



FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



WHO ARE WE?

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

FHRI has effectively executed eight strategic plans since its inception in 1991. Each of these programs is based on research, monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, human rights education, legislative advocacy and legal aid service delivery. FHRI has been at the fore of the human rights movement in Uganda in the past 29 years through the publication of action-oriented research reports, capacity building programs, treaty reporting to regional and UN treaty bodies, campaigns against torture, the death penalty and impunity, electoral reforms, law reform, public interest litigation and provision of legal aid services, particularly women and children in hard-to-reach areas. In addition, FHRI has facilitated the formation of community based human rights groups, sponsored radio and TV talk shows and human rights centred music, dance and drama and established a Human Rights and Democracy Resource Centre to support program implementation.

FHRI's previous Five-Year Strategic Plan (2017-2021) titled, **'Between Rhetoric and Practice: Bridging the Democracy Divide in Uganda'**, pivoted its campaigns around; building a critical mass of human rights defenders by reaching out to all manner of citizens groups; expanding the civic space and rule of law through strategic litigation and increasing judicial activism; increasing access to justice; increasing advocacy for the better enjoyment of freedoms through human rights monitoring, reporting and dialogue, including campaigns legislative reform, the death penalty, and building strong partnerships.

In 2022, this campaign orientation has been carried forward in FHRI's new Strategic plan. In this 9th, five year Strategic Plan, (2022 – 2026), titled, **'Building Back Better: Realizing human rights in the Post Covid -19 Era in Uganda'**, FHRI will deepen this approach and intensify investments in existing campaigns including; (1) My Rights, My Power campaign, (2) Defense of the Right to Personal Liberty, (3) Rights and Rule of Law (4) Access to Justice, (5) Campaign against the Death penalty and, (6) The Civic Education Network for Eastern and Southern Africa (CENESA). A seventh focus area has been introduced namely, (7) Institutional and Corporate Governance. It is an inward looking strategy that seeks to strengthen FHRI's governance, branding and visibility, membership development and sustainability in a fast changing socio-economic context.

FHRI is proud to be associated with a number of implementing partners including: Uganda Prisons Service (UPS), Uganda Police Force (UPF), Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), Parliament of Uganda, Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC), the Justice Law and Order Secretariat (JLOS), the Judicial Studies Institute (JSI), the Directorate of Public Prosecution (DPP), Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Electoral Commission, Equal Opportunities Commission, Law Development Centre, Coalition Against Torture (CAT), Africa Centre for Treatment of Torture Victims, (ACTV), Wells of Hope, St. Egidio Community, Chaplaincy Prisons Gate, Safe Home, Scope Foundation, Katika Child Africa, Communications Development Foundation Uganda, Free Child Uganda, Women Pro-bono Initiative, Justice Defenders, the Church of Uganda, Fountain Publishers, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, NGO Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, DefendDefenders, FIDH, Penal Reform International (PRI), World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ – Kenya), International Centre

for Not for Profit Law (ICNL), the East Africa Civil Society Forum (EACSOFF), Women Leadership Development (WLEDE), Drake University (USA), the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), Children Education Society (CHESO) and The Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) both in Tanzania.

FHRI also supports and works with various community based human rights groups such as: Universal Human Rights Defenders and Activists (UHRDA) in Lugazi, Hope After and During Incarceration (MAC) in Entebbe, Community Rural Empowerment and Support Organisation in Gulu district, Rwenzori Peace Bridge for Reconciliation (RPBR) in Kasese district, Kalangala Human Rights Defenders, Kalungu Paralegal Association, Human Rights Defenders Masaka, and Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness (AHURICA) in Kayunga district. Other groups are Youth Revival Association (YRA) in Kampala, Lira Women's Peace Initiative (LIWEPI) and Tweweyo drama group in Luwero district.

FHRI also collaborates with a number of CSOs including: Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations in Uganda (DENIVA), National Coalition of Human Rights Defenders (NCHRDs), Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) at the School of Law, Makerere University, Network of Public Interest Litigators (NETPIL), Platform for Labour Action (PLA), Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF), Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), Uganda Human Rights Network for Journalists (HRNJ), Uganda Parliamentary Press Association (UPPA), Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC), Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF), Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), FIDA-Uganda, Uganda Women's Network (UWONET), Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum in Kampala (HRAPF), African Centre for Media Excellence, Kitul Cha Katiba, Uganda Coalition Against the Death Penalty in Uganda, East African Coalition Against the Death penalty, and the Human Rights Centre Uganda (HRCU).

The University Human Rights Network which was initiated by FHRI in 2006 now has a total of 39 human rights associations including: Busoga University, Ndejje University, International University of East Africa, Livingstone International University, Uganda Martyrs University-Nkozi, Makerere University Business School, Kampala International University (Kansanga), Bugema University (Luwero), Nkumba University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Christian University (Mukono), Gulu University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, the Islamic University in Uganda (Kaboga Campus), Cavendish University, Mutesa I Royal University, Bugema University (Mbale), Mountains of the Moon University (Fort Portal), Islamic University IUIU (Mbale), Uganda Pentecostal University (Fort Portal), St. Lawrence University, Kumi University, Busitema University, Uganda Martyrs University (Mbale), Uganda Christian University (Arua), Kabale University, Kuluva School of Nursing (Arua), Tertiary Institutions Students' Association (LASA-Joint), Kampala University (Ggaba), National Technical College Unyama (Gulu), Bishop Stuart University (Mbarara), Mbale School of Clinical Officers, Nyondo Primary Teachers Training College Tororo, Core Primary Teachers' Training College (Bushenyi), Uganda College of Commerce (Tororo), Kampala University (Jinja), Kampala International University (Bushenyi), National Technical College – Elgon and, National Technical College – Bushenyi.

The print and electronic media are key partners. These include: CBS FM, Super FM, Radio One, Radio Simba, KFM, Vision Voice, Sanyu FM, Prime Radio, Capital FM, Radio Sapientia, Dembe FM, Top Radio, Power FM, Joy FM, Kalangala Community Radio, Voice of Africa, BBC, UBC, NTV, NBS, NTV, Urban TV, Top TV, Record TV, Salt TV, Kingdom TV, Dream TV, Aljazeera, Radio Dockbella, Turkish News, SBC, Radio France, Associated Press and DeutscheWelle among others. Newspapers that have supported the campaign include: The New Vision, Daily Monitor, The Weekly Observer, Bukedde, The East African, Reuters, The Independent Magazine, Red Pepper, among others. FHRI receives financial support for its programs from foundations, individuals and donor agencies that have interest in the promotion and protection of human rights.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) is grateful to the following partners that have supported the implementation of our 9th Strategic Plan (2022-2026) in 2022.

1. LEGATUM
2. World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP)/ European Union in Brussels
3. UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR)
4. DefendDefenders (DD)
5. Dan Church Aid (DCA)

FOREWORD



Dr. Josephine Ndagire
Chairperson

Dear Friends,

On my own behalf and on behalf of the newly elected 11th Board of Directors, I would like to present to you the FHRI Annual Report 2022.

First, I would like to take this opportunity to send out a message of appreciation to the membership of FHRI who elected the Board of Directors into office at the 11th General Assembly held on 27th August 2022 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya. The turn up and the enthusiasm you displayed while deliberating matters pertaining to FHRI was very humbling. We are confident that you have put in place a competent, diverse, experienced and passionate Board, which together with you, shall continue to grow FHRI.

We started off our Term of Office full of optimism and ambition to contribute to nurturing FHRI into a stronger, more resilient and more sustainable organization. Coincidentally it is at the same time or in the same year that FHRI kick-started the implementation of her 9th Five-Year Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026), titled, *‘Building Back Better: Realizing human rights in the Post Covid -19 Era in Uganda’*.

In this Strategy, the campaign approach has been carried forward. The Board of Directors will therefore support FHRI to deepen this approach and intensify investments in existing campaigns. Most importantly, a seventh focus area has been introduced in the program namely, *Institutional and Corporate Governance*. It is an inward looking strategy that seeks to strengthen FHRI’s governance, branding and visibility, membership development and sustainability in a fast changing socio-political context. Within this context, we as the Board intend to offer more towards growing the membership of FHRI particularly because the members strengthen our legitimacy, financially support the work of FHRI and, are the FHRI ambassadors all over the world.

We further commit to supporting efforts towards diversifying and increasing our resource mobilization streams through nurturing new partners and proposing innovative ideas that will attract the same. As we go digital, we will support our membership and staff to embrace the digital age for enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. We commit to supporting efforts that will improve our visibility and the work that we do, through our website and social medial spaces.

As we embrace our new Five- Year Strategy, let us get ready for an impactful Term of Office as we step into our Strategic theme. Collectively we can all play an important role in forging an equal world. We wish you a pleasant 2023!

‘Together We Can Make A Difference’

Dr. Josephine Ndagire
Chairperson, FHRI Board of Directors (2022 – 2025)

FHRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2022 – 2025)



Dr. Josephine Ndagire
Chairperson



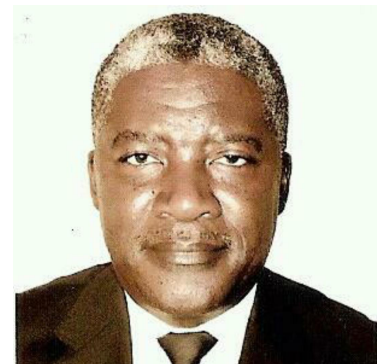
Mr. Lukwago Rajab
Vice Chairperson



Ms. Namagembe Pauline
Margaret
Hon Treasurer



Ms. Bernadette Bakkidde Kiberu
Hon Secretary



Dr. Godfrey Kaggwa
Board Member

Dr. Jo



Mr Edward S Kyazze
Board Member



Dr. Milliam Kiconco
Board Member



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Ex-officio

Highlights in 2022



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director

It is my honor to present to you FHRI's 31st Annual Report for the year 2022.

This report is significant to the Foundation as it provides an account of what has been accomplished in the maiden year of the implementation of FHRI's 9th Five-Year Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026) titled; ***Building Back Better: Realizing human rights in the Post Covid -19 Era in Uganda***, This Annual report is three stories: The first is what FHRI did in 2022, why we did it, and what difference it made in the lives of Ugandans.

The 2022 Annual Report is presented at a time when the world has changed fundamentally over the last three years. Having been afflicted with COVID-19, the changes include the ever-increasing effects of climate change, skyrocketing prices of food, fuel and commodity prices, increased polarization and pressure on multilateralism, and the current Russian-

Ukrainian conflict. Now, even than before the rights discourse has come under intense scrutiny as states are more inclined to subject them to trade-offs in the name of state stability, social cohesion and structural reform. As spaces for debate and dissent continue to shrink, the search for alternative voices and innovative solutions has never been stronger.

Against this backdrop of pessimism and conflict, there have been some positive developments too on the world scene. Most notable was the recent recognition of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment by the UN General Assembly following many years of advocacy by civil society; and the steady growth in the number of countries that have abolished or introduced a moratorium on the death penalty (in law or practice) that number 170. The latest abolitionist countries are Central African Republic, Chad, Sierra Leone, Kazakhstan and Papua New Guinea. Malaysia has also announced that it will abolish the country's mandatory death penalty including drug -related offences. As of today, 90 states have ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR that prohibits the use of the death penalty.

Back home, the socio-economic context remains grim as poverty, unemployment, crime, a desperate citizenry coupled with an ever-weakening civil society characterize every-day reality. Notwithstanding these challenges, FHRI remained resolute, proactive, steadfast, resilient, innovative and determined to push the human rights frontiers even much further in 2022. This has been made possible thanks to our Board of Directors, staff, partners and stakeholders who continue to do whatever is within their power to ensure her survival and continued relevance.

FHRI's new Five-Year Strategic Plan (2022-2026) builds on the achievements of the previous program cycles, and has five campaign areas namely: 1) My Rights, My Power 2) Defense of the Right to Personal Liberty 3) Access to justice, 4) Rights and Rule of Law and the 5) Campaign against the Death Penalty. The campaigns are pursued under program units: Research and Advocacy Unit, Legal Services Unit, Civic Education Unit, Rights and Rule of Law Unit, Program Development Unit, and External Services Unit. Therefore, in an attempt to respond to this state of affairs, in 2022, FHRI pivoted its campaigns around the following:

Under the Research and Advocacy Unit, FHRI conducted nine (9) field missions across the country to document human rights violations during the 2020- 2021 electoral period from a civil society perspective. The findings will inform the range of advocacy issues to be addressed in the run up to the 2026 elections.

Besides human rights monitoring and documentation, FHRI submitted two Universal Periodic Review (UPR) stakeholders' reports in partnership with CIVICUS, South Africa to the UN UPR Working Group during Uganda's 3rd human rights performance in 2022.

Further still, FHRI made submissions to the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) during their stakeholder consultations on a range of issues including the state of human rights in Uganda, the Public Health (Amendment) Bill, 2022, and the Legal Aid Bill, 2022. FHRI also appeared before the Human Rights Committee Parliament during their inquiry on the state of human rights and human rights violations in the country from January 2020 to 2022. A similar appearance has been before the Parliamentary Committee on Health.

Suffice to note that in their report to Parliament, the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights on page 48/150 states:

The Committee commends the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative for a well-researched and comprehensive presentation on the state of human rights in Uganda; and for their enthusiasm and effort towards the promotion and protection of human rights in Uganda.

During the year, in pursuit of our mutual interest to promote media freedom in Uganda, freedom of expression and opinion, FHRI joined the Uganda Journalists Association (UJA) to commemorate the World Press Freedom Day on 3rd May 2022. Relatedly, FHRI made its views known on the proposed Computer Misuse (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

The provision of legal aid services to the indigent and victims of human rights abuse remained key to the observance of human rights. At present FHRI operates four legal aid centres: one at the Human Rights House, the second and third in the districts of Kalangala and Wakiso and the most recent one officially opened in Bushenyi district on 20th October 2022.

During the reporting period, legal aid services were extended to 107 clients at the Nsambya Clinic (59 male, 48 female); Out of this case portfolio, 95 cases were resolved through mediation. Remedies include UGX 17,688,000 recovered on behalf of our clients, 2 court judgments and 4 court rulings in favour, 3 bail and bond applications granted, 6 pieces of land, 3 houses recovered, and 5 child maintenance cases resolved. 187 clients were handled at the Kalangala legal aid outpost (102 male, 85 female); 65 of these cases were closed through mediation, 14 pieces of land, and UGX 8,364,000 recovered in favor of our clients. At the Wakiso outpost, 30 cases were registered; five of these were successfully closed, and UGX 57,000,000 recovered for our clients. Besides the face-to-face clientele, 100 clients (49 male, 51 female) accessed our toll free facility. Calls were received from 39 districts, with a majority from Kampala, Wakiso, Luwero and Buikwe districts.

In Bushenyi district, the FHRI team extended legal assistance to 14 cases (7 male and 7 female) of a criminal nature; represented 4 clients on trial including 2 civil and 2 criminal cases and; extended legal assistance to suspects at police station reaching out to 122 (114 male, 8 female).

As a result, FHRI secured 26 police bond applications, provided legal assistance to 593 pre-trial detainees and other inmates in prison (559 male and 34 female) and secured 15 Court Bail applications successfully. The team further held a total of 9 Plea bargain sessions. 2 sessions were for capital cases conducted on 19th and 20th December 2022 and 7 sessions were for petty cases conducted on 10th, 16th 23rd, 24th, 25th November and 12th and 22nd December 2022. 116 cases were successfully concluded.

The Civic education Unit has a triple mandate: civic engagement, public outreach, and the campaign against the Death Penalty.

Under civic engagement dubbed "My Rights, My Power", the focus is directed towards the youth in tertiary institutions. During the year, FHRI held the 13th Inter-university human rights competition, in partnership with Bishop Stuart University, Mbarara (BSU) from 20th to 21st June 2022. 13 universities participated in the competition. The event was presided over by the Principal Judge, Dr. Justice Flavian Zeija, Prof. Maud Kamatenesi Mugisha, the Vice-Chancellor, BSU, and Prof. Kenneth Kagame, the Chairperson, BSU University Council. Makerere University emerged as the overall winner, while Uganda Christian University was 1st runner up, and Kampala International University was the 2nd runner up. Besides the university competition, FHRI was guest speaker at the UCU Public lecture on the Right to freedom of expression and assembly in Uganda on 11th March 2022; was guest speaker at the IUIU Human Rights Day held on 13 January, 2022, and presided over the Makerere University Faculty of Law launch of their new publication '*I Promise, This song is not about Politics*', on 14th July, 2022.

Other civic-related activities include a human rights lecture to visiting students of Drake University of IOWA, USA, on 23rd May 2022, and another human rights lecture to students of the Department of History, Archaeology and Heritage studies of Makerere University on 20th July 2022.

With respect to the campaign against the death penalty in Uganda, FHRI undertook several interventions: First, in partnership with the World Coalition against the Death Penalty (WCADP), FHRI co-authored a report to the UN Secretary General to be presented at the UN GA 77th Session in support of a moratorium on the use of capital punishment. Relatedly, FHRI co-authored a report to the UN CEDAW Committee that was presented on 29th April 2022.

During the year, FHRI conducted two (2) prison visits to Luzira Upper prison (female and male sections) to collect information on the status of death row inmates, commissioned IPSOS, to undertake a survey on public perceptions on the use of the death penalty in Uganda, commemorated the World Day Against the Death Penalty on 10th October 2022 and participated in the 8th World Congress against the Death Penalty due 15th - 18th November, 2022, in Allemagne, Berlin, Germany.

The Rights and Rule of Law Program (RRL) aims at strengthening the capacity and independence of the judiciary to reach just decisions and uphold human rights. During the reporting period FHRI paid a courtesy call on the Principal Judge, Dr Flavian Zeija on 25th January 2022. Discussions held centered on effective delivery of justice, with particular focus on grant of bail, sentencing, and criminal trials.

Further still, as a member of the Judiciary Sentencing Guidelines Committee, FHRI took keen interest in the development of sentencing guidelines in Uganda. On account of this interest, FHRI provided funding to a select committee of the judiciary meetings held in March and April, 2022 to review the draft sentencing guidelines with a view of having them adopted and presented to the Chief Justice for them to be laid before parliament. Given the long standing partnership with the judiciary, FHRI was invited and attended the 23rd

Judges Conference on 31st January 2022 whose theme was ‘*The Administration of the Judiciary Act and Sustainable Transformation of the Judiciary in Uganda*’. Relatedly, FHRI was invited by the Chief Justice to witness the launch of the new court rules including the Bail Guidelines for Courts of Judicature Rules, 2022, Legal Representation at the Expense of the State Rules, 2022, the Amicus Curiae Rules, 2022, and the Court Bailiffs Rules, 2022.

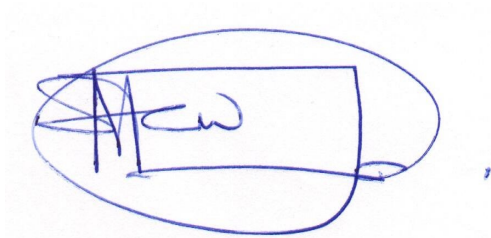
Primarily charged with activity oversight, the Programs Unit has specific focus on the eventual formalization of the Civic Network for Eastern and Southern Africa (CENESA). During this period, the registration and incorporation of CENESA took centre stage. Efforts are under way to have it registered with the National NGO Bureau.

The External Services Unit is primarily charged with information management and membership development. During the reporting period, efforts were directed at reconstructing the FHRI website as well as updating the membership register. The unit is also credited for organizing Annual General Meeting on 27th August 2023. By close of 2022, FHRI membership stood at 1,548 (140 ordinary, 30 Life members, 1,378 Friends pending upgrade).

That said, little would have been achieved without a dedicated Board of Directors (past and present), membership, staff, and partners. Special thanks to you for having shown extra ordinary resilience, courage and passion.

Keep Hope Alive!

‘Together We Can Make A Difference’



Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director

II. PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

CAMPAIGN 1

‘MY RIGHTS MY POWER’

Action 1: Civic Education

Action 1 seeks to address the problem of a disempowered citizenry, build active citizens and a citizens’ movement capable of challenging the status quo. FHRI recognizes the need to emphasize rights awareness and empowerment primarily at the grass root level through civic education.

i. University Human Rights Network

- **Preparatory meeting with the University Administration and University Human Rights Clubs.**

On 7th April 2022, FHRI held a preparatory meeting at the Human Rights House, Kampala with human rights club patrons and club presidents in the run up to the 13th Inter-University Human Rights Competition. 30 students and members participated. During the meeting, 14 universities confirmed their participation in the competition and selected their research questions. Bishop Stuart University, Mbarara in Western Uganda offered to host the two-day event on 20th and 21st June 2022.

- **The 13th Inter-University Human Rights Competition**

Under the theme; “*Building Back Better: Realizing Human Rights in the Post Covid-19 Era*”, the 13th Inter- University Human Rights Competition was held from 20th -21st June 2022 at Bishop Stuart University, Mbarara. 14 Universities participated in the competition namely; University of Saint Joseph, Mbarara, Makerere University, Busitema University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Mountains of the Moon University, Bishop Stuart University, Uganda Christian University Mukono, Cavendish University, Kampala International University, Gulu University, Uganda Pentecostal University, Kabale University, Uganda Martyrs University, and Islamic University in Uganda.

A panel of judges comprised of 3 human rights experts including: Mr. Charles Mpagi Mwanguhya, Bureau Chief, The East African Newspaper, Ms. Aliyo Naatukunda, Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons, and Hon. Jacklet R. Atuhaire, Commissioner Uganda Human Rights Commission.

The students discussed the following topics:

- The Right to self-determination and the United Nations Mechanisms: myth or reality?
- Regular, free, fair, and inclusive elections in Uganda: Are we learning any lessons from the past?

- The Doctrine for the Separation of powers: Is it a practical principle in Uganda today?
- The Right to Freedom of Expression and Assembly in Uganda: Progress or Decline- Discuss.
- The Oil Promise in Uganda: Is it a threat to human rights or a development opportunity?
- Gender Parity is still possible- Discuss.
- Death Penalty: A torturous road, and invisible torture: Discuss.
- Human Rights Movement in Post Covid-19 Era in Uganda: Has it entered the End-Times or the Twilight?

Makerere University emerged the overall winner followed by Uganda Christian University, and Kampala International University came third.

ii. Outreach activities

Other civic- related activities supported during the year included a human rights lecture to visiting students of Drake University of IOWA, USA, on 23rd May 2022, and another human rights lecture to students of the Department of History, Archaeology and Heritage studies of Makerere University on 20th July 2022.

CAMPAIGN 2 DEFENCE OF THE RIGHT TO PERSONAL LIBERTY

Action 1: Research, Advocacy and Lobbying

Action 1 seeks to enhance access to information and strengthen the knowledge base on human rights practices and violations. Under this Action, FHRI monitors, documents and reports on human rights practices in order to provide an evidence- base for advocacy and accountability.

i. Human Rights Monitoring and Documentation

FHRI carried out field research missions in the Northern, Eastern, Central and Western regions of the country in the following districts: Arua, Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Pader, Soroti, Kumi, Serere, Mbale, Tororo, Iganga, Jinja, Kamuli, Luuka, Bugiri, Wakiso, Mukono, Hoima, Buliisa, Kasese, Masaka, Sembabule, Mpigi, Kyotera, Kalungu, Lwengo, Lyatonde, Kampala and Rwenzori districts of Uganda. The field missions took place between 16th January and 5th June 2022. The field research mission targeted human rights defenders, journalists, civil society organizations, victims, and witnesses, political parties who discussed the human rights abuses that characterized the 2021 general elections as well as the impact of COVID-19 on elections.

The objective of the field missions was to establish human rights violations that occurred during the 2021 general elections as well as the impact COVID-19 on human rights respect. The findings informed the range of advocacy issues to be addressed in the run up to the 2026 elections during the year.

Action 2: Legislative Advocacy

- **FHRI appears before the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights**

On 15th March 2022, at the invitation of the Office of the Clerk to Parliament of Uganda, FHRI led by Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, the Executive Director FHRI submitted views on the state of human rights and alleged human rights violations in the country since January 2020. Ms. Sheila Muwanga, the Deputy Director-Programmes and Mr. Joshua Kago Mahande of the Legal Services Division were part of the FHRI delegation to Parliament. In FHRI's submission were references to alleged torture cases that were handled during the period. FHRI also made recommendations in the spirit of constructive engagement.

Suffice to note that in their report to Parliament, the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights on pg. 48/150 states:

The Committee commends the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative for a well- researched and comprehensive presentation on the state of human rights in Uganda; and for their enthusiasm and effort towards the promotion and protection of human rights in Uganda.

- **FHRI before the Uganda Human Rights Commission**

Under its Constitutional mandate, the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) monitors the human rights situation in the country and publishes reports on its findings. In so doing, the UHRC also consults with relevant stakeholders to verify and gather more information in compiling the annual reports before they are presented to the Parliament of Uganda. On 21st February 2022, the UHRC invited Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana, the Executive Director FHRI, to deliver a presentation on civil society perspective of the human rights situation in Uganda in 2022.

Action 3: Treaty Reporting**CSO Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Roadmap (2022 – 2026)**

On 7th December 2022, FHRI as the Civil and Political Rights Cluster and as a member of the steering committee on the UPR was invited to a CSO – Government interface on the UPR to discuss the roadmap for 2022 – 2026. The objectives of the meeting was: to discuss the CSO-UPR consortium road map 2022 – 2026; share strategies for collaboration between the different MDAs that comprise the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) with the CSO – UPR consortium and share good strategies and practices in data collection, verification, documentation and reporting among the key stakeholders.

Besides the engagement, FHRI submitted two Universal Periodic Review (UPR) stakeholder's reports in partnership with CIVICUS, South Africa to the UN UPR Working Group in the 3rd Periodic Review of Uganda's human rights performance in 2022.

CSO Database and dissemination training of UPR recommendations

Between November 15th – 17th 2022, the research team participated in a data base training with support of the UN Human Rights Office. The refresher course on monitoring and documenting of human rights violations. During the training, the research team was also taken through the importance of having a central place to be recording the human rights violations. The team was also taken through the human rights database and how to practically record the violations within the system. At the end of the 3-day training, the research team was provided with a flash disk with the necessary software to install it on our computers.

CAMPAIGN 3 THE RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

The campaign seeks to strengthen the capacity and independence of the Judiciary in order to reach just decisions and uphold human rights.

Action 1: Regional seminars for judicial officers on the Sentencing Guidelines

During the reporting period FHRI paid a courtesy call on the Principal Judge, Dr Flavian Zeija on 25th January 2022. Discussions held centered on effective delivery of justice, with particular focus on grant of bail, sentencing, and criminal trials.

Further still, as a member of the Judiciary Sentencing Guidelines Committee, FHRI took keen interest in the development of Sentencing Guidelines in Uganda. On account of this interest, FHRI provided funding to a select committee of judiciary meetings held between 16th- 17th February 2022, on 4th March 2022, and on 2nd September to review the draft Sentencing Guidelines with a view of having them adopted and presented to the Chief Justice for them to be laid before Parliament.

Action 2: Judicial Exchange Program

Following a protracted exchange of notes, FHRI submitted a proposal to the Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (NOREC) under a cooperation arrangement where an exchange program between the judiciaries in Eastern and Southern Africa will be facilitated. This was done in partnership with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) – Kenya Section, African Judges and Jurists Forum (AJJF) – South Africa and Legal Resources Foundation (LRF) – Zimbabwe.

CAMPAIGN 4

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN UGANDA

The campaign seeks to advocate for the progressive abolition of the death penalty in Uganda.

Action 1: Advocacy

Advocacy meetings

In order to support legal reform with a view to abolishing the death penalty in the region, members of the East African Coalition Against the Death Penalty (EACADP) from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic Congo (DRC) participated in lobby and advocacy meetings with policy influencers in Uganda. A team of 10 members from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, and DRC visited the Law Development Center (LDC) in Kampala and met with the Director, Mr. Nigel Othembi and his team. The delegation shared their country experiences in promoting the abolition of the Death Penalty. Mr Othembi noted that the death penalty is a political weapon informing the coalition that the LDC had introduced a human rights course to promote debate among students on the death penalty.

The delegation further met with Hon. Nobert Mao, the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs in Uganda on 7th October 2022. He welcomed the team and expressed support for the campaign, welcoming the idea of establishing the East African Coalition. He committed himself to fronting the abolition of the death penalty in the upcoming proposed constitutional review process in Uganda. He informed the team that Cabinet will soon establish a Cabinet Committee on Human Rights and would benefit greatly from the support of FHRI towards the review process. He underscored the need for a national dialogue so that there is peace and reconciliation in the country.

Prior to the advocacy mission, the Coalition held a regional strategic planning meeting to further the campaign in the region. The regional meeting was held at the Fairway Hotel in Kampala, Uganda on 6th October 2022. FHRI hosted the meeting. The delegation was joined by colleagues from the Uganda Coalition Against the Death Penalty (UCADP). 47 participants (20 female, 27 male) attended the meeting. Each Coalition representative identified key priority areas to further the campaign for the abolition of the death penalty and compiled into a strategy paper.

Public opinion surveys

One (1) public opinion survey gauging public support for the death penalty in Uganda was commissioned by FHRI in 2022. Covering five (5) districts of Uganda namely; Bushenyi, Gulu, Jinja, Kampala, and Wakiso the survey conducted by IPSOS revealed that 56% of the respondents did not support the abolition of the death penalty while 44% were in support. The survey findings were disseminated to the public, coalition members, Human Rights Defenders media houses, and students.

Commemoration of the World day Against the Death Penalty, 2022

FHRI together with the Uganda Coalition Against the Death penalty joined the rest of the world to commemorate the World Day Against the Death Penalty on 10th October 2022 at the Human Rights House under the theme “*Death Penalty: A Road Paved with Torture*”. The event was officiated by Hon. Fox Odoi, Chairperson, Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, and attracted 205 (89 female and 116 male) participants. Former death row inmates shared moving testimonies, while Cities for Life Children’s Choir presented songs and poems all in support of abolition.

Thematic research: “Death Penalty: A Road Paved with Torture”.

As part of the commemorative events, a thematic research titled; “*Death Penalty: A Road Paved with Torture*” in Uganda was conducted by FHRI. The results were compiled into a report highlighting facts and figures from former death row inmates, Non-Governmental Organisations working with formerly incarcerated women, children whose parents are in prison and individuals working with and familiar with challenges faced death row inmates. The report was published and disseminated during and after the commemorative event.

Solidarity visit

In commemoration of the World Day Against the Death Penalty, FHRI visited female inmates on death row in Luzira Upper Prison on 7th November 2022 sharing food items, personal effects and some pocket money.

Action 2: Legal assistance

Legal assistance to persons on death row

During the reporting period, Katende, Sempebwa & Co. Advocates, a law firm providing legal Aid to one (1) prisoner on death row continued to push for the prisoner’s case. However, during the lawyers could not access prisons due to Covid-19 Pandemic and Ebola.

CAMPAIGN 5 ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The objective of the campaign is to provide free and accessible legal assistance to poor and vulnerable groups in Uganda.

Action 1: Legal assistance

In 2022, FHRI extended legal assistance to indigent persons through the FHRI Kampala office, Kalangala and Wakiso field offices and the FHRI Bushenyi Legal Aid project. On-spot legal advice was also provided through the Toll free phone facility in all the four stations.

Kampala

In 2022, FHRI Kampala office assisted 366 clients (171 male and 195 female) including domestic, civil, criminal and commercial cases. By close of the year, 264 cases had been completed while 102 were still pending appropriate remedy. Further still, through the toll free facility, FHRI provided on spot legal advice to 600 people from 27 districts. Through these interventions, FHRI was as able to secure 8 court judgments and 4 court rulings in favour of her clients, recovered Ugx 30, 093, 000/= on behalf of her clients, recovered fifteen (15) pieces of land and one (1) house on behalf of her clients and secured court bail (12) and police bonds (3) on behalf of her clients.

Wakiso

The Legal Aid office in Waksio received a total of 101 cases (94 male and 7 female) for plea bargain at Kakiri, Wakiso and Nansana Courts. 49 cases were completed while 50 pending. In addition to the legal assistance, the team conducted legal and human rights outreach activities including;

- The Wakiso human rights legal aid camp at Bussi Island.
- A schools outreach session at Lugoba High School, Nabweru on 14th July 2022.
- Commemoration of the International Elders Day on 14th October 2022 with a legal aid camp.
- A legal rights awareness sessions targeting community groups in Ddambwe village, Kamuli Parish in Wakiso district on 15th October 2022.
- A legal rights awareness session on Alternative Dispute Resolution for the Wakiso Mumyuka Boda Boda Association on 25th November 2022.

Kalangala

In Kalangala FHRI assisted 253 cases through the Kalangala legal aid clinic including 141 male and 112 female. The Kalangala office recovered 33 pieces of land, fully resolved 8 cases of custody and maintenance while Ugx Seventy Two Million Three Hundred and Fifteen Thousand, Four Hundred Shillings only, (72,315, 400/-) was recovered on behalf of the clients. The FHRI team managed to secured Police Bond for 16 cases and assisted 12 clients secure Court Bail.

Bushenyi

In 2022, FHRI opened the FHRI Legal Aid Office in Bushenyi district. The office is situated in Central Division behind the State Lodge.

- *Stakeholder consultations.*

As part of the preparatory phase, FHRI carried out stakeholder consultations in Bushenyi district. The stakeholder consultative meetings were held from 14th – 19th August 2022. The purpose of the consultations was to introduce the project to the Local Government leadership and Justice Law and Order actors in Bushenyi district.

FHRI held a total of 14 consultative meetings with the Resident District Commissioner, Ms. Jane Assimwe Muhindo, Ms. Rose Namara, the Deputy Resident District Commissioner, Hon Jafari Basajabalaba, the LCV Chairperson, Mr. Willy Bataringaya, the Chief Administrative Officer, His Worship Simon Toloko, the Chief Magistrate Bushenyi, the Chief State Prosecutor, Mr Baston Baguma, the Community Service Officer, Ms Penelop Nantamba, paralegals including Mr. Amons Tumuheki, Ms Stee Biyonza and Ms Roselyn Ainebye, the Officer in Charge, Bushenyi Prisons (male) Mr Kidega Henry and Officer in Charge Bushenyi Prisons (women), Ms. Flora Tumwesigye, the District Police Commander, Mr Serunjongi JonhBosco, Mr. Allan Nkaragwa the Legal Officer in Police, and Mr. Deo Twinomuhangi the Chief Executive Officer of Ankole Private Sector Promotion Centre Uganda Limited, APROCEL.

- *Recruitment of project staff between 25th August – 14th October 2022*

A team of eleven (11) project staff were recruited including; a Senior Legal Officer, two Legal Officers, five Paralegal Officers, an Accounts Officer, the Office Clerk and a front desk manager. In addition to the project staff, two support staff including a cleaner and gardener were also recruited.

- *Run a 3 -day orientation workshop for staff in Bushenyi office between 17th – 19th October 2022.*

A three days orientation workshop was run for the new staff from 17-19th October 2022 at the project offices in Bushenyi. Project staff interacted with justice actors, shared expectations, and potential areas of cooperation. Internal matters including FHRI policies, the project concept and work plan were discussed. The LEGATUM representative in Uganda, Ms. Josephine Kankunda enlightened the project staff about LEGATUM and the expected outcomes of the project.

- *Official inauguration of the FHRI Bushenyi Legal Aid office on 20th October 2022.*

On 20th October, the project office was officially inaugurated and inspected by the LC V Chairperson Hon. Jafari Basajabalaba, Bushenyi district in the presence of justice actors and political leaders within the district.

At the programmatic level, the office conducted four (4) rights awareness campaigns and three (3) radio talk shows. In attendance were 98 (47 male, 51 female) community members.

Further, the team extended legal assistance to 14 cases (7 male, 7 female) of a criminal nature; represented 4 clients on trial including 2 civil and 2 criminal cases and; extended legal assistance to suspects at police stations reaching out to 122 (114 male, 8 female) suspects.

As a result, FHRI secured 26 police bond applications, provided legal assistance to 593 pre-trial detainees and other inmates in prison (559 male and 34 female) and secured 15 Court Bail applications successfully. The team further held a total of 9 Plea bargain sessions. 2 sessions were for capital cases conducted on 19th and 20th December 2022 and 7 sessions were for petty cases conducted on 10th, 16th 23rd, 24th, 25th November and 12th and 22nd December 2022. 116 cases were successfully concluded.

Legal assistance was further extended to two (2) juveniles and thirty-three (33) civil litigants while six (6) court user awareness sessions reaching 933 community members were supported. During the year, one quarterly monitoring visit was conducted between 12th and 14th December 2022, a quarterly district round table meeting convened for JLOS actors on 14th December 2022 and one program review meeting to discuss progress, achievements, gaps, and way forward on 22nd December 2022.

Success story

Bringing back hope to the Community Members of Kalwanga Village: On 28th April 2022, Mr. Katamba Ramadhan, a legal aid team member of the Legal Services Division at FHRI, was called upon by Mr. Akiza Benon the LC.I Chairperson of Kalwanga village, and Mr. Muhamood Matovu the Area Lands Committee Chairperson, Kalwanga Sub County seeking for his assistance over a 30 year old land dispute involving over 30 persons who had failed to obtain a certificate of title from God is Love Real Property Dealers.

The land in question is approximately 50 acres situate on Block 418 Plot 06 on a Private Mailo land at Kalwanga, Bweyongede, Kalwanga, Kassanda district in the names of God is Love Real property. The Community Members of Kalwanga Village were concerned that God is Love Real Property Dealers had an understanding with them to transfer the ownership of the said land into their names but the Property dealers had not fulfilled their promise. The community members of Kawuka village got concerned but the property dealers claimed that the delay was due to the failure of the Community Members of Kalwanga Village to pull resources to facilitate the transaction in time. Secondly, when they had embarked on the process, they alleged that the lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic also set in delaying the transfer process.

The community members were however not satisfied with the speed at which the transfer process was being done and had also lost trust in the Property dealers. It was at this point that the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) was invited by the local leaders to reconcile the two parties with sensitizing them with the necessary information and procedures to follow to overcome the challenge.

With FHRI's intervention, a meeting was held with all the concerned parties. Several steps were undertaken and agreed upon alongside resolutions on how to handle the matter. 'God is Love Real Property Dealers', the real estate dealers processed the title and the locals were able to smile again. By close of the year, 2022, a consolidated title was secured from the property dealers and was registered in trust from which all the over 30 persons could get their individual titles registered in their names without any encumbrances

▪ **FHRI and the Pan-African Network for Artistic Freedom (PANAF).**

On 12th July 2022, FHRI signed a partnership agreement with the Pan-African Network for Artistic Freedom (PANAF). Within this framework FHRI is expected to support PANAF in mobilizing a Pan-African inclusive voice for organizations connecting African artists and culture producers defending artistic freedom. During the year FHRI participated in two activities within this framework including a project orientation meeting held on 12th July 2022 with FHRI and PANAF and conducted a Research study on the state of artistic freedom in Uganda.

CAMPAIGN 6:

**CIVIC EDUCATION NETWORK FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
(CENESA)**

The objective of CENESA is to provide a regional civic education platform for mutual support, knowledge sharing, capacity building, advocacy and regional cooperation to individuals, civil society, private sector, state and other stakeholders. FHRI is host to CENESA.

Action 1: Formalization/Legal registration of the Network in Uganda.

During the year, the registration and incorporation of CENESA took centre stage. Efforts are under way to have it registered with the National NGO Bureau.

Action 2: Publication of a joint online publication on Citizenship Education

A major highlight for CENESA in the period has been the publication of a joint on-line publication on Citizenship Education, co-authored by CENESA and the German Agency for Civic Education (Bpb). The publication covers three countries in the CENESA region including Uganda, Kenya and Malawi. The publication can be accessed on the Bpb website. <https://www.bpb.de/die-bpb/ueber-uns/federal-agency-for-civic-education/>

Further, during the year, CENESA embarked on co-authoring the 2nd on-line publication focusing on three different countries including; Tanzania, South Africa and Rwanda. The article on Tanzania has been completed having been authored by one of CENESA's members, the Youth Partnership Countrywide in Tanzania.

Action 3: Common Database

In 2022, CENESA and her sister networks -Network for Arab Citizenship Education (NACE), Network for Europe Citizenship Education (NECE) and Eastern Europe Network for Citizenship Education (EENCE) set up a common database as a one stop center for information on civic education in the three regions. The common platform can be accessed at www.cenetworks.org.

Action 4: Partnerships

CENESA's partnership portfolio has continued to grow bringing on board the Namibia Institute for Democracy, the Germany Agency for Civic Education, NECE NACE, EENCE and the South African Civic Education Coalition. CENESA has participated in a number of webinars organized by these partners.

Action 5: Histocon 2022

CENESA's member, Assure Uganda, represented CENESA at the Histocon 2022 held from 7th – 10 September 2022 in Berlin, Germany. This civic education convening targets young people pursuing civic education as a means to social change. The event was organized by the German Agency for Civic Education (bpb).

COMPONENT 7

INSTITUTIONAL AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The objective of Component 7 is to build a sustainable and innovative human rights advocacy organization in Uganda.

Action 1: Partnership Building

This component seeks to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones for collective action and enhanced impact.

FHRI is an active member of eight (8) networks/coalitions including: the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (EAHRDP), Legal Aid Services Providers Network (LASPNET), Coalition Against Torture (CAT), the Uganda Coalition Against the Death penalty (UCADP), the East Africa Coalition Against the Death Penalty (EACADP), the NGO Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and People's Rights (CEAC), World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), and the Civic Education Network for Eastern and Southern Africa (CENESA).

In 2022, FHRI participated in over 40 physical and virtual events organized by partners, civil society actors And Government Institutions On Human Rights, Governance And Democracy.

Action 2: Visibility

The FHRI website (www.fhri.or.ug) and social media platforms were both regularly updated to keep the public informed. In 2022, the unit published the FHRI Annual report 2021 as part of the visibility and information sharing strategy.

Action 3: Governance and Leadership

FHRI is a membership organization with an organizational structure that comprises her 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 Constitution and property. The Board of Directors provides strategic direction to the organization while the Secretariat is the implementing arm.

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

On the 27th of August 2022, the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) held her 24th Annual General Meeting (AGM), which also doubled as the 11th General Assembly at the Human Rights House, Nsambya. The General Assembly held once in every three years accords

the members an opportunity to elect a new Board of Directors and it is held in compliance with Article 6(b) of the FHRI Constitution. The 11th Board of Directors elected on this occasion stands as follows:

- **Board of Directors (2022 – 2025)**

	Name	Position
1.	Dr. Josephine Ndagire	Chairperson
2.	Mr. Rajab Lukwago	Vice-Chairperson
3.	Ms. Bernadette Bakkidde	Hon Secretary
4.	Ms. Margaret Pauline Namagembe	Hon Treasurer
5.	Mr. Edward Kyazze	Member
6.	Dr. Milliam Kiconco	Member
7.	Mr. Godfrey Kaggwa	Member
8.	Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana	Executive Director (Ex-Officio)

- **Trustees**

	Name	Affiliation
1.	Ms. Sarah Mukiibi S	Libra Consultants Limited
2.	Mr. Albert Mukundane	Private Consultant
3.	Mr Wycliffe Birungi	Birungi& Co. Advocates
4.	Mr James Kizito Mayanja	Uganda Coffee Development Authority
4.	Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana	FHRI

- **Staffing**

By the close of 2022, the staffing stood at 59 (25 male and 34 female), including program, administration staff and volunteers.

Executive Office

1.	Dr. Livingstone Sewanyana	Executive Director
2.	Ms. Milly Nakakande	Executive Manager
3.	Ms. Victoria Nabumba	Intern

Programs Unit

4.	Ms. Sheila Muwanga	Deputy Executive Director (Programs)
5.	Ms. Christine Kirabo	Volunteer
6.	Ms. Gladys Arigye	Volunteer

Research Unit

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 7. Ms. Omega Kasirye | Research Officer |
| 8. Ms. Sheila Amujal | Research Officer |

Capacity Development Unit

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 9. Ms. Connie Numbi | Director CDD/ Manager Death Penalty |
| 10. Mr. Elly Kasirye | Project Officer, Civic Education |
| 11. Ms. Sumaya Nankya | Volunteer |
| 12. Ms. Catherine Nakimera | Volunteer |

Legal Services Unit (Kampala Office)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 13. Ms. Solome Nagadya | Legal Officer |
| 14. Ms. Esther Kagwa | Legal Associate |
| 15. Mr. Deo Miiro | Paralegal Kalangala Office |
| 16. Ms. Alice Mayanja | Legal Officer Kampala |
| 17. Ms. Brenda Katusiime | Volunteer |
| 18. Ms Doris Turyamusima | Volunteer |
| 19. Ms. Allen Kainembabazi | Volunteer |
| 20. Mr. Mahande Joshua | Legal Intern |
| 21. Mr. Derrick Namakajo | Legal Intern |
| 22. Mr Richard Akora | Legal Intern |
| 23. Mr Afura Huzaifa | Legal Intern |
| 24. Mr Ramathan Katamba | Legal Intern |
| 25. Mr Friday Davis | Legal Intern |
| 26. Mr Sentumbwe Yasin | Legal Intern |
| 27. Ms Nalujja Lilian | Legal Intern |
| 28. Ms Precious Ayebazibwe | Legal Intern |

FHRI Legal Aid Project (Bushenyi)

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 29. Ms. Gorreth Ayebale | Senior Legal Officer |
| 30. Mr. Tamale Joash | Legal Officer |
| 31. Ms. Nuunu Martha | Legal Officer |
| 32. Ms. Karungi Brenda | Accounts Officer |
| 33. Ms. Biyonzza Stee Nyindo | Paralegal Officer |
| 34. Ms. Busingye Rachel | Paralegal Officer |
| 35. Ms. Ainebye Roselyn | Paralegal Officer |
| 36. Mr. Tumuheki Amons | Paralegal Officer |
| 37. Mr. Bashsha Nicholas | Paralegal Officer |
| 38. Ms. Kwagalakwe Carolyn | Front Desk Officer |
| 39. Mr. Arinda Willex | Clerk |
| 40. Ms. Kyomuhendo Lilian | Cook/cleaner. |
| 41. Mr. Mugisha Charlse | Gardener/security |

Action 6: Office administration

During the period, FHRI paid salary, stipend and utility bills. Assets were maintained despite the high operational costs. Where possible, the organization has duly insured, serviced and repaired her equipment including vehicles, photocopiers, the generator, computers and accessories. During the period, the Legal Aid Office in Bushenyi was fully renovated and fully furnished.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SAM BISASE & CO.

Certified Public Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative set out on pages 25-34. These financial statements comprise the statement of financial position at 31 December 2022 and statement of comprehensive income and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of financial affairs of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative at 31 December 2022 and of its results and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and FHRI accounting procedures.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the organisation in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in Uganda. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in Uganda. We believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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Partners: S.L.R. Bisase PCCA, CPA (U)
Deborah Mulondo ACCA, CPA
ICPAU REG. No. AP0015

"The firm is licensed and regulated by the institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda"

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (Continued)

Responsibilities of Directors for the financial statements

The Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act, 2012, and for such internal control as the Directors determine necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the organisation or to cease operation, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (Continued)

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organisation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organisation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

As required by the Companies Act of Uganda, 2012, we report to you, based on our audit, that:

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;

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (Continued)**

In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the organisation, so far as it appears from our examination of those books;

The organisation's statement of financial position and statement of comprehensive income are in agreement with the books of account.

The engagement partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report is CPA Samuel L.R. Bisase – P0018.

Sam Bisase & Co.
Sam Bisase & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
Kampala

Date: *18 May 2023*



FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Consolidated financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of comprehensive income

	Note	2022 Shs	2021 Shs
Income			
General grants	9	901,156,860	426,793,062
Specific grants	10	189,864,717	276,814,102
FHRI House Fund income	11	842,233,099	544,703,349
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		1,933,254,676	1,248,310,513
Interest received		1,677,866	-
Less: Capital expenditure		<u>(97,253,270)</u>	<u>(265,000)</u>
		<u>1,837,679,272</u>	<u>1,248,045,513</u>
Expenditure			
Campaign 1: 'My Rights, My Power'		(84,178,593)	(18,280,189)
Campaign 2: Defence of the Right to Personal Liberty		(8,897,000)	(56,924,785)
Campaign 3: Access to Justice		(241,592,069)	(43,623,967)
Campaign 4: Rights and Rule of Law		(1,500,000)	(11,997,600)
Campaign 5: Abolition of the Death Penalty in Uganda		(165,967,913)	(95,838,303)
Campaign 6: CENESA		(15,092,085)	(10,309,178)
Institutional and Corporate Governance		(124,546,831)	(139,811,215)
Office and administrative expenses		(812,894,369)	(524,854,827)
Human Rights House- Maintenance		(10,538,000)	(7,122,847)
NHCC - Kiwatule (Mortgage, Interest and Insurance)		<u>(31,280,715)</u>	<u>(29,147,501)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(1,496,487,575)</u>	<u>(937,910,412)</u>
Operating surplus		<u>341,191,697</u>	<u>310,135,101</u>
Exchange gain/ loss		(38,780,890)	(39,679,597)
Gain/(Loss) on share valuation		(2,485,600)	5,879,200
Transfer for programme support		<u>(135,489,973)</u>	<u>(210,250,139)</u>
Surplus for the year		<u>164,435,234</u>	<u>66,084,565</u>

FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Consolidated financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of financial position		2022 Shs	2021 Shs
	Note		
Funds			
Capital funds	7	1,911,054,030	1,857,006,274
Restricted funds	8	145,563,202	89,216,094
General fund	6	19,023,590	(94,268,130)
Designated funds	14	6,733,210	6,704,685
		<u>2,082,374,032</u>	<u>1,858,658,923</u>
Long term loan		<u>-</u>	<u>152,550,332</u>
Total funds available		<u>2,082,374,032</u>	<u>2,011,209,255</u>
Represented by:			
Non-current assets			
Property and Equipments	2	1,911,054,029	1,857,006,275
Investments	3	57,704,800	60,190,400
		<u>1,968,758,829</u>	<u>1,917,196,675</u>
Current assets			
Cash and bank	4	229,642,798	149,981,170
Receivables and prepayments		<u>-</u>	<u>40,883,907</u>
		<u>229,642,798</u>	<u>190,865,077</u>
Current liabilities			
Payables and accruals	5	116,027,595	96,852,497
Net current assets		<u>113,615,203</u>	<u>94,012,580</u>
Net assets		<u>2,082,374,032</u>	<u>2,011,209,255</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on ¹³ May 2023
and were signed on its behalf by:

Executive Director.....

Honorary Treasurer.....

CONCLUSION

As FHRI marks 31 years of human rights activism in Uganda, credit goes to our Board of Directors (past and present), staff, partners and the membership for nurturing this organization that has by local standards stood the test of time. As we look forward to the future, innovation, creativity, passion and pragmatism will remain key to our survival. God bless you all.

‘TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE’



FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

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 **www.youtube.com/user/fhriuganda**