya, Professor Emeritus Roger Hood of Oxford University, Mr. Richard Butera, the Director of Public Prosecution and Prof Joseph Kakoza, Chairperson, Uganda Law Reform Commission. The debate focused on the implications of the Susan Kigula supreme court ruling on the application of the death penalty delivered on 21st January 2009, procedures for mitigation hearings and sentencing, imprisonment without parole, the need for sentencing guidelines; justice for the victim in the criminal justice process and judicial responsiveness to human rights violations

On the other hand, the seminar for lawyers convened to create awareness of the Susan Kigula case and its implications on sentencing in capital cases provided the legal fraternity an opportunity to gain in-depth understanding of the phenomenon and challenges of providing effective legal representation.

Lastly, the meeting for Members of Parliament was an opportunity for parliamentarians to discuss the impact and implications of the Susan Kigula Supreme court ruling on the criminal legal system. Members of Parliament explored the option of introducing a Private Members Bill to give effect to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court ruling.

Following the landmark ruling delivered on 30th July 2010 by the Court of Appeal of Kenya that declared mandatory death sentences unconstitutional, FHRI extended the campaign to Kenya. A one day training workshop was held on 16th November 2010 focusing on restrictions in the application of the death penalty



Delegates to the Judicial Colloquium, Front Row: Hon Benjamin Odoki, Chief Justice (C), 13 - 15 June, 2010, Entebbe



in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop drew participation of nineteen (19) human rights defenders: prison authorities, academia, government and judicial officials from Kenya who focused on; the human rights implications of the death penalty, gender and the death penalty and emerging jurisprudence on the death penalty in Kenya. At the end of the workshop participants adopted a set of resolutions most significantly calling upon the Kenya Prisons Services to conduct a survey on the death penalty in Kenya prisons in order to provide information that would support the in-country campaign against the practice.

ii. Paralegal Advisory Services (PAS)

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

The PAS project which commenced in October 2005 as a pilot in four sites, had by end of 2010 gradually expanded to ten sites including: Gulu, Jinja, Arua, Kitgum, Mbarara, Bushenyi and Lira sites all hosted by Uganda Prisons Service (UPS); the Kampala site hosted by UPS and Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF); Mbale site hosted by Foundation for Development of Needy Communities (FDNC) and; the Fort Portal site hosted by Association of Human Rights Organisations (AHURIO). The programme is directly implemented by thirty eight (38) paralegals and thirty-nine (39) social workers employed by the above hosts, who are placed in prisons and police stations to provide basic legal advice, follow up cases in the criminal justice institutions, and link the suspects and remanded prisoners to their families and community members for requisite assistance.

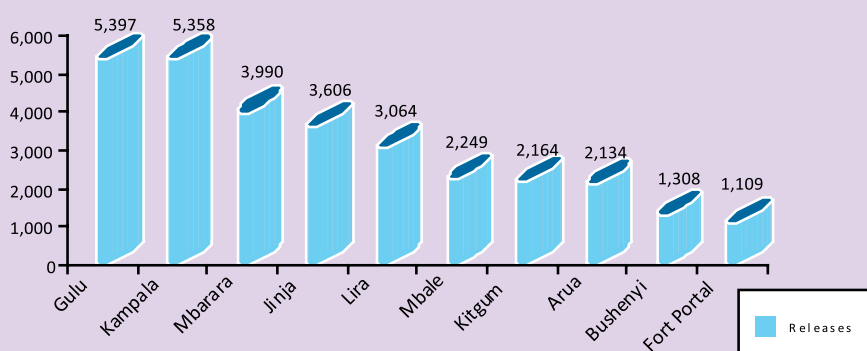
In 2010, the paralegals contributed to the process of physical and case file decongestion within the targeted magisterial areas as illustrated in figure 7 below:

Figure 7: Tabulation reflecting PAS releases; January-December 2010

Project Site	Bail	Bond	Community Service	ADR	Fines	Other releases	Total Releases
Kampala	1903	1234	1066	81	49	1023	5,358
Mbale	546	851	37	177	16	622	2,249
Bushenyi	147	657	48	59	12	385	1,308
Jinja	771	1666	35	419	30	685	3,606
Fort Portal	264	567	56	13	5	204	1,109
Gulu	1275	1357	71	68	85	2541	5,397
Kitgum	679	628	143	124	10	580	2,164
Mbarara	664	964	688	296	15	1363	3,990
Arua	555	1098	77	44	16	344	2,134
Lira	1500	951	50	38	88	435	3,062
Total	8,304	9,973	2,271	1,319	326	8,182	30,375

In 2010, the total number of suspects and inmates released through PAS interventions was thirty thousand three hundred seventy-five (30,375) and among them: eight thousand three hundred four (8,304) bail, nine thousand nine hundred seventy-three (9,973) bond, two thousand two hundred seventy-one (2,271) community service sentences, one thousand three hundred nineteen (1,319) through mediation/diversion and three hundred twenty-six (326) through fine payment. The Paralegals traced a total of fifty three thousand five hundred thirty-three (53,533) sureties and offered basic legal advice and counseling to sixty five thousand two hundred forty-eight (65,248) inmates. The performance of each of the PAS programme site in terms of total releases was commendable as illustrated in figure 8 below:

Figure 8: Performance of PAS sites in terms of total releases; 2010



Unlike in 2009, Gulu site hosted by Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) with 3 paralegals and 4 social workers performed extremely well on releases with a total of five thousand three hundred ninety seven (5,397) inmates from Gulu Government Prison. The Kampala site hosted by Uganda Prisons Service and Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity with ten paralegals and eight social workers secured the second highest releases with a total of five thousand three hundred fifty eight (5,358) inmates from Luzira prison, Kira road police station, central police station, Old Kampala police station and Wandegaya police station.

In order to strengthen the capacity of, promote collaboration amongst stakeholders in the criminal justice system and foster better understanding of the PAS program, PAS organized Justice fora in Fort Portal and Mbale programme sites. The criminal justice stakeholders who attended the fora included: senior and junior officers working in police, remand homes, prisons, court, Local Council Court officers and some district officials who were sensitized on the new amendments in criminal laws and the need to collaborate with the paralegals for improved access to justice.

In 2010, seven (7) steering committee meetings were held at which several bottle necks in the administration of justice were discussed and follow up undertaken. The follow up on challenges raised by the PAS secretariat from the monitoring visits conducted resulted into improved adherence of the criminal justice institutions to agreed standards in the administration of justice.

PAS participated in the Legal Aid open week organized by LASPNET in Mbarara from the 28th June – 2nd July 2010 which was run for the entire western region. Several clients received legal advice from lawyers and paralegals within the Mbarara PAS site. PAS continued to participate in the National Working Group and Regional Advisory Group of the Strengthening Access to Justice in East Africa (SAJEA) programme which is hosted by Uganda Law Society. SAJEA advocates for the promotion of human rights through human rights awareness programmes in the districts of Katakwi and Bundibugyo.

c) *Public Interest Litigation / Legislative Advocacy*

i. Access to Justice for Pre-trial detainees

Under the project titled: 'Enhancing access to justice for pre-trial detainees through creation of awareness and enforcement of their constitutional right to bail', FHRI filed a Constitutional Petition cited as; Constitutional Petition No. 20 of 2006; Foundation for Human Rights Initiative Vs the Attorney General challenging overstay on remand of pre-trial detainees on 18th July 2006. The Judgment was delivered on 26th March 2008 before the Registrar of the Constitutional Court, Her Worship Gladys Nakibule Kisseka. While Sections 16 of the Trial on Indictment Act, Section 76 of the Magistrates Court Act, Section 219, 231 and 248 of the UPDF Act and Section 25(2) of the Police Act that prescribe lengthy periods of detention before trial were found to be unconstitutional, the Court ruled that Section 14(2) and 15(1-3) of the Trial on Indictment Act and Sections 75(2) of the Magistrates Court Act were not unconstitutional in as far as they provide for the regulation of the grant of bail.

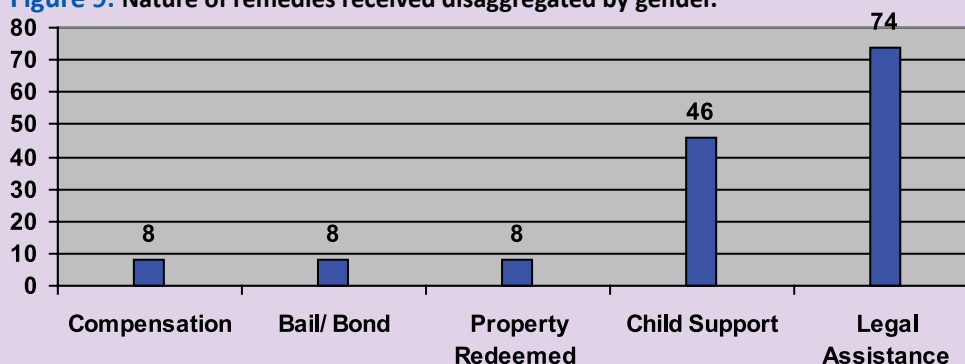
On 31st July 2009, an Appeal was filed in the Supreme Court by FHRI against sections of the judgment that did not succeed or were not addressed at all by the Constitutional Court. However by end of 2010, the hearing of the appeal was still pending due to lack of quorum in the Supreme court. Consequently, the roundtable on the right to bail and the launch of the Handbook were postponed to 2011.

None the less on 16th February 2010, FHRI together with the Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU) submitted a memorandum on electoral reform proposals to the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee in respect of electoral bills seeking to amend the Presidential Elections Act, the Parliamentary Elections Act, the Political Parties and Organizations Act and the Electoral Commission Act. The proposals called for the establishment of an appeal mechanism in cases of disqualification of candidates. Other matters touched include the reinstatement of presidential term limits, review of representation of special interest groups in Parliament and adherence to the doctrine of separation of powers.

Outcome

Through the provision of legal assistance, mediation, legal representation, and out of court settlement, the legal aid unit secured access to remedies for victims of human rights abuse. 46 children received maintenance, 8 clients were compensated for losses, 8 had their property redeemed, 8 were released on bail and bond and 74 received legal advice as illustrated in figure 9 below:

Figure 9: Nature of remedies received disaggregated by gender.



As indicated in figure 9 above, the majority of clients sought legal advice on issues related to domestic violence, child maintenance, child custody, proof of paternity, sale of family land, divorce and separation and letting of property.

The Susan Kigula Supreme court ruling has become a key reference in death penalty debates. The precedent set by the ruling has had multiplier effects: the release of inmates on death row, the focus on sentencing guidelines in capital cases particularly in mitigation hearings on award of the death penalty as a sentence. In 2010 alone, fifty seven (57) cases of death row convicts were sent back to the High Court for mitigation hearings, a move that has led to a review of several death sentences. The Supreme Court commuted death sentences for 167 convicts to life imprisonment.

Following the ruling, the debate on the desirability of the death penalty in Uganda is rife within the public, members of parliament and the judiciary. In 2010, nine articles were published featuring public debate on the efficacy of death penalty as shown in figure 10 below:

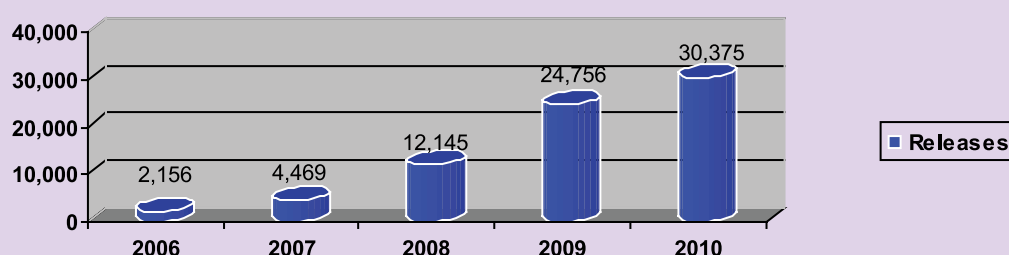
Figure 10: Articles on the death penalty in Uganda

No.	Title of the Article	Source
	<i>Judges question the legitimacy of the death penalty</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Wednesday January 13th, 2010</i>
	<i>Is the law letting criminals off the hook?</i>	<i>New Vision, Friday May 14th 2010</i>
	<i>Death row inmates cases to be reviewed</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Tuesday June 15th 2010</i>
	<i>MPs divided over death penalty abolition</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Friday June 18th 2010</i>
	<i>Does Kakama's killing justify the death penalty in Uganda</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Thursday June 24th 2010</i>
	<i>Kakama murder: time to reflect on criminal justice</i>	<i>Daily Monitor Saturday June 26th 2010</i>
	<i>Judith Koriang does not deserve the death penalty</i>	<i>Daily Monitor Friday September 24th 2010</i>
	<i>Capital offenders should not be sentenced to death</i>	<i>New Vision Friday December 3rd 2010</i>
	<i>Will Buturo ban debates on capital punishments?</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Monday December 6th 2010</i>

The campaign against the Death Penalty has now evolved into a regional campaign following the Court of Appeal ruling in Kenya on the 30th July 2010. In this respect, the death penalty project becomes a major reference point for government institutions, civil society organizations, independent researchers and academia both at national and international level. FHRI has had to respond to inquiries from government and non-government agencies including the Uganda Law Reform Commission, diplomatic missions, academia, on the suitability of the death penalty and the progress of the campaign.

Since PAS inception in October 2005, the total number of inmates released through PAS interventions has steadily increased as shown in figure 11 below:

Figure 11: Number of releases by PAS: 2010



The number of inmates released from places of detention by PAS interventions increased from 2,156 in 2006 to 30,375 in 2010 which shows that PAS has become an important stakeholder in the administration of justice in Uganda. Key evaluation findings of the PAS program 2007 – 2010 only go to support this.

‘The PAS has clearly had a significant impact on the criminal justice system in Uganda. It is now enabling an average of 2,425 detainees per month to be released, either temporarily or permanently from police cells and prisons thus aiding decongestion. It is providing an average of 17,455 detainees a month with basic legal advice and assistance; it has had some impact at the local level in changing practices within the criminal justice system. The major success story of PAS has been to demonstrate that it is possible to provide legal advice and assistance to detainees in the criminal justice system who would otherwise have no such access, a reasonable cost by suitably trained paralegals. The PAS has been successful in gaining the support and respect of JLOS institutions both at senior and junior levels on the ground. [Pg 6: Evaluation: Uganda Paralegal Advisory Service, 2007 – 2010]

Challenges

Although the Constitutional Appeal (Constitutional Appeal No. 3 of 2009; Foundation for Human Rights Initiative Vs the Attorney General) may have significant impact on rights of pre-trial detainees and the period spent on remand, the hearing of this appeal before the Supreme Court remains uncertain. FHRI will have to step up its advocacy efforts to ensure this and similar public interest matters are determined and disposed of by the courts in a timely manner.

Like in 2009, the Case disposal rate still remains a challenge. Although the judiciary is highly commended for putting in place a number of strategies and programs to address this backlog, the frequent adjournments of court cases has had a negative effect. Clients who are often too poor to pursue such cases for a long time lose interest in their matters.

Lastly, with just a handful of Ugandans able to access some form of legal support, advocacy for a National legal aid policy still remains a high priority for FHRI. In the meantime, FHRI will have to invest in legal and human rights outreach programs to bring legal services nearer to the people.



Delegates from Austria (contributors to the LABF which funds PAS) pay courtesy call on the Prison Dept, Gulu on 23rd September 2010

III. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Objective

The overall objective of the Capacity Development Division is to build the civic competence of democratic structures for effective participation in governance.

The division seeks to enhance decentralized governance through promoting participatory decision making processes for effective service delivery and poverty reduction, build capacity of community based human rights associations to effectively monitor and report human rights violations, advocate for best practices in the administration of justice in Uganda and build a cadre of human rights defenders who are passionate and knowledgeable in the field of human rights.

The division has four key elements including;

- Capacity building for Local Government,
- Capacity building of Community Based Associations,
- Capacity building for the Judiciary,
- Leadership development for Human Rights Defenders.

Implementation

Under the Capacity Development Division, FHRI conducts capacity building sessions for Local Government and community based human rights associations, convenes annual judicial roundtables, holds convenes human rights sessions for university human rights associations and annual inter-university human rights competitions and hosts summer courses for human rights defenders in the Great Lakes region on an annual basis.

Planned Activities

The Capacity Development division planned to undertake the following activities in 2010: conduct three, 3-day capacity building courses on good governance for Local Government in Wakiso, Mbarara and Sembabule districts; convene a consultative meeting for community based human rights associations in preparation for the six, 5-day skills building courses on organizational management; provide office equipment and legal reference materials to community based human rights associations; conduct three, 5-day skills building courses on human rights monitoring and reporting for monitors in central, eastern and southern regions of Uganda; conduct three, 1-day human rights sessions for human rights clubs within the university human rights network; support two inter-university human rights competitions and convene the 2nd regional annual summer course for 25 human rights defenders from the Great Lakes region in Naivasha, Kenya.

Output

a) Capacity Building for Local Government.

Following the successful implementation of the pilot project in 2008 titled: 'Enhancing Decentralized Governance in Uganda with special reference to Wakiso, Tororo, Mukono and Nakasongola districts', FHRI extended the Local Government capacity building program to Kamuli, Mbarara, Wakiso and Sembabule districts.

In 2010, FHRI conducted three (3) capacity building courses for district leaders in Wakiso on 17th – 19th February 2010, Sembabule, 6th – 8th September 2010 and Mbarara, 19th – 21st October 2010. The courses were jointly organized with the offices of the Town Clerk in the three districts and were co-facilitated by an expert group comprising of Members of Parliament including Hon. William Okecho, Hon. James Kubeketerya, Hon. Peter Nyombi and Hon. Ibrahim Norman Muwilize. A total of 139 (76 male and 63 female) participants including district councilors, district political leaders, heads of department, staff of the district and representatives of civil society organizations attended the courses.

The training course in Wakiso was officially opened by the area Member of Parliament, Kyadondo North, Wakiso district, Hon. Robert Kasule Sebunya, in Mbarara by the Chief Administrative Officer of Mbarara district, Mr. Wilson Tibugyenda presided and in Sembabule the Vice Chairperson LC V, Mr. Ssali Saison gave the opening remarks. All Guest speakers acknowledged the work of FHRI and the support from Westminster Foundation for Democracy in training local leaders on democratic governance for effective service delivery.

Using the [Practice Guide](#) as a reference tool, the facilitators guided discussions on participatory policy formulation in Local Government, Local Government in a multiparty setting, governance and public accountability, participatory budgeting in local government and respect for human rights and state compliance within the local government context.



Hon Norbert Mao, LCV Chairperson Gulu district (1st row seated, 2nd from left) with community monitors at the human rights monitoring and reporting course for northern region hosted by FHRI, 25th - 28th October 2010

District councilors raised a number of practical challenges and impediments to nurturing responsive governance models that would enhance people's participation and effective service delivery. Some of these are: very limited technical knowledge in local government planning and budgeting, low women participation due to domestic obligations and responsibilities, limited funds for mobilizing community members to participate in district planning and budgeting, weak accountability mechanisms within the districts and at national level, corruption and abuse of office by leaders.

Capacity building sessions such as these conducted periodically were recommended for replication in many other districts, while the partnership with key sector committees of Parliament was applauded.

b) Capacity Building of Community Based Associations.

This component is designed to strengthen community based human rights groups in human rights monitoring, reporting and advocacy as well as organizational management for effective human rights advocacy in Uganda.

In 2010, FHRI under the project titled; 'Building the Capacity of Community Based Human Rights Associations to promote the democratization process in Uganda', conducted six (6) capacity building sessions on organizational management and human rights for community based human rights groups. The groups included; Kalangala Human Rights Defenders (KHRD) in Kalangala district from 9th – 12th March 2010 for 41 participants (20 female and 21 male), Human Rights and Paralegal Services (HUPAS) in Busia district from 13th – 15th April 2010 for 42 participants (14 female and 28 male), Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (AHURICA) in Kayunga district from 18th – 20th May 2010 for 45 participants (22 female and 23 male), Pastoral Women's Alliance to Break Cultural Chains (PWABC) in Kiboga from 30th August - 3rd September 2010 for 48 participants (31 female and 17 male), Lira Women's Peace Initiative (LIWEPI) in Lira district from 12th – 14th October 2010 for 37 participants (34 female and 3 male) and Rwenzori Peace Bridge of Reconciliation (RPBR) in Kasese district from 22nd – 25th November 2010 for 40 participants (23 female and 17 male). A total of 253 (144 female and 109 male) including staff, volunteers, members of these groups as well as local leaders attended the training sessions. These sessions were preceded by a consultative meeting held on 8th February 2010 and field assessment missions conducted from 11th – 13th February 2010 to assess group needs in order to inform the courses.

Although the capacity building sessions covered generic topics including: the concept of human rights, human rights monitoring, documentation and advocacy, state obligations, building strategic partnerships, evaluation of programs, governance of community based associations, staffing and volunteerism and organizational systems and policies, specific group gaps and district human rights challenges were identified and where possible addressed.

The groups deliberated on the following organizational challenges: limited organizational resources at their disposal to undertake human rights work, difficulties in fundraising, limited access to e-resources which limits the groups' effectiveness, lack of knowledge and skills in undertaking program evaluation, low staff motivation and the challenges associated with volunteerism, the narrowing civic space voice alternative views and lastly the challenge of sustaining their work.

On the other hand, some of the key human rights issues identified and discussed communities during these sessions were: corruption and the role of community based associations in the fight against the vice, child sacrifice, the problem of street children, child labor and prostitution, child neglect by parents and the impact on their education, domestic violence perpetrated mostly by drunk partners, women's rights to access and control of land, men's rights in marriage, the Domestic Violence Act 2009, prison conditions, physical and sexual abuse of women, case backlog, knowledge gaps among the community women and men on their rights and the law, misuse of power by local council and district leaders and the role of Local

Council leaders in ensuring that the state delivers on its human rights obligations in social service delivery.

Groups participated in a step by step activity aimed at enhancing understanding of the strategic planning process. Time was devoted to development of group and context specific strategies and methodology that would advance the groups' objectives.

At the end of the discussions, group members jointly committed themselves to undertaking actions that contribute to dealing with some of the challenges identified. Groups committed to; carrying out human rights awareness sessions, building strategic partnerships with police, prisons and the judiciary, participating in district coordination meetings of the Justice Law Order Sector (JLOS) in order to develop a well coordinated and responsive mechanism in defence of victims of human rights violations, human rights monitoring and reporting and using generated reports to constructively engage with their local leadership on issues of service delivery and political and public accountability.

Building on previous achievements and work done in 2009 under the project titled: 'Building the capacity of community based associations to monitor and report human rights violations in Uganda', FHRI conducted four (4) capacity building courses on human rights monitoring and reporting for community monitors and media associations in the central, eastern and northern regions of Uganda.

The training course in the central region was conducted from 6th - 11th August 2010 for 40 participants from Kampala, Gomba, Masaka, Mukono, Kayunga, Nakasongola and Wakiso districts; in the Eastern region on 13th - 16th September 2010 for 46 participants from Kumi, Soroti, Kapchorwa, Bududa, Manafwa, Busia, Katakwi, Tororo, Sironko, Bulambuli, Budaka and Pallisa districts; and in the Northern region from 25th - 28th October 2010 for 41 participants from Lira, Agago, Alebtong, Yumbe, Kitgum and Pader districts. A total of 127 community monitors (52 female and 75 male) attended the courses and were drawn from the following community based and media associations; Uganda Parliamentary Press Association, Human Rights Network for Journalists, Northern Uganda Journalist Press Association, Eastern Uganda Journalists Press Association; Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (Kayunga), Lira Women's Peace Initiative, (Lira), Rwenzori Peace Bridge for Reconciliation, (Kasese), Gomba Paralegals Association (Gomba), National Human Rights Association of Uganda (Mbale) and Greater North Women's Voices For Peace Network.

The training courses were conducted by the FHRI resource team, district officials and personnel, from the Uganda Police, Uganda Prisons Service and Judicial Officers who lay emphasis on contact building when preparing to undertake human rights monitoring and documentation, tactics in fact finding and interviewing, documenting and reporting, principles of human rights monitoring and reporting and gender and human rights monitoring.

FHRI maintained active partnership with Uganda Reach and Aged Association (URAA) and within this partnership conducted a series of human rights training from 13th - 24th September 2010 in Kasese district. FHRI also conducted a one-day human rights awareness session for 22 members of Bukadde Magezi Community an association of the elderly at Tivori Gardens in Mukono district on 16th July 2010; a human rights training for youth and women groups in Ntinda on 6th May 2010 in Ntinda, a training for Plan International on advocacy strategies on 19th May 2010 at Colline Hotel, Mukono.

During the reporting period, FHRI delivered 4 guest lectures: on the role of NGOs in human rights promotion at Kampala International University, Faculty of Law, LLM program on 8th June 2010, a lecture on human rights in Uganda for Drake university students on 2nd June 2010 at the Human Rights House, a lecture on leadership at Namityango College on 22nd June 2010 and a lecture on human rights for students of the Simmons College, Boston on 12th July 2010 at the Human Rights House.

There was an effort to reach out to faith based institutions as well. In this respect, FHRI conducted and supported a human rights seminar for Mukono Diocese from the 19th - 21st May 2010. 100 copies of the

1995 Uganda Constitution were disseminated to the clergy.

In order to strengthen community human rights advocacy, FHRI handed over 4 computers, 5 bicycles, 4 motorcycles and legal reference materials to 9 Community Based Organizations on 29th December 2010 at the Human Rights House. The beneficiaries were; Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness, Kalangala Human Rights Defenders, Human Rights and Paralegal Services, Human Rights Target, Youth Revival Association, Kasubi Community Development Association, Bukoggolwa Widows and Orphans' Care Center, Lira Women's Peace Initiative and Rwenzori Peace Bridge for Reconciliation. This institutional support extended to these groups is meant to improve their institutional capacity to monitor and engage government structures at the local level in order to ensure respect for human rights and improve service delivery.

c) Leadership Development for Human Rights Defenders

FHRI subscribes to the notion that building a sustainable human rights movement is key to the attainment of justice, stability and democracy in Uganda. Since 2006, FHRI has contributed to building a cadre of human rights defenders who are passionate and knowledgeable in human rights and can nurture a human rights culture and social justice movement.

Within this context, FHRI continued to strengthen the university human rights network by supporting research, debates, competitions and seminars. In 2010, FHRI conducted two, 2-day human rights sessions: one for the Islamic University human rights association held on 31st August 2010 and another for Nkozi University human rights association on 1st September 2010. The two human rights sessions were attended

A cross section of the delegates who attended the 2nd Regional Summer Course, Naivasha, Kenya convened by FHRI, 24th -29th October 2010



by a total of 117 students (49 female and 68 male).

FHRI supported 2 inter-university human rights competitions. The 3rd competition was hosted by Kampala International University (KIU) on the 5th March 2010 while Kyambogo University hosted the 4th held on 12th November 2010. The official opening of the 3rd Inter-University competition was presided over by High Court Judge, Hon. Justice Patrick Tabaro, while the 4th university competition was presided over by the Chief Justice of Uganda, Hon. Justice Benjamin Odoki. The competition is a platform for the students to research, debate and deliberate on issues such as access to quality education, judicial independence, application of the death penalty, right to health, electoral democracy and media freedom.

Both competitions attracted a total of six hundred eighty four (684) students drawn from Makerere University, Kampala University, Kyambogo University, Islamic University in Uganda, Uganda Christian University, Nkumba University, Mbarara University, Gulu University, Bugema University, Busoga University, Ndejje University, Kampala International University and Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi.

In the run up these debates, the students were required to consider the different themes in terms of their application in Uganda both in principle and in practice, the key threats and challenges to the realisation of these rights and key recommendations necessary to improve the situation in each case. Each university selected one representative who submitted on one of the thematic topics chosen.

A panel of three (3) independent panelists assessed each of the presentations; evaluating the style of writing, evidence of research, consistency, analysis and synthesis of the issue, innovation, ideas and proposals made. On the other hand, in evaluating the presentation, the panel was keen on the eloquence of the presenter and audience engagement. After a thorough and competitive process, the panel provided comments on each of the presentations and from their assessment, Uganda Christian University emerged the best in the 3rd competition while Mbarara University of Science and Technology was the best in the 4th competition. Each participant was awarded a certificate of participation while the winners were awarded certificates of Merit.

As part of the university and schools outreach program, FHRI conducted human rights awareness sessions at Jimmy Sekasi Institute of Catering on 11th June 2010, Namboole Secondary School on 25th June 2010, supported the KIU annual Lawyers dinner held on 16th April 2010, conducted a human rights awareness session for SWSA students at KIU from the 14th - 15th April 2010 and supported a human rights session for Kyambogo human rights association on 16th April 2010.

The university human rights associations took keen interest in national and election related events. The Islamic university human rights association participated in Uganda's Independence Day celebrations on 9th October 2010 when they took part in a processional march at the national celebrations with a banner calling for greater respect for human rights. Nkumba university human rights association participated in the World AIDS day celebrations on 1st December 2011 and called upon respect of human rights and dignity of Persons Living with HIV/AIDS while the human rights association in Kyambogo University participated in the activities of the Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda through mobilising students to participate in the electoral process. The group also organized a human rights session on electoral democracy at the Kyambogo University campus on 8th October 2010.

Held in Naivasha, Kenya, the 2nd Annual Regional Human Rights Summer Course was held under the auspices of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ-Kenya) from 24th to 29th October 2010 at the Great Rift Valley Lodge and Golf Course in Naivasha, Kenya. Under the theme, *"Building a Democratic Culture in Eastern Africa: Emerging Trends"* the course afforded human rights defenders with a platform to reflect on their human rights work and share experiences across the region, in particular take stock of

risks, opportunities and new tactics to advance human rights and democratic development in the region.

Addressing the 25 Human Rights Defenders from Kenya, Uganda Tanzania, Burundi, Sudan, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Hon. William Cheptumo, M.P and Assistant Minister for Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs in Kenya saluted the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) Kenya, Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) and the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network project for choosing the most appropriate theme for the event. He observed that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and achieve full participation in all aspects of life. A communiqué was adopted by the participants and circulated widely within the region and beyond. The meeting resolved to hold the third course in Bujumbura, Burundi in 2011 under the auspices of the Association of Women Lawyers of Burundi.

Outcome

The FHRI capacity building program continues to expand and to strengthen the human rights movement in Uganda. By close of 2010, over four hundred thirty nine (439) human rights activists had been trained by FHRI under this program thereby adding to the already existing network of human rights activists and monitors in schools, universities, local government, faith based institutions, community based associations and informal civic groups.

The Local Government capacity building program has not only provided a forum for knowledge acquisition amongst local leaders but has also promoted participatory planning and improved service delivery. In some of the target districts like Wakiso and Kamuli, the district councilors have stepped up engagement with constituency members in planning and implementation processes on programs such as the National Agricultural Advisory Services program and 'Prosperity for All. Oversight on the use of Local Government Development funds, health service delivery and the budgeting process have been stepped up. Our interview with the councilor for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Sembabule has revealed a remarkable change in the involvement of PWDs by the district especially on issues of education, health and access to public buildings.

'The Local Council V is becoming more and more responsive to our needs. For example, all architectural plans being approved for construction of public buildings have a ramp which makes it easy for PWDs to access such buildings.'

With the knowledge acquired, some of the councilors trained have championed the adoption of bye-laws by the area LC Councils that are sensitive and responsive to the needs of the communities. For example in Kamuli district, a bye law that requires every household to build a pit-latrine has been adopted in an effort to improve health and sanitation while in Wakiso district, the councilors were able to persuade the district council to nullify the enactment of an ordinance on revenue collection after learning that the procedure followed for its enactment was flawed.

The Practice Guide published under the program is an important reference in managing local government. The Building Local Democracy program (BLD) in Uganda previously supported by MS Uganda has taken keen interest in the Guide and as such supported its reprint to support the BLD program implementation in Koboko, Iganga, Apac, Nakapiripirit and Masindi districts.

The capacity building sessions designed for community based groups have provided an opportunity to the groups to increase their knowledge on human rights, skills on human rights monitoring and reporting as well as organizational and project management. To ensure sustainability, FHRI has also made

available human rights and legal reference materials such as *the Paralegal Reference Handbook, the 1995 Constitution of Uganda, the Penal Code Act, the Domestic Violence Act, the Children's Act and the Land Act* to these groups which they have found to be **'useful tools in human rights promotional work.'** In an internal survey carried out, 99% of the trainees admitted to having acquired useful knowledge on human rights and organizational management.

Groups such as Pastoral Women Alliance to Break Cultural Chains (PWABC) in Kiboga have organized human rights sessions for members to acquire knowledge and receive reference materials. The knowledge acquired during the training on organizational management has been utilized to fundraise for their work from both local and international sources.

Groups trained have supported national organizations such as FHRI, ANPCANN with information which has been invaluable in the production of periodic thematic human rights reports. For example Action Group for Human Rights and Civic Awareness, (AHURICA) in Kayunga district has documented cases of child sacrifice, land and property grabbing, mistreatment of juveniles, orphans and other vulnerable groups, abuse of mothers by health workers, poor state of health facilities in the district, unacceptable police conduct and poor prison conditions. This information has been used by FHRI in compiling thematic reports on *Juvenile justice, rights of persons with disability, the right to healthcare in Uganda and the political space rights reports* all of which have been launched at the national level. This is ably stated at the end of project evaluation of the capacity building program for community based groups:

'The thematic reports and human rights pocket guide are special offshoots of this project whose benefits will not only be felt by the human rights monitors alone, but also other persons and organizations advocating for the promotion of human rights in Uganda. The reports have been widely disseminated and used in advocacy.' [Pg 6: End of project evaluation report: Building capacity of community based associations to monitor and report human rights violations: 2011]

The participation of state organs, particularly the Justice Law and Order Sector institutions in the capacity development program has continued to improve relationship between community based actors and these agencies. As a result, there has been improved and effective response by JLOS agencies. JLOS agencies have of late been responsive to findings of these groups in some districts like Kiboga, Kayunga and Kasese. As more and more people seek advice from these groups and paralegals, the number of cases referred to and effectively handled by the groups and by JLOS institutions for appropriate remedy continues to increase. On average 4 cases are reported to groups such as AHURICA, Human Rights Target and Kalangala Human Rights Defenders in Kalangala district on a monthly basis.

This collaboration has also led to increased involvement of Community Based groups in district programs. For example in Kayunga district, Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (AHURICA) is working with the JLOS institutions within the framework of the JLOS district coordination committees, engaging on issues of crime and electoral democracy in the sub counties of Galilaya, Kyelima, Kayunga and Namulaba parish. AHURICA has taken on the secretarial position of the district family Committee to engage JLOS institutions in the enforcement of children's rights.

The office equipment and resource books handed over to the groups under the project will empower groups to reach out to those in need thereby responding to pressing human rights issues.

'It is incredible. This support given to us by FHRI and KIOS is overwhelming. We can now go to far off places in our communities like Galilaya to help children who have been burnt, women who have been beaten, widows whose property has been taken among others. We will be able to produce better reports as well. Thank you for the Constitutions. We needed some of these resources but with our merger resources, we could not afford!'

[Mr. Barchimpe Yousuf-AHURICA at the handover ceremony: 29th Dec. 2010, Human Rights House, Nsambya]

The capacity building program for community based groups on human rights monitoring and reporting has been evaluated. As stated in the report;

‘The interaction amongst the community based organizations and the media facilitated the collaboration between the two critical actors in their role in human rights monitoring and reporting. Through the project, local press and media associations in all the four regions were mainstreamed into human rights monitoring. Local media groups such as the Kumi Human Rights Initiative, Mt. Elgon Press Association (MEPA), Media Front to Save Generations (MESSAGE) and the Teso Media Association (TEMA) apprehended their role in human rights to include not only news coverage but also pro active human rights monitoring and advocacy. This further built onto FHRI’s network of human rights activists’ [Pg 6: End of project evaluation report: Building capacity of community based associations to monitor and report human rights violations: 2011]

The University Human Rights Network continued to grow. Two (2) human rights clubs were formed; in Uganda Martyrs University- Nkozi and Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) in 2010. Through the University human rights network. Students are rejuvenated and enabled to discover their role promoting democratic governance.

The Chief Justice, Hon Justice Benjamin Odoki (1st row (C) standing) presided over the 4th Inter-University Human Rights competition in Kyambogo University hosted by FHRI on the 14th November 2010



The opportunity to research on key governance issues helps in building the civic consciousness among the students. The participation of these students associations in national events like the independence day celebrations, the world aids day, election campaigns to improve the political outlook key to nurturing a democratic culture.

Building on the achievements of the 1st summer course held in 2009, the 2nd regional event for human rights defenders presents human rights defenders within the Great Lakes region an opportunity for collective advocacy on current and emerging democratic challenges within the region.

Challenges

The demand for knowledge and quest for human rights information continues to grow. FHRI received over 20 requests from community based groups, university human rights clubs, faith based groups, the media, informal civil society groups and individuals for technical and material support. FHRI will have to garner and redirect more resources to supporting the development of a social justice movement key to the demand for social accountability.

IV. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION DIVISION

Objective

The communication and Information Division promotes information flow and builds the corporate image of FHRI.

The Division has three components:

- The Information Centre
- Public Affairs Unit
- Documentation Unit

Implementation

Under the Communication and Information Division, FHRI maintains an information centre that provides internet services and secretariat support to staff and resource centre users, regularly updates FHRI website www.fhri.or.ug, issues quarterly e-Newsletters, undertakes book exhibitions during the human rights week in December and the National Book Week, conducts media briefings, issues press releases and oversees the publication of the 'Human Rights Defender', 'Annual Report' and 'Brochure' to keep the entire human rights community and stakeholders informed of progress and emerging issues..

Planned Activities

The planned activities for 2010 were; Issue 2 e-newsletters, conduct 2 book exhibitions, update FHRI website and provide internet and library services to staff and users, organize media briefings, issue press releases, provide rapid response to human rights violations through urgent actions/appeals, publish 2 editions of the Defender and release 750 copies of the FHRI Annual report 2009.

Output

a) *Information Centre*

The information centre is a reading and reference facility which seeks to promote access to and exchange of information internally, nationally and internationally.

In 2010, the Centre updated the FHRI website in-tandem with current programmatic and institutional developments as well as human rights trends in Uganda. The website was redesigned to include periodic announcements, cases of human rights violations, recent human rights reports launched, press releases and a news room.

Throughout 2010 the internet and email facility was fully functional and continued to provide support to functions of the organization including; communication, information sharing and research.

In 2010, the Information Centre issued one (1) e-newsletter; *Volume 8, Issue No. 10 January – June 2010* and disseminated to FHRI staff, development partners, members and the general public. The release of the 2nd FHRI e-newsletter; *Volume 9, Issue No. 9, July – December 2010* was deferred to 2011.

The Information Centre extended its services to three hundred eighty (380) users (174 women, 206 men.) Like in previous years, academic institutions patronized the Information Centre with 90% usage. Among the academic institutions, Kampala International University had the highest number comprising 325 users. The Centre also received and registered a total of three hundred ninety eight (398) reading materials from civil society organizations and government institutions.

In 2010, the Information Centre participated in 3 book exhibitions including: an exhibition in the Peoples Space parallel to the International Criminal Court Review conference from 1st – 11th June 2010 at Speke Resort, Munyonyo, an exhibition as part of the activities to commemorate the UN Day Against Torture held on 26th June 2010 at Uganda Railway grounds and an exhibition during the human rights week held on the 7th December 2010 at Hotel Africana. During the exhibitions, a total of 300 members of the public visited FHRI stalls.

On 26th October 2010, FHRI Resource centre team visited the American embassy Resource centre. The learning visit exposed the team to new information and communication technology used as tool for information sharing.

b) Public Affairs Unit

The Public Affairs Unit seeks to promote FHRI's profile and services rendered. The Unit reaches out to the greater public to explain FHRI's advocacy role.

On 16th September 2010, the unit hosted a press launch at which The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and FIDH launched the Annual report 2010 on the situation of human rights defenders in the world. The report titled, 'Steadfast in Protest: Annual report 2010' was officially launched by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of the human rights defenders, Ms. Margaret Sekaggya. The launch was attended by 56 media and human rights defenders.



A helping hand: FHRI joins in to assist the survivors of the Bududa landslide. Items donated by FHRI being handed over to the Redcross on 25th June 2010 at the Redcross offices in Kampala

At the launch, FHRI called for the review of the proposed Public Order Management Bill, 2009 (POM Bill) that seeks to regulate public gatherings / meetings as a threat to the enjoyment of the freedom of expression, assembly and association. FHRI called upon all stakeholders to speak out against the bill and urged Parliament not to pass what was potentially a repressive law.

In 2010, sixty two (62) articles featuring FHRI activities, position and views were covered in the print and electronic media. Articles, features and press releases covering issues such as healthcare services in Uganda, 2011 general elections, Electoral Commission's readiness to hold free elections in 2011, electoral reforms, the Public Order Management Bill, the Death penalty ruling, Constitutional Court ruling on the law of sedition, enactment of the anti-torture law, right to education, draft media bill, the Anti – Homosexuality Bill, prison conditions in Uganda, human rights situation in Uganda, police reform and the marriage and divorce bill among others were recorded.

As part of its corporate responsibility, FHRI extended support in form of clothing, shoes and beddings to victims of the Bududa land slides. These were handed over to the Uganda Red Cross on 25th June 2010.

Lastly, FHRI hosted 121 visitors including: development partners, member of the diplomatic corps, academia, students, international civil society groups, political parties, professional bodies, human rights activists working at the local and international levels and local and international media. They all applauded FHRI for the human rights advocacy work and expressed interest in possible collaboration.

C) Documentation Unit

The FHRI Documentation Unit seeks to inform the democratization process in Uganda. The Unit oversees the publication of the *'Human Rights Defender'*, *'Annual Report'* and the *'Brochure'*.

In 2010, FHRI published 750 copies of the Annual Report 2009 detailing the achievements and challenges at the programmatic and institutional levels. FHRI also published 1,000 copies of the Defender titled: *'Access to Quality Health Care in Uganda; Counting the Cost'*. Copies of the two publications were distributed to development partners, government institutions, civil society organizations, media, academia, FHRI members and the general public.

Outcome

'I came to learn about the innovative activities of FHRI through your website and publication that I found at an exhibition'

[Student from Colombia University: 2010]

Dear FHRI friends, thank you for the good publications you sent to us.

[Katie Meyer, Campaigns and Outreach Coordinator, International Freedom of Expression, Canada]

Dear FHRI, thank you for the good publications.

I enjoy reading your issues every time you send them to me. **[Clarence Kipobota, Advocate Outreach Services Coordinator, Legal and Human Rights Centre, Tanzania]**

Dear FHRI, thank you for sharing with us this wonderful updates about FHRI. Your organization is doing a good job. **[Lloyd Kuveya, Project Lawyer, Southern Africa Litigation Centre, South Africa]**



The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders Mrs. Margaret Sekagya (third right), at the launch of the report titled: 'Steadfast in Protest: Annual report 2010' at the Human Rights House, Nsambya on 16th September 2010

FHRI, we appreciate your publications. Please send us your latest defender magazine, research report on health rights and other new publications **[Library of congress]**

The Communication and Information division has complimented the advocacy role of FHRI very well through dissemination of the organizational products and other human rights related information to key stake holders and the general public.

As a result, a number of organizations and individuals both at the international and local level have expressed interest in collaborating with FHRI, in joint implementation of activities, in understudying its strategies or becoming members of the organization.

The website remains a significant tool in enhancing the organization's visibility around the world and continues to support the FHRI internship and volunteer program as well as the membership drive of the organization. A record number of over 200,000 hits have been recorded on FHRI website. In 2010, FHRI registered over 30 on-line applications for internship and 25 individuals expressed interest in becoming members of the organization.

Challenges

The cost of production of the publications and associated dissemination costs are very high and as such it is difficult to produce enough copies to meet the growing public demand for FHRI's reports and materials. This challenge is further compounded by the fact that a large number of consumers of this information in Uganda do not understand the English language and are also unable to access nor afford e-resources which would be a cheaper option for dissemination necessitating translation in local languages of various materials.

V. PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Objective

The Program Development Division designs, supervises and ensures appropriate systems development for the effective and efficient program implementation.

The Program Development Division has 4 major activity areas;

- Periodic Review of the strategic Plan
- Alliance Building
- Fundraising
- Project Reporting

Implementation

Under the Programme Development Division, FHRI develops annual work-plans, holds quarterly program meetings, quarterly Board of Directors' meetings, Annual General Meetings for FHRI members, end of year staff/Board Retreats and Annual donor reviews, coordinates fundraising efforts, releases periodic reports to members and partners and organizes joint campaigns with similar organizations.

Planned Activities

The proposed activities for 2010 were; update the FHRI annual Work plan and Year Planner 2010, undertake fundraising and release periodic project progressive reports as per FHRI contract obligations.



FHRI Board members and staff at the FHRI Board- Staff retreat at Green Valley Hotel, Gaba; 14th -17th December 2010

Output

In 2010, FHRI held 3 staff program meetings and 3 Board of Directors' meetings to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan; (2009-2011). During these meetings, staff and the Board adopted the Annual Work-plan and Year Planner for 2010 to ensure timely tracking of program activities. In addition, staff resolved to have a corporate wear as part of re-branding.

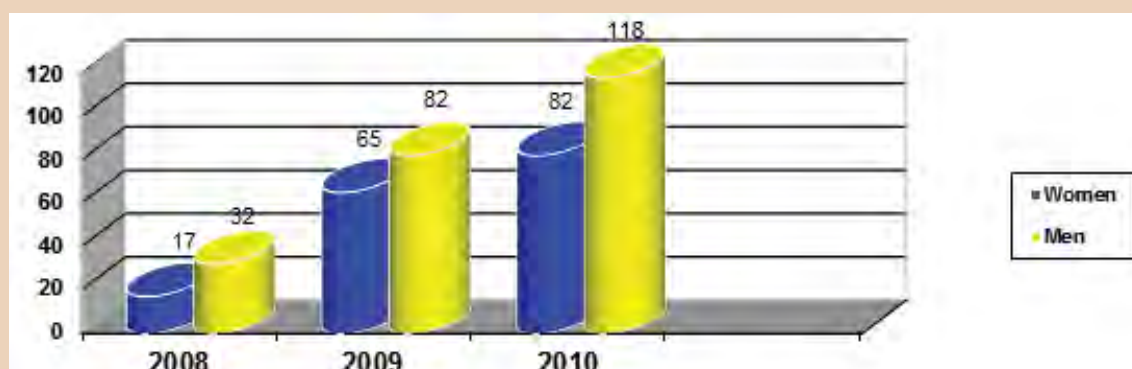
Corporate practice dictates that FHRI holds Annual General Meetings (AGM) to update its members on the organization's developments, deliberate challenges and determine future actions. In 2010, FHRI held its 14th Annual General Meeting on 21st August 2010 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya. During this meeting attended by 200 members and staff (118 men and 82 women), the report by the Chairperson and Director together with the Audited and Annual reports 2009 were discussed and endorsed by members. At the meeting, FHRI agreed to form pressure groups to address human rights issues within their respective districts.

Outcome

In 2010, FHRI acquired and/or renewed partnership agreements with SIDA, NED, WFD, DDP, DANIDA-HUGGO, ICJ-kenya and DANIDA-LABF. The support received from the above partners has contributed immensely to FHRI capacity to carry out: research and documentation of human rights violations, leadership development for human rights defenders, capacity building program for Local Government strengthening and legal aid advocacy among others.

Over the last three years, FHRI has registered a remarkable increase in number of Life members and Friends of the Foundation as illustrated in figure 12 below:

Fig 12: Members of FHRI attending AGM in the last 3 years



It is clear from figure 12 above that members' attendance to AGM increased from 49 in 2008, to 147 in 2009 and rose to 200 in 2010, which explains the increased interest of the general public in being part of and participating in FHRI activities and the wider human rights movement.

Challenges

Due to the current global financial recession, the Foundation is increasingly threatened by inadequate financing to meet the ever-growing demands on its limited resources.

VI. SPECIAL PROJECTS

CITIZENS COALITION FOR ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY IN UGANDA (CCEDU)

Objective

The Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU) is a non-partisan, broad civil society coalition which seeks to advocate and promote integrity, transparency and active citizens participation in Uganda's electoral process.

Implementation

CCEDU, which was launched on 19th August 2009 by the Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Edward Sekandi with a membership of 487 civil society groups had by end of 2010 signed up over 600 civil society organizations and over 8,000 individual members.

CCEDU has three Governing bodies; CCEDU Membership platform, the Advisory Board and Executive Committee. The Advisory Board comprising of 12 member organizations elected by CCEDU membership represents the different configurations including the elderly, Workers' Union, farmers, faith based, media, development work, student/youth, persons with disabilities, private sector, women, human rights and person living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda. On the other hand, the Executive Committee comprising of 83 civil society organizations oversees policy implementation of CCEDU.

Planned activities

The planned activities for CCEDU in 2010 were: roll-out CCEDU media messaging campaign on voter registration, register display and pre-election media messaging, establish a citizens' election reporting hotline, recruit more organizations and individuals to CCEDU and mark the first anniversary of CCEDU.

Output

In January through February 2010, CCEDU commissioned a cross-section of members to carry out a baseline survey to establish the key electoral issues, attitudes and perceptions of the citizenry towards electoral processes in Uganda. The research team comprised of fifteen (15) members from various configurations including elderly, Workers' Union, farmers, faith based, media, development work, student/youth, persons with disabilities, private sector, women, human rights and person living with HIV/AIDS carried out the survey. Major research findings showed that there were high levels of public mistrust in the Electoral Commission and lack of motivation to participate in electoral processes, voter fatigue and apathy. In contrast however, the survey revealed that a significant number of Ugandans were willing to register and verify their personal details on the National Voter Register in preparation for the 2011 general elections. The results from the survey were used to guide the development of CCEDU's media messages for both the National Voter Registration and Display exercises.

In 2010, CCEDU held eight media taskforce meetings to generate and refine the media messages for the voter registration, display and pre-election period.

On 29th April 2010, CCEDU formally launched the media campaign at Protea Hotel, Kampala. The launch attracted a total of eighty five (85) people including representatives from media houses, civil society groups, academia, donor community, and government institutions specifically the Electoral Commission. CCEDU messages on voter registration were aired effective 30th April, 2010 on thirty (30) radio stations with a good mix of national and community radio stations countrywide. The messages were translated and aired in eleven (11) popular local languages to ensure that the campaign adequately reached the population across the country. And based on the listenership surveys for the various radio stations used for the campaign (*Synovate Uganda 2010*), CCEDU estimates that the voter registration messages reached about 13, 786, 434 citizens, a segment of which either registered as new voters or verified existence of their data on the national voters' register.



The CCEDU 'Honour Your Vote' campaign being flagged off at the Human Rights House, Nsambya; 2010

CCEDU in partnership with Media Focus on Africa Foundation (MFAF) held two (2) Media Outreach Clinics on 6th May 2010 and 8th October 2010 attended by a total of 30 radio journalists and 12 CSO representatives. CCEDU worked with three media experts from Uganda, Kenya and UK to provide technical assistance to journalists and CSO leaders in areas of; understanding CCEDU media campaign on enhancing citizen participation in electoral process, election reporting and moderation, the impact of media reporting on the electoral process and ethical codes of conduct for journalists and presentation skills.

In 2010, CCEDU conducted over one hundred radio talk shows on thirty (30) stations countrywide to discuss electoral issues including: the possibility of averting vote rigging in the 2011 elections, the role of civil society, elections and transparency, the extent to which the on-going voter registration process achieved its objective, the role of the faith based networks in the electoral process, the possibility of overcoming intimidation and fear in the electoral process in the 2011 elections, the special role of citizens in the electoral process, election observation and the Uganda Watch 2011 CSO initiative, the mandate of citizens in the forthcoming election, the special role of the youth in the electoral process, the HIV positive and the persons with disabilities role in the electoral process and the special role of human rights defenders in elections. The talk shows were spread out to cover the entire country as well as tackle current affairs around the election process.

On 15th July 2010, CCEDU conducted a joint advisory board and executive committee meeting to develop its quarterly plan. The meeting attracted 64 member representatives of the various CCEDU member organizations and configurations. The participants reviewed CCEDU's previous media campaign efforts and discussed possible future projects that the coalition could engage in towards the 2011 elections. During the meeting, CCEDU members resolved to strengthen and diversify the CCEDU media campaign in order to reach more people and broaden the campaign to include print, television and outdoor campaigns based on the notion of *"citizens speaking to fellow citizens"*. Members also proposed that CCEDU's media campaign could be constructed along key thematic areas identified from the Citizens' Manifesto.

In order to specially deliver a civil society position on key electoral issues falling within the voter register display period, CCEDU published a four-page news paper supplementary edition in The New Vision on 27th August, 2010. The supplement highlighted the shortfalls in the existing electoral law, CCEDU's key achievements since August 2009, and CCEDU's future electoral programming efforts. The supplement was



also dedicated to encouraging citizens to take part in the voter register display exercise. Alongside this supplement, CCEDU continued to champion the visibility of major electoral events and processes through the print media. CCEDU released over five print media articles commenting on the voter register display exercise; political party primary elections; the role of the civil society in ensuring a free, fair election; internal party democracy; and the proposed Public Order Management Bill 2007.

On 15th July 2010 CCEDU held a consultative meeting with over thirty political party representatives specifically representatives from the Inter-Party Organization for Dialogue (IPOD). At the meeting participants called upon CCEDU to work with the various political parties in order to ensure that party leadership also owns and helps

to transmit electoral messages that CCEDU may put out. This meeting also served as a forum to update political parties on CCEDU's programs but also to receive their input specifically on the media campaign.

On 24th August 2010, CCEDU convened a meeting of key partner members to develop a media action plan for the period between October 2010 and March 2011. Members at the meeting agreed to organize media debates for political candidates as a way of bringing issues and concerns of Ugandan citizens to the attention of political aspirants, and consequently to get their responses.

In 2010, CCEDU provided voters across the country with a platform through which they voiced what they believed were the most important election issues. CCEDU carried out six (6) Face the Citizens Regional debates in *Eastern, Western, West Nile, Central, Northern, Mid Western* regions of Uganda and conducted seven (7) Face the Citizens Presidential debates hosting presidential candidates including; *Jaberi Bidandi Ssali, Abed Bwanika, Olara Otunnu, Betty Olive Kamywa, Samuel Lubega, Nobert Mao and Dr. Kizza Besigye*. At the regional level the debates attracted political representatives to answer questions from ordinary citizens, whereas at the national level the presidential candidates responded to critical issues as raised by citizens. In both cases, the debates sought to shift electoral campaigns from being personality driven to being issue based. All debates were recorded and aired on five television stations including UBC, NTV, WBS, NBS and BTN.

CCEDU also in partnership with various community based organizations ran fifty one (51) Face the Citizens Local Debates through out the country at district and constituency levels, to afford the ordinary citizens an opportunity to voice their issues and concerns to candidates vying for Parliamentary and Local Council positions. The issues that featured prominently thought out the debates included corruption, poor infrastructure, poor service delivery especially in health, education and agriculture, low minimum wage, fraudulent electoral processes, environmental degradation and massive unemployment among others. Although some issues were beyond their respective mandates, the candidates would always pledge to resolve them once elected. The debates were recorded and disseminated for airing on the local radio stations.

In 2010, CCEDU carried out a multimedia messaging campaign country wide. CCEDU launched the 'Honor Your Vote' campaign on 40 radio stations which aired spot adverts in twelve languages including *English, Luganda, Runyankole-Rukiga, Runyoro, Alur, Lugbara, Luo, Ateso, Gisu, Ngakamrimojong, Japadhola and Swahili* and on five (5) television stations namely; UBC, WBS, NTV, Record TV and Bukedde TV. The same campaign was also advertised in the print media specifically in the *New Vision* and the *Daily Monitor* and

on forty (40) billboards.

CCEDU also printed various branded materials that carried voter education messages namely; 5,000 T-shirts, 3,000 wrist bands, 4,000 bandanas, 2,500 reflector jackets with a uniform message, *'vote issues not wolokoso'* were produced.

On 4th December 2010, CCEDU held a public free open concert to officially launch the *'Honor Your Vote'* campaign. It was positioned as an entertainment event to share inaugural CCEDU information with mainly the urban youth segment. The event attracted over 1,000 ordinary Ugandans from Kampala and surrounding areas with performances from Uganda's musicians. During the concert CCEDU gave out its branded materials such as the T-shirts, bandanas and wrist bands.

Outcome

CCEDU's multi media messaging campaign and the Face the Citizens debates boosted enthusiasm among citizens to discuss electoral issues as well as renew their commitment to positively engage in the political campaign activities, and challenge candidates to respond to their pressing issues. The beneficiaries of the CCEDU campaign sought to explore and highlight participation as a key hallmark in averting issues like election malpractices, state intimidation and violence as was observed in the party primary elections.

The multi media messaging campaign also increased CCEDU visibility as a consortium of Civil Society organizations in Uganda's democratic process. During the year, CCEDU received over 20 applications from new national CSOs who applied to join the Coalition and all the new applicants made positive reference to CCEDU's media campaign on voter registration and voter register display and *'Honor Your Vote'* campaign.

From an overall perspective, CCEDU forums were the first protracted voter education campaign that was ran in Uganda. Most of the feedback captured through the various forums indicated that the message reached a significant part of the voting population and helped redefine their attitude towards electoral process. Whereas most of the electorate had indicated laxity to participate in elections citing pre-determined electoral flaws, the 59.3% voter turn up reported by the Electoral Commission in the presidential elections is significantly attributed to CCEDU efforts. The 59.3% voter turn out represents 8,272,760 voters out of a total number of 13,954,129 registered votes.

Challenges

Government increasingly threatened to investigate the operations of democracy and governance CSOs on the mythical allegations of supporting the opposition political parties. CCEDU intends to continue dialoguing and sharing reports with relevant government offices to avoid suspicion of CCEDU activities.

2. EAST AFRICA INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE (EAICJI)

Objective

The broader objective of the EAICJI programme is to raise awareness and enhance the capacity of key target groups including media, civil society, judicial officers and Members of Parliament on the role, functions and importance of the International Criminal Court in order to transform it into an effective tool in the fight against impunity in the wider Eastern Africa region. The Initiative is implemented by the Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ-Kenya) in partnership with FHRI.

Planned Activities

1. Parallel event at the International Criminal Court (ICC) Review Conference.
2. Inter-State task force meeting under the program.
3. Stakeholders sensitization workshop.

Output

i. *Parallel event at the ICC Review Conference, May 31-June 11, 2010*

FHRI and ICJ (K) attended the ICC review conference at which a side event on the Complementarity Challenges in Kenya and Uganda' was convened by FHRI and ICJ (K) on 8th June 2010 at the Speke Resort Munyonyo. Both organizations held a book exhibition in the Peoples Space during the review conference.

ii. *Inter-State Task Force Meeting*

The Inter-State Task Force meeting was held on June 5, 2010 at Mosa Court Apartments comprising of the EAICJI partners from Uganda, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo. At the meeting, country focal points reviewed in-country progress of the EAICJI project and agreed on a future agenda.

Hon Elias Lukwago, MP Kampala Central and Member of the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee addressing participants at the stakeholders meeting on the ICC at Speke Resort Munyonyo hosted by FHRI and ICJ-K; 10-12 October 2010



iii. Stakeholders' Sensitization Workshop

Together with ICJ (K), FHRI organized a stakeholders' sensitisation workshop on the International Criminal Court from the 10th – 12th October 2010 at Speke Resort, Munyonyo. The workshop was attended by over 30 participants including state attorneys, private legal practitioners, prosecutors, civil society organizations and representatives from ICJ (Kenya). Participants discussed the role of the International Criminal Court, reviewed the Uganda situation and appraised the mandate of the War Crimes Division of the High Court of Uganda.

Outcome

The enactment of the International Criminal Court Act, 2010 may be an encouraging sign that stakeholders have begun to appreciate the role of the ICC in dealing with impunity.

Challenge

The ICC is still widely seen as an obstacle to the Northern Uganda peace process. The perception that the Court is out to pursue and victimize African leaders is yet to be overcome. More public awareness is needed to correct this perception.

3. PRO - POOR INTEGRITY PROGRAMME (PPI)

Objective

The PPI program seeks to strengthen social accountability of key stakeholders at the local level in order to enhance integrity in service delivery in the fields of health, education, water and sanitation and social protection in the 4 target districts of Bushenyi, Sembabule, Tororo and Iganga.

Planned Activities

The following activities were planned:

- Recruit 20 monitors in the four (4) districts of Bushenyi, Sembabule, Tororo and Iganga
- Conduct a legal needs assessment in the 4 districts.
- Conduct a training course for PPI local monitors on data collection.
- Conduct a training course for PPI local monitors on advocacy.
- Conduct a training workshop for PPI local monitors on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- Develop a Monitoring Tool.
- Conduct a training course for PPI local monitors on community participation in Local Government.
- Participate in a joint planning meeting for phase II.

Outputs

i. Recruitment of Monitors

Twenty (20) monitors at the rate of 5 per district were recruited in each of the 4 target districts.

ii. Legal Needs Assessment/Baseline Survey

Between 4th and 18th of February, 2010, a legal needs assessment was carried out in the four districts. The overall objective of the assessment was to ascertain the priority legal needs of the community and the appropriate response to those needs by local council courts from an integrity perspective. The assessment focused on the 4 project thematic areas including water and sanitation, health, education and social protection. Forty seven (47) local council members and one hundred and fifty five (155) members from special interest groups such as women, people living with HIV/AIDS, orphans, children, persons with disabilities and the youth were interviewed.

The findings of the survey provided an important foundation upon which to premise future PPI activities and interventions as gaps in the system, needs of the local council courts and the communities were clearly established.

iii. Training Course for PPI local monitors on Data Collection and Analysis

Following the baseline survey, a course on data collection was conducted for the community monitors from March 14 - 17, 2010 at Colline Hotel, Mukono. The objective of the training was to empower the participants with skills to

monitor and gather information on public service delivery within local government from an integrity perspective in the areas of water and sanitation, health, education and social protection. Eighteen (18) monitors drawn from all the 4 districts attended.

iv. Training Course for PPI local monitors on Advocacy

The training course on advocacy was held for twelve (12) monitors from May 9-12, 2010 at Green Valley Hotel, Kampala. The objective of the workshop was to equip the trainees with advocacy and lobbying skills to enable them effectively use the data collected for advocacy towards service delivery.

v. Development of a Monitoring Tool

A Development Monitoring Tool to support the local monitors in monitoring integrity in local council courts was developed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.

vi. Training PPI local monitors on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The training for local monitors on economic, social and cultural rights was undertaken from 24th – 27th October 2010 at Rwizi Arch Hotel, Gaba Road, Kampala. The training was attended by twenty monitors. Participants were equipped with knowledge about the Millennium Development Goals and the core obligations of government in ensuring respect for these rights.

vii. Course on Community Participation in Local Government Processes

The course on community participation in local government processes was held from 14th – 17th November 2010 at Uganda Christian University, Mukono. Twenty (20) community members and forty (40) students from the University participated in the training. The course objective was to empower the local monitors and fourth year law students under the TIRI- LIEN program with knowledge of the functions and mandate of local governments and to explore strategies that enhance local participation and demand for improved service delivery.



Mr. Sewanyana training the community monitors at Ridah Hotel, Seeta on 14th November 2010

viii. Joint Planning Meeting.

The Joint Planning meeting which brought together the four local PPI partners including FHRI, International Law Institute, Uganda Debt Network and Makerere Centre for Applied Ethics to review plan for PPI phase II. It was held on February 9, 2010 at Hotel Africana.

Outcome

a) Kamuli district

Following the baseline survey that was undertaken in Kamuli district in February 2010, two (2) sub-county chiefs namely-Tidhonu and Basoga from Butenzi sub-county, committed themselves to the ideals of the PPI programme. In addition to repeatedly consulting with FHRI local monitors in Kamuli district on issues of integrity, the two chiefs initiated the renovation of Nabilama water source which was in a dire state.

b) Iganga district

The Tiri Buwanda Community Centre formed following the TIRI program continues to advocate for improved service delivery from the local government. The demand for quality education and the number of students attending school in Buwanda has increased. Initially, the school had thirty three (33) students in total. Currently the number has risen to 133, thirty eight (38) female students and ninety five (95) male students.

Furthermore, the Tiri Buwanda community centre was visited by the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, Hon. Rebecca Kadaga. During her visit, she pledged to construct seven (7) classroom blocks at Tiri Buwanda community centre, three (3) of which have already been completed. This intervention has improved the school facilities in the area. In addition, two (2) water sources are in the process of being constructed and three (3) sewing machines have been donated to the centre for income generation for the poor women. The construction of the water sources stems from demands made by the community members to the Deputy Speaker of Parliament to improve water and sanitation in the area.

c) Sembabule district

A clean water programme was launched in Rwebitakuli sub-county. The target is to install fifteen (15) water tanks in every parish. So far 3 tanks have been installed in Kasambya parish and the process is ongoing. According to the local monitors in Sembabule district, discussions on a clean water programme started after FHRI staff visited Sembabule district and sensitized local government administration officials and community members who in turn demanded for clean water as a matter of right. The clean water programme was therefore a response to the continued demand for clean water in the area. The local monitors and community members have continued to advocate for full implementation of the clean water programme in other parishes.

Challenges

Apart from the right to education which is the most known right, other economic, social and cultural rights are not known or perceived as 'rights' by community members and the general public. This therefore affects advocacy levels and service delivery. Through the TIRI-FHRI partnership more active engagement of both duty bearers and rights holders will be necessary to correct the perception and to fill the knowledge gap.

4. NGO COALITION FOR AN EFFECTIVE AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS

FHRI is the focal point for Eastern Africa in the NGO Coalition for an effective African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights. At the AU Summit held in Kampala in July 2010, FHRI hosted a panel discussion on "Making the African Court an Effective Tool for Human Rights Protection in Africa", on 20th July 2010 at Imperial Royale Hotel, Kampala. The panelists were Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI, Hon. Justice Joseph Mulenga, Judge of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and Dr. Christopher Mbaziira, lecturer at the Department of Public & Comparative Law, School of Law, Makerere University, Kampala.

The panel discussion was attended by eighty (80) participants including the UN Special Rapportuer on Human Rights Defenders, Mrs. Margaret Sekagya. The recommendations of the panel discussion were circulated to the Executive Council of the AU at its Kampala session. The NGO Coalition also made submissions on the independence of the African Court and the procedures for election of the Judges which was circulated to the Executive Council of the AU sitting in Kampala from the 22nd – 24th July 2010.

VII. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

Objective

FHRI works closely with different actors to build a sound, viable and credible human rights movement in Uganda which is essential to maximize voice, action and impact.

Implementation

In 2010 FHRI continued to enhance its strategic partnership with a wide range of institutions and groups undertaking similar or related activities at the local, national and international level. Networking took diverse forms: joint campaigns, internships and volunteer placements; participation in regional and international treaty institutions like the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Union.

Output

In 2010, FHRI registered its membership in international, regional and local networks and coalitions. At the international level FHRI is affiliated to the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty. At the regional level, FHRI is a focal point for the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project and the NGO Coalition on the African Court on Human Rights. At a local level, FHRI subscribes to 6 local networks/coalitions that included: Human Rights Network - Uganda (HURINET-U), Development Network of Indigenous and Voluntary Associations (DENIVA), Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN), Citizen's Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), and Uganda Land Alliance.

Figure 13

<i>Network/Umbrella/coalition</i>	<i>Position held</i>
<i>Citizen's Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU)</i>	<i>Chairperson, Executive Committee,</i>
<i>Development Network of Indigenous and Voluntary Associations (DENIVA)</i>	<i>Vice– Chairperson, Board of Directors</i>
<i>Human Rights Network (HURINET)</i>	<i>Treasurer, Board of Directors</i>
<i>Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET)</i>	<i>Secretary General, Steering Committee</i>
<i>Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN)</i>	<i>Member</i>
<i>Uganda Land Alliance</i>	<i>Member</i>
<i>NGO Coalition on the African Court on Human Rights</i>	<i>Focal Point (East Africa)</i>
<i>East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project</i>	<i>Chairperson / Focal Point</i>
<i>International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)</i>	<i>Member</i>
<i>Penal Reform International</i>	<i>Hon. Treasurer.</i>

In 2010, FHRI implemented joint programs with TIRI – Making Integrity Work, the International Commission of Jurists – (Kenya) Chapter, The Westminster Consortium, the Coalition for an Effective African Court (CEAC), Penal Reform International, The Death Penalty Project Limited and the Federation for International Human Rights (FIDH).

At the national level, FHRI worked with, among others, Reach the Aged Association (URAA), Makerere Institute of Social Research (MISR), Uganda Prison Service, Uganda Police Force, Uganda Human Rights Commission, Katende, Sempebwa & Co. Advocates, Kakuru & Co. Advocates, Kabugo, Tamale & Co. Advocates, Semakula, Kiyemba & Matovu Advocates, Parliament of Uganda, Uganda Law Reform Commission and the Justice Law and Order Secretariat in furtherance of its program objectives.

FHRI participated in several initiatives convened by local and international partners including:

- African Centre for Torture Victims (ACTV)
- Civil Society Coalition on the Abolition of the Death Penalty in Uganda.
- Coalition Against Torture (CAT)
- East African Law Society(EALS)
- Human Rights and Peace Centre, Makerere University (HURIPEC).
- Human Rights Network (HURINET)
- National Alliance on Volunteering Efforts in Uganda (NAVE-U)
- Penal Reform International (PRI)
- The Uganda National NGO Forum
- Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform (UGMP)
- Uganda Law Society (ULS)
- World Coalition Against Death Penalty (WCADP)
- World Movement for Democracy (WMD)

The joint activities and discussions focused on key issues namely: police accountability; abolition of the death penalty; living conditions in places of detention, prohibition of torture; corruption; electoral reform, realization of the Millennium Development Goals, social security; climate change and environment conservation; security and protection of human rights defenders; the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, the International Criminal Court and the African Court on Human and Peoples' rights.

In 2010, FHRI participated in the following events:

- Launch of the Uganda Police Review exercise, 11th January 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Capabilities Policy Lab for Pro-Poor Integrity Partners in Kenya and Uganda, organized by TIRI – Making Integrity Work; 11th -13th January 2010, Mombasa, Kenya.
- Debriefing on the upcoming ICC review conference organized by Human Rights Network-Uganda (HURINET), 12th January 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Consultative workshop on Professional training of the Police in ethics, peace, human rights, human security, early warning and strategic management of violent demonstrations and riots organized by John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre, 13th -14th January, Kampala, Uganda.
- Conference on Social relations and after care of prisoners in Uganda organized by Mission after Custody (MAC), 30th January 2010 and 19th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Uganda Debt Network Half-year Review Meeting organized by Uganda Debt Network, 4th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Strengthening Access to Justice in Eastern Africa (SAJEA) National working group meeting organized by Uganda Law Society, 8th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.

- Orientation workshop on Data collection using the coalition NSSF monitoring tool organized by Platform for Labour action, 17th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Workshop on the Muslim youth against terrorism activities organized by Muslim Youth Against Terrorism Activities (MYATA), 17th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Meeting of the Coalition Against Torture (CAT) organized by African Centre for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV), 18th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Dialogue on Human Rights Protection with focus on the Question of Sexual Orientation organized by Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA), 19th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- 4th World Congress Against the Death Penalty, 24th -26th February, 2010, Geneva, Switzerland.
- The 3rd APRM Uganda governance forum on fostering unity in diversity in Uganda organized by The Uganda African Peer Review Mechanism, National Governing Council and Uganda Human Rights Commission, 26th February 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Launch of the Child Protection Recovery Strategy for Northern Uganda, 2009-2011 organized by Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, 26th February, 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Workshop on the Oil Discovery in Uganda and Managing its Expectations organized by Economic Policy Research Centre and Makerere University, 2nd March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- HIVOS partners' meeting on elections in the East African region, 4th - 5th March 2010, Nairobi, Uganda.
- 1st LASPNET Annual General Meeting organized by Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), 11th - 12th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Second regional meeting for Strengthening Access to Justice in Eastern Africa (SAJEA) program organized by Tanganyika Law Society with help from the Canadian Bar Association, 16th - 19th March 2010, Tanzania.
- The role of Civil Society Organizations in Aid Discourse organized by The Uganda Land Alliance, 18th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Launch of the We can End Violence against Women Campaign organized by Oxfam GB, 24th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Civil Society meeting on Section 15(6) (d) of the Equal Opportunities Commission Act (EOC) 2007 organized by Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF), 24th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Strengthening Civil Society engagements with Parliament organized by The Uganda National NGO Forum, 29th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Rome Statute review conference on opportunities to increase understanding of the impact of the International Criminal Justice System on victims and affected communities organized by Human Rights Network-Uganda (HURINET), 29th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Launch of the Case Backlog Clearance Programme organized by the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS), 29th March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Dialogue and launch of the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda, Access to Justice Survey Report by the Inter-

Religious Council of Uganda, 31st March 2010, Kampala, Uganda.

- Civil Society legal reform in East Africa during the 6th World Assembly on Democracy convened by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), 8th – 14th April 2010; Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Training of Social Work Students Association in human rights and development organized by Kampala International University Social Work Students Association, 8th - 9th April 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- 12th UN Convention on Crime Prevention and Access to Justice: 12th – 22nd April 2010, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- The East Africa Community Civil Society Forum, 21st – 23rd April 2010, Arusha, Tanzania.
- Launch of Greater North 5-year Strategic Plan by the Parliamentarians, 27th April 2010, Uganda.
- Non Governmental Organizations debriefing to the ICC review conference organized by The Director, Secretariat of Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute, 3rd May 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Launch of the Media Barometer report on Uganda & Article 29 Procession, 3rd May 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Workshop on the launch of the Youth for Human Rights (Somalia) Association, 5th May 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- KIOS Partners' Conference organized by the Finnish NGO Foundation for Human Rights (KIOS), 5th - 6th May 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Capacity Building Workshop on Strategic Litigation and Advocacy organized by Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), 27th - 28th May 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the rule of law, 27th - 28th May 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Round table discussion on the Minimum Wage organized by Platform for Labour Action, 29th June 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Launch of the Report on risks and vulnerabilities of HIV/AIDS in the informal sector: A case study of women and youth in Lira and Iganga districts Uganda organized by Platform for Labour Action, 30th June 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Penal Reform International (PRI) 2nd Executive meeting; 30th June – 9th July 2010, London, UK.
- Universal Periodic Review Training for civil society organizations organised by HURINET-U and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 5th - 6th July 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- 1st meeting of The Westminster Consortium on Parliamentary Development, 6th – 7th July 2010, England, United Kingdom.
- Familiarization Workshop on Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) organized by The Uganda Association of Women Lawyers (FIDA-UGANDA), National Task Force on the Maputo Protocol, 15th July 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Panel discussion on the Role of the African Court in protecting Human Rights, during the African Union

summit, 19th – 27th July 2010, Kampala, Uganda.

- The Parliamentarians Land Policy Colloquium organized by Uganda Land Alliance, 12th August 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Committee meeting towards the Domestication of Torture Bill organized by Coalition Against Torture/ Uganda Human Rights Commission, 1st September 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Changing Fortunes: Women's economic opportunities in post war northern Uganda organized by International Alert and The East African Sub-Region Support Initiative for the advancement of women (EASSI), 23rd September 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Civil society symposium on Incorporating international justice trends in the fight against impunity and the promotion of accountability in Uganda organized by The Uganda Coalition on the International Criminal Court / Human Rights Network-Uganda (HURINET), 13th October 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- 3rd Regional Meeting for Strengthening Access to Justice in Eastern Africa (SAJEA) Program Forum, 27th - 29th October 2010, Mombasa, Kenya
- Pre-World AIDS Day Children and HIV/AIDS Advocacy Workshop organized by the National Council for Children (NCC), 25th November 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Penal Reform International End of Year Executive & Board meeting; 26th November – 1st December 2010, London, UK.
- Workshop on The Search for Sustainable National Reconciliation, Justice and Peace at all levels organized by The Inter Religious Council of Uganda, 3rd - 5th December 2010, Kampala, Uganda.
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights workshop on the Development and Implementation of National Action Plans against Racial Discrimination and Related Intolerance; 7th- 9th December 2010, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Empowering and capacitating CSOs to voice the poor women's concerns organized by Council for Economic Empowerment for Women of Africa - Uganda Chapter (CEEWA), 10th December 2010, Kampala, Uganda.

Outcome

Working with other organizations is a key strategy in the 2009 – 2011 Strategic Plan. FHRI's participation in value added networks and collaborations stimulates debate and dialogue on human rights trends and aids sharing of best practices.

Challenge

The increased demand for FHRI's involvement in diverse partner activities calls for a careful analysis and alignment of the aims and objectives of the partnerships with those of FHRI. Future networking should be based on shared goals, mutual responsiveness and added value to maximise benefits and impact.



ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Objective

- To provide the necessary institutional framework suitable for the judicious execution of the program goals and activities.

1. Staff training and Development:

FHRI is committed to strengthening its capacity to undertake effective implementation of its programmes. It is therefore FHRI's policy to encourage staff to undertake relevant training that exposes them to new knowledge and skills. In 2010 on-job training for staff was encouraged. In 2010, the Executive Director enrolled for a Phd program in Public Law at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

2. Governing bodies:

FHRI is a membership organization with an organizational structure that comprises the General Assembly, Trustees, Board of Directors and the Secretariat.

While the General Assembly is the supreme governing body of FHRI, the Trustees are the custodians of FHRI property and Constitution, the Board of Directors provide strategic direction to the organization and the Secretariat as the implementing arm. FHRI holds Annual General meetings for its membership to review, adopt and approve programs, Annual reports and Audit reports. The Board of Directors met 4 times to appraise staff, discuss and approve activity reports, budgets and programme work plans.

The 14th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 21st August 2010 at the Human Rights House and was attended by 200 members and staff (118 men and 82 women). At the 2010 Annual General meeting the membership discussed and endorsed the Audit and Annual Reports 2009. Traditionally at the AGM, members are updated on FHRI's legal status, progress in the implementation of the organization's Strategic Plan, staffing, the current challenges and status of recommendations adopted at previous AGM. FHRI's membership at the end of 2010 was 357 members; 47 Life Members and 310 Friends of the Foundation.

TRUSTEES

Name	Affiliation
Mrs. Mary Sewamuwe	Minnesota Health International.
Ms. Sarah Mukiibi	Libra Consultants Ltd.
Mr. Albert Mukundane	Private consultant
Ms. Allen Nakiboneka	Department of Gender, Labour and Social Affairs – Mukono district Local government
Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)

The Board of Directors for the period ending December 2010 stood as follows:



Mr. Wycliffe Birungi
Chairperson
Birungi & Co. Advocates



Her Worship Justine Atukwasa
Vice Chairperson
*Chief Magistrate,
Chief Magistrate's Court,
Nabweru, Kampala*



Her Worship Stella Maris Amabilis,
Hon. Secretary
*Magistrate Grade One, Chief
Magistrate's Court, Nakawa,
Kampala*



Mr. James Mayanja Kizito.
Hon. Treasurer
*Senior Monitoring Officer,
Uganda Coffee Development
Authority. (UCDA)*



Mr. Patrick Semwogerere
Member
*Consultant, Professional
Development Consultants
International (PDCI)*



Mr. Celestine O. Mugisha,
Member
Independent Consultant



Mr. Joseph Nkandu
Member
*Executive Director, National
Union of Coffee Agriculture
Business and Farmers Enter-
prises (NUCAF)*



Mr. Livingstone Sewanyanaa
Ex-Officio
*Executive Director,
Foundation for Human
Rights Initiative (FHRI).*

3. Staffing

The FHRI capacity to implement the 2010 programme depended on a reliable, knowledgeable and motivated staff. The staff team comprised of professional and support staff with the requisite expertise to carry out programme activities.

In 2010, FHRI had a staff of 91 members including the Executive Director, 23 programme staff, 17 administrative staff, 3 CCEDU staff, 11 volunteers and 36 interns. The Secretariat held four program meetings to reflect on the progress of the programme, the relevance of the programme and possible future actions.



Mr. Livingstone
Sewanyana
Executive Director



Sheila Muwanga
*Deputy Director –
Programs*



Elizabeth Nantamu
*Deputy Director
Administration*



Elinor W. Chemonges
*National Coordinator
– Paralegal Advisory
Services Project, Legal
Services Division*



Carol Adoch Kashanku
*Manager - Research
Division*



Rose Kamuli Mwesigwa
Manager - Finance Division



Alice Nassaka
Lakwonyero
*Manager – Capacity
Development Division*



Doreen Namyalo
Kyazze
*Project Manager - Right
to Life Project, Legal
Services Division*



Josephine Ndagire
*Project Manager –
Reparations/EAICJI/TIRI
Projects, Legal Services
Division*



Josephine Kankunda
*Senior Researcher -
Research Division*



Esther Nankya
Bagoole
*Deputy Manager - Com-
munication and Informa-
tion Division*



Bernadette Katongole
*Deputy Manager
Programmes
Development Division*



Haawa Birungi Nyenje
Deputy Manager -
Capacity Development
Division



Cynthia Mukasa
Legal Officer - Legal
Services Division



Barbara Kitui
Legal Officer - Paralegal
Advisory Services Project,
Legal Services Division



Isabella Mukankusi
Legal Officer - Legal
Services Division.



Lydia Namazzi
Legal Officer - Legal Services
Division



Patrick Lugunga
Accounts Officer, Finance
Division



Emily Ikiriza Nuwagaba
Executive Manager



Milly Nakakande
Executive Manager



Faith Mutumba
Administrative Assistant -
Paralegal Advisory Services,
Legal Services Division



Rose Nanyondo
Training Officer -
Capacity Development
Division



Christine Nakirya
Programs Assistant-
Programs



Edmond Nkalubo
Research Associate
Research Division



Joy Evans Kasiko
Project Assistant - Right to
Life Project, Legal Services
Division



Faridah Lule
Public Affairs Officer - Com-
munication and Informa-
tion Division



Daniel Ntambi
Marketing Officer - Com-
munication and Informa-
tion Division



Lucy Peace Nantume
Legal Assistant - Reparations/
EAICJ/TIRI Projects, Legal
Services Division



Isabella Bwiire
Executive Assistant



Rachael Busingye
Legal Assistant,
Capacity Development
Division. (RIP)



Cathy Peace
Project Assistant -
Programmes Development
Division



Harriet Bwayiga Nakku
*Project Assistant -
Administration*



Elizabeth Nakato
Front Office Officer



**Stephen Sebaana
Segulanyi**
Senior Office Manager



Allan Semalulu
Senior Driver



Moses Kyazze
Senior Driver



Hannington Musisi
*Driver, Paralegal Advisory
Services Project*



Mathew Sekitto
Logistics Assistant



Olivia Kigozi
Welfare Assistant



Richard Okeya
Security Officer/ Gardener



Ali Nsubuga
Security Officer/ Gardener

CCEDU STAFF



Crispy Kaheru
Project Coordinator



Sammy Gwada Ogot
*Project Communications
Manager*



Jackie Mckina
Project Assistant

Volunteers

<i>Night Norah</i>	<i>Pre-Trial Project, Legal Services Division</i>
<i>Musisi George</i>	<i>Legal Assistant - Legal Services Division</i>
<i>Carol Muchuma</i>	<i>Legal Assistant - Right to Life, Legal Services Division</i>
<i>Angela Mwanje</i>	<i>Legal Assistant – Legal Services Division</i>
<i>Loy Kyomuhendo</i>	<i>Legal Assistant - Legal Services Division</i>
<i>Rashid Bunya</i>	<i>Legal Assistant - Research Division</i>
<i>Bernadetta Lanfranchi</i>	<i>Research Division</i>
<i>Charles Olwenyi Mulozi</i>	<i>Community Monitor, Research Division</i>
<i>Jackie Nattabi</i>	<i>Communication and Information Division</i>
<i>Mike Kayiwa</i>	<i>Communication and Information Division</i>
<i>Akandinda Juliet</i>	<i>Communication and Information Division</i>

Interns

Name	Institution
Alex Namatovu	Makerere University, Uganda
Henry Yesigye	Makerere University, Uganda
Albert Mukasa	Makerere University, Uganda
Jonathan Kizito	Makerere University Business School, Uganda
Sheila Kobusingye	Makerere University Business School, Uganda
Robinah Nalubega	Makerere University Business School, Uganda
Priscilla Kweya	Kampala International University, Uganda
Lydia Kyarisima	Kampala International University, Uganda
Irene Nabwami	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Proscovia Nanziri	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Conrad Kizito	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Gladys Mirembe	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Harriet Asimwe	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Irene Wenene	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Ronah Adong	Kyambogo University, Uganda
Sandra Nsiimire	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Doreen Kyobutungi	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Elly Kasirye	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Brian Rutinampora	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Aisha Namuleme	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Rebecca Namirimu	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Winne Nagawa	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Maria Kisakye	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Beatrice Namukasa	Gulu University, Uganda
Olivia Kabatweire	Nkumba University, Uganda
Noelle Dykman	Osgoode Hall Law School, Canada
Kyle Lavender	Osgoode Hall Law School, Canada
Marijt Regts	Radbound University, The Netherlands
Anna Maria Nicotra	Univ of Political Science of Padua, Italy
Energia Naranjo	Syracuse University, USA
Katharine Peel	North Eastern University, UK
Ainslie Paige	Canadian Bar Association, Canada
Students on Clerkship	
Esther Kanyanya	Law Development Centre, Uganda
George Musisi	Law Development Centre, Uganda
Olivia Nanseko	Law Development Centre, Uganda
Fahad Nadduli	Law Development Centre, Uganda

4. Office administration

Like in previous years, FHRI satisfactorily paid the wage bill as well as other utility bills on a regular basis and undertook regular maintenance of its assets. The rising cost of living remained a big challenge.

As an established practice, FHRI commissioned Carr Stanyer Sims & Co. to carry out an External Audit of the 2009 Accounts. The 2009 Audit Report and the 2009 FHRI's Annual Report were approved and

adopted by the membership at the 14th Annual General Meeting held on 21st August 2010 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya.

5. Investments

Office acquisitions in 2010 include: 4 Air conditioners, 4 Laptop computers, 5 desktop computers, 2 digital cameras, 2 recorders, 1 DVD Deck, 1 HP colored printer, 2 steel document cabinets/cupboards, 15 power guards, 1 hand-held metal detector and 1 microscopic mirror.

FHRI invested in real estate that includes a mortgage on two flats in Kiwatule National Housing Estate and property on Plot 1111 Lulume Road, Nsambya.

FHRI procured equipment for the benefit of its affiliate CBOs under the KIOS grant that includes: 4 desktop computers, 5 bicycles, and 4 Honda motor bikes.

The organisation duly insured, serviced and repaired its equipment including vehicles, photocopiers, generator, furniture, fire extinguishers, computers and their accessories.



Hon Justice G. Kanyehamba (front row (c) in brown suite) with FHRI Board and Staff at the Strategic Planning Meeting held at Green Valley Hotel; 14-17 December 2010



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

Ground Floor, Kisozi House
8 Kyaggwe Road
P.O. Box 6293, Kampala, Uganda
Phone: +256 (0)41 4258458/4236732
Fax: +256 (0)41 4236796
E-mail: carrstan@carrstanyersims.com

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Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Foundation for Human Rights Initiative

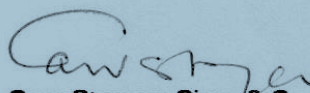
Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company at 31 December 2010 and of the surplus and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and comply with the Companies Act, CAP 110.

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



28 APR 2011
Kampala, Uganda

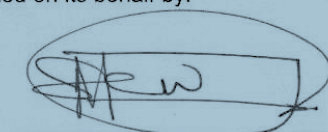
FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

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

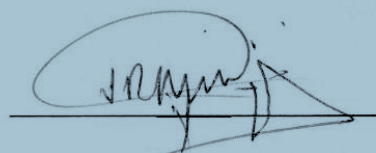
Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2010

	Note	2010 Ushs.	Restated 2009 Ushs.
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	3	301,287,020	310,475,253
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at Bank	4.1	234,285,150	453,288,705
Cash in Hand		-	6,322,852
		234,285,150	459,611,557
TOTAL ASSETS		535,572,170	770,086,810
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
CAPITAL FUND	5	301,287,020	310,475,253
RESTRICTED FUNDS	6	50,414,944	374,243,148
		351,701,964	684,718,401
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and accruals	7	179,737,753	83,707,357
Overdraft	4.2	4,132,453	1,661,052
		183,870,206	85,368,409
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		535,572,170	770,086,810

These financial statements were approved by the Board on 28th April 2011
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 2010**

	Note	2010 Actual Ushs.	2010 Budget Ushs.	2009 Actual Ushs.
INCOME				
Grants Income	8	1,504,283,620	2,521,386,401	2,916,854,497
Other Grants	9	122,568,133	121,524,986	256,855,456
Bank Interest		45,834	-	46,629
TOTAL INCOME		1,626,897,587	2,642,911,387	3,173,756,582
Less: Capital Expenditure		(67,871,535)	(68,852,000)	(141,301,439)
Balance available for recurrent expenditure		1,559,026,052	2,574,059,387	3,032,455,143
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE				
PROGRAMMES				
RESEARCH				
Research and Documentation of Human Rights Violations		66,031,506	209,891,100	123,539,186
LEGAL SERVICES				
Access to Justice for Socially Deprived Women and Children		70,958,415	165,923,943	473,465,072
Reparation for Torture Survivors		-	-	68,626,667
Representation of Death Row Inmates		173,633,526	201,485,494	193,665,389
Paralegal Advisory Services		-	-	656,243,424
Public Interest Litigation / Legislative Advocacy		70,373,006	100,966,216	44,426,191
Sub-total Legal Services		314,964,947	468,375,653	1,436,426,743
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT				
Capacity Building for Local Government:		93,359,536	93,609,200	51,832,526
Strengthening Grass root Associations		141,804,213	142,493,471	105,981,661
Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting		339,166,524	343,540,448	186,566,459
Leadership Development for Human Rights		87,595,355	87,688,000	62,458,548
Sub-total Capacity Development		661,925,628	667,331,119	406,839,194
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION				
Information Centre		5,221,825	36,667,000	6,045,852
Documentation		25,278,998	57,267,500	17,718,800
Public Affairs		36,359,174	118,400,000	15,427,321
Communication and Information team		-	-	42,004,868
Sub-total Communication and Information		66,859,997	212,334,500	81,196,841
PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT				
Periodic Review and Alliance Building		106,672,656	112,845,002	85,461,412
Fundraising and reporting		4,397,420	4,400,000	3,124,750
Making Integrity work -TIRI		174,865,288	174,036,632	-
Sub-total Programme Development		285,935,364	291,281,634	88,586,162
STAFF DEVELOPMENT				
Staff Training and Development		26,190,676	26,850,000	1,006,000
Sub-total Staff Development		26,190,676	26,850,000	1,006,000

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 2010**

	2010 Actual Ushs.	2010 Budget Ushs.	2009 Actual Ushs.
EXPENDITURE-SPECIAL PROJECTS			
MS (Uganda) building local democracy	-	-	47,546,180
Uganda Reach the Aged Association (URAA)	18,460,000	18,460,000	37,973,494
ICJ - Kenya Media	38,668,852	38,800,000	32,025,800
CCEDU	-	-	21,535,161
Diakonia	-	-	1,514,835
MISR	23,754,559	34,209,602	-
WFD Consultancy	10,082,453	10,177,900	-
Sub-total	90,965,864	101,647,502	140,595,470
Total Programme Expenditure	1,512,373,982	1,977,711,508	2,278,428,294
ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
Staff salaries, benefits and taxes	357,772,103	357,633,701	545,307,034
Office administration	17,402,613	45,133,986	39,489,976
Communication and postage	6,207,312	21,692,508	2,676,565
Space and Utilities	10,912,168	38,818,254	12,670,550
Office supplies and stationery	3,972,000	13,190,000	3,299,000
Governing bodies	6,793,400	6,800,000	9,653,500
Transport and fuel	9,491,100	28,960,000	19,000,000
Audit	21,902,890	22,105,390	13,500,000
Furniture and equipment maintenance	16,129,478	44,526,000	17,091,106
Insurance	17,406,273	16,244,000	7,218,070
Bank charges	8,973,946	1,238,040	10,169,578
Total Organisational Development	476,963,283	596,341,879	680,075,379
Total Recurrent Expenditure	1,989,337,265	2,574,059,387	2,958,265,025
(Deficit) / Surplus before exchange gain	(430,311,213)	-	74,190,118
Exchange gain / (loss)	106,483,059	-	151,315,034
(DEFICIT) / SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	(323,828,154)	-	225,505,152
Balance brought forward at 1 January 2010	527,535,846	-	302,030,694
Prior year adjustment	(153,292,748)	-	-
BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER 2010	50,414,944	-	527,535,846

CONCLUSION

In 2010, FHRI registered remarkable progress in the implementation of the 6th Strategic Plan (2009 -2011). Noteworthy was the Citizen's Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU) whose multi-media messaging campaign was unprecedented; the Death Penalty campaign that was extended to neighboring Kenya with a very promising start; the 2nd Annual regional Summer Course that brought together human rights defenders to adopt a common agenda within the Great Lakes region; the National Paralegal Advisory Service (PAS) that made a significant difference in the lives of pre-trial detainees and the Supreme Court ruling in the Suzan Kigula case that led to the release of death row inmates. FHRI was not only visible, but impacted positively on the poor and vulnerable: voices were amplified, victims of abuse were assisted and groups at the community level strengthened. The search for social justice widened and the democracy movement energized.

There were however significant challenges that hinder respect for human rights: respect for the rule of law is still wanting; corruption that undermines efficient delivery of services, independence of democratic institutions is still compromised, democratic space is narrow and the concept of multi-partyism far from being realized. These and similar challenges will require determination, innovation and cooperation to overcome. We are determined to see change and innovative strategies will be devised to achieve this.

The success attained so far is attributed to the support and efforts of many individuals and groups to whom we pay special tribute. Needless to mention; our development partners, Board of Directors, Trustees, staff, membership and cooperating partners who in a special way have enabled us to come this far.

‘TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE’

ABOUT FHRI

What is FHRI?

The Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) is an independent, non-governmental, non-partisan and not for profit human rights advocacy organisation.

Vision

A strong and democratic human rights culture as a foundation for peace, stability, democracy, social justice and sustainable development in Uganda.

Mission

To enhance knowledge, respect and observance of human rights, promote the exchange of information and best practices through training, education, research, advocacy and strategic partnerships.

Mandate

- a) To educate Ugandans about their fundamental human rights and to provide them with the tools to secure and defend these rights.
- b) To advocate for just and humane laws and practices that guarantee human rights respect and observance.
- c) To encourage the sharing of information and experience among human rights defenders and related agencies.

Organizational Objectives

- To promote citizen awareness of basic human rights and duties guaranteed in the Ugandan Constitution and regional human rights instruments.
- To undertake research, monitoring and documentation of human rights practices.
- To promote good governance, respect for the rule of law, democracy and legal protection of human rights.
- To promote best practices in the administration of justice in Uganda.
- To enhance the capacity of democratic structures with knowledge on legal rights, procedures, remedies and civic obligations.
- To upgrade the Resource Centre into a Communication and Information Centre.
- To promote solidarity and partnership building with and among similar institutions, government, communities and individuals on a national, regional and international level.
- To promote access to justice through public interest and legal aid service delivery.
- To build a strong and sustainable human rights organization.

Legal Status

The organization is legally registered, as a Non-governmental human rights organization under the Non-Governmental Organizations Registration Statute 1989. It is a charitable, not-for profit organization. It is duly incorporated under the Companies Act, Cap.110 as a body corporate.

The background of the page is an abstract geometric composition. It features large, overlapping triangular and polygonal shapes in various shades of blue, from light sky blue to deep navy blue. There are also smaller shapes in green, purple, and pink, primarily located in the upper right quadrant. The overall effect is a dynamic, layered, and colorful abstract design.

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