



Foundation
for
Human Rights
Initiative (FHRI)

2011
ANNUAL REPORT

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM IN UGANDA: (1991- 2011)

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 (Amendment Act) 2006. It is duly incorporated under the Companies Act, Cap.110 as a body corporate and incorporated under the Trustees Incorporation Act, Cap. 165, Laws of Uganda. The organization seeks to enhance the knowledge, respect and observance of human rights, 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 six strategic plans since its inception in 1991. Each of these programs is based on research, monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, human rights education, legislative advocacy and legal aid service delivery. In its 20 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 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 2011, 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 East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network Project (EHAHRDP), the Death penalty project LTD, FIDH, OMCT, Penal Reform International (PRI), World Movement for Democracy, the International Centre for Non for Profit Law (ICNL) and the OHCHR.

FHRI also supports and works with a number of community based human rights groups such as: Human Rights Activists and Monitors in Amuru district, Community Rural Empowerment and Support Organization in Gulu district, Koboko Civil Society Network, Soroti

Development Association and NGO Network, Kamuli District NGO Network, Tororo Civil Society Development Association, National Human Rights Association of Uganda in Tororo, Rwenzori Peace Bridge for Reconciliation in Kasese district, Masindi District NGO Forum, Kalangala Human Rights Defenders, Kalungu Paralegal Association, Sembabule Paralegal Association, Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum in Kampala, Masaka Human Rights Defenders, Kumi Human Rights Initiative, Pastoral Women Alliance to Break Cultural Chains in Kiboga, Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness in Kayunga, Women’s Initiative for Development and Paralegal Activities Association in Mukono, The Uganda Paralegal Society in Kampala, Human Rights Target in Luwero, Youth Revival Association in Kampala, Uganda Ey’enkyia Development Project Group in Masaka, Lira Women’s Peace Initiative and Human Rights and Paralegal Services 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), 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), the National NGO Forum and the Human Rights Centre.

The University human rights network which was initiated in 2006 now has a total of fifteen (15) human rights associations comprising of Busoga University, Ndejje University, Nkozi University, Makerere University, Kampala International University (Gaba), Kampala International University (Kansanga), Bugema University, Nkumba University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Christian University (Mukono), Gulu University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, the Islamic University, Mbale, IUIU (Kaboja), Cavendish University and Mutesa 1 Royal University.

The print and electronic media are key partners. These include : 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.



SINCE 1991

CONTENTS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON	iii
INTRODUCTION	v
SOCIAL, ECONOMIC & POLITICAL BACKGROUND	1
I. PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES	9
1. Research Division	11
2. Legal Services Division	15
3. Capacity Development Division	27
4. Communication and Information Division	31
5. Program Development Division	37
6. Special Projects	39
II. NETWORKING & COLLABORATION	45
III. ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	51
IV. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW	57
V. CONCLUSION	62

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) is indebted to countless individuals and organizations that made our work possible in 2011.

- Humanistic Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries (HIVOS-Netherlands).
- Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).
- European Union (EU).
- DANIDA (Democratization, Civil and Political Rights- (HUGGO).
- 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 Westminster Consortium (TWC), the World Movement for Democracy (WMD), Trust Africa, Redress Trust, Safer World, Uganda Reach the Aged Association (URAA), International Federation of Human Rights Defenders (FIDH), Organization Against Torture (OMCT), Makerere Institute for Social Research (MISR), Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human 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 in 2011.

To the many individuals and companies that supported our work, keep up the spirit!

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 a well established practice that the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) presents an Annual Report. The Annual Report is an important accountability tool to our members and partners. The report documents key achievements of the organization and provides a financial and human resource analysis for the year just ended.

2011 was an important year in the history of the Foundation. FHRI marked two decades of human rights activism in Uganda. FHRI has grown from an organization implementing just one single-track program to one that implements a multi-issue based program with a national focus. The organization has distinguished itself in the area of human rights, democracy and governance; has contributed to standard setting, nurtured upcoming human rights defenders; invested in the development of literature on human rights and contributed to strengthening the capacity of state and non- state actors in the field of human rights. Internally, the organization has continued to learn and to grow. Systems development has been prioritized, staff development undertaken, governance and leadership strengthened and partnerships nurtured.

These achievements however could not have been registered if it were not for the support of our friends in the struggle. The FHRI membership must be acknowledged for the selfless support extended and interest shown to FHRI, the Trustees and Board of Directors, past and outgoing, are recognized for the exemplary leadership they have exhibited. Our peers within the sector, with whom we crusade for rights; the Government of Uganda and the numerous State institutions that we have worked with to pursue this noble cause; Our development partners deserve special mention. Last but not least, the victims of human rights abuse without whom the mission could be irrelevant.

At 20 years, the expectations of stakeholders and the general public from FHRI are high. The organization has had the unenviable task of living up to them. In this respect, we pledge to uphold our motto. We should not tire. We shall continue to work for a just society. We will therefore count on your support to achieve this!

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wycliffe Birungi', is positioned above the printed name.

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



FHRI members at the 2011 Annual General Meeting, Human Rights House, Nsambya, 6th August 2011

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director, FHRI



31st December 2011 marked the end of FHRI's 6th Strategic Plan (2009 -2011) titled: *'Put our World to Rights: Deepening Democratic Practices in Uganda'*.

The period ending December 2011, registered several key ground-breaking achievements. Among these was the multi-media messaging campaign executed within the frame work of the Citizen's Coalition for Democracy (CCEDU), a civil society initiative launched in 2009 to promote integrity in the electoral process in Uganda.

A report titled, *"The Long Road to Realizing Labour Rights in Uganda"* was published to support the campaign for improved working conditions for the Uganda labour force.

Public outreach was intensified resulting in the establishment of a University human rights network which brings to its fold all the major universities in Uganda numbering 15. Beyond universities, human rights awareness was extended to community based groups, faith based groups, Parliament of Uganda and local government. It is estimated that over 1500 people were reached.

The campaign against the Death Penalty was extended to the Great Lakes region. A regional Conference on the application of the Death Penalty was convened within the framework of a joint project with Penal Reform International (PRI). At the local level, mitigation hearings were conducted and 5 death row sentences were commuted to life sentences. With the formation of the Great Lakes Civil Society Coalition Against the Death Penalty, the campaign has attained a regional dimension.

A campaign to promote the right to bail gained momentum. A Citizen's Handbook on the Law Governing Bail in Uganda was published and disseminated widely. Key users of the handbook include the Justice, Law and Order Sector institutions, Members of Parliament and people who come into conflict with law.

Legal Aid Services were extended to three hundred and forty eight (348) beneficiaries mainly women, children, rural and urban poor.

Perhaps what could be viewed as a recognition of the outstanding work of FHRI was the nomination of the Executive Director to undertake a one week visit under the auspices of 'Direction De La Prospective', a program of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of France, undertaken from 27th November-3rd December 2011. During this visit, the 3rd by a Ugandan since its inception 22 years ago, the Executive Director held meetings with leading personalities in the public and private sector, diplomats and international civil society organisations in Paris, France.

In partnership with the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders and the National NGO Forum, FHRI hosted the 5th General Assembly of the Africa Democracy Forum that was held in Kampala, Uganda from the 22nd – 23rd September 2011; an event attended by 55 delegates drawn from across Africa.



A cross section of delegates attending the 5th General Assembly of the Africa Democracy Forum: 22nd-23rd ept. 2011, Speke Resort Munyonyo

FHRI has executed six Strategic Plans since its inception in 1991. Each of these programs is based on research, monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, human rights education, legislative advocacy and legal aid service delivery. In 2011, the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) underwent an External Evaluation of its program. 20 years down the road, the independent assessment affirms that the organization has had a positive impact both on policy and human rights practices in Uganda.

The Evaluation has applauded FHRI for its high degree of strategic innovativeness, creativity and the ability to pioneer and tease out best practices. Its capacity building program with the judiciary, the campaigns against the death penalty, torture and rights of pre-trial detainees, the electoral reform initiatives under the Citizens Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), the Paralegal Advisory Services program (PAS), the community paralegal programs and the use of public interest litigation in areas of bail, pre-trial detention and the death penalty have been singled out as high performance areas.

Through its outreach and capacity building programs, the evaluation affirms that FHRI has supported the build up of a human rights movement aware of their rights. The result has been an emerging social movement that appreciates human rights and acts as watch dog especially at the community level. The partnership portfolio has grown considering that FHRI is working with a wide range of partners including national actors within government, judiciary and parliament, faith based groups, civil society organizations, academic institutions and community-based associations.

Research has been highlighted as an innovative strategy with high returns. The monitoring and research work has earned the organization a premier position within the sector as FHRI is described as credible and a critical voice. FHRI continues to champion the demand for accountability and reform of government institutions. The organization has established close working relationships with the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS).

FHRI has been recognised for increasing access to justice. Through its legal aid program, the Paralegal Advisory Services Program (PAS) and the self-representation initiative, a number of victims of abuse have been assisted to access justice which would otherwise be outside their reach.

The capacity building program for Local Government and Parliament have been singled out as successful initiatives that have created awareness of human rights standards, norms and principles. Through collaboration with Parliament, FHRI has promoted good practices in local government in areas of democratic governance, budgeting, legislation and financial management. The demonstrable results of the program point to improvement in service delivery in some of the target districts.

FHRI has equally contributed to standard-setting through public interest litigation. The positive outcome in the case of *Susan Kigula Vs Attorney General* has had far reaching outcomes both at the policy and practice levels within the Justice, Law and Order Sector. FHRI has contributed to human rights jurisprudence.

Lastly, FHRI has been credited for taking on a regional approach. Regional initiatives that include the campaign against the death penalty and capacity building for parliament are a case in point. These achievements registered over the years are testimony to FHRI's relevance and unique contribution to democratic governance.

However, there are still a lot more challenges both at the programmatic and institutional level that will need to be addressed beyond the 20th Anniversary.

Among these challenges is the ever increasing poverty levels among ordinary Ugandans. Uganda is still ranked in the category of the Least Developed Countries, ranked 161st in the UNDP Human Development Index (2011). The quality of life of Ugandans still remains low, as 20% of the population still live in chronic poverty. Glaring regional and income inequalities exist within the country among socio-economic groups and geographic regions, disparities which have

reportedly increased since the early 1990s.

In February 2011, Uganda held its second multi-party elections since 2006. However, these elections much like the previous ones held in 2006 did not meet the internationally accepted standards. Electoral irregularities were common including; acts of bribery, poor voter turn up, vote stuffing and high security presence especially in urban centers.

Notwithstanding the above, Uganda has made gains in the search for human rights respect at the legislative, judicial and administrative levels. However, the challenge of institutionalization and consolidation of democratic governance is evident. Public participation in governance is still limited. There is a clear divide between policy and practice.

As the 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) deadline draws close, there is cause for concern as progress in the attainment of several MDGs has been too slow to meet the national and international grid. Insufficient progress has been made in achieving the targets under MDG 2: (Achieve Universal Primary Education), MDG 4: (Reduce child mortality), MDG 5: (Improve maternal health) and MDG 6: (Combat HIV/AIDs, malaria and other diseases).

At the institutional level, FHRI will need to upscale its engagement with government, increase outreach to districts, build sustainable partnerships at the community level, engage more in advocacy for respect of economic social and cultural rights, improve the Management Information System, strengthen monitoring and evaluation and maximise financial and results sustainability of the organization.

In responding to some of these challenges, FHRI has adopted a new Strategic Plan (2012 – 2016) titled; *'Bridging Rights and Values: Strengthening the Civic and Democratic Culture in Uganda.'*

This five year Action Plan seeks to address the democracy and human rights deficit in Uganda at the policy, legislative and practice levels. The program goes beyond the human rights discourse

and interrogates the question of values and links the two. The program prioritizes the use of ICTs in human rights advocacy.

At the institutional level, the program recognizes the need to build a pro-active and sustainable human rights organization capable of engaging a multitude of stakeholders for practice change. The new Plan has six program areas namely: Research, Advocacy and Lobbying; Legal Services; Civic Education; External Services; Special Projects and Organizational Development.

As we commemorate 20 years of activism, special thanks go to our wide network including membership, management, staff, Board of Directors, development partners, peers and beneficiaries.

We dedicate ourselves to the cause of human rights in Uganda and beyond and re-assure Ugandans of our determination to resist any injustice. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, *‘The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.’*

‘Together We Can Make a Difference’



Livingstone Sewanyana
Executive Director, FHRI

Section

1

Social, Economic and Political Background

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL BACKGROUND

In 2011, the National Resistance Movement (NRM) Government marked 25 years in power under the leadership of President Yoweri Museveni. With over two decades in power, it is not in dispute that during this period, there has been considerable progress in the political, social, and economic fields including improvements in the human rights record. The country's regional and international profile has improved given its role in regional and global politics and fostering international cooperation. However over the years, these significant strides have been a cause for complacency. *'Once hailed as a compelling success story of Africa, it must be acknowledged that contemporary Uganda faces a number of challenges and runs the risk of not advancing rapidly.'* [APRM Country review report: No. 7, 2009]

Uganda's economy has experienced varying growth rates. There has been significant growth over the Poverty Eradication Plan (PEAP) period, with an average of growth in GDP of 8% over the period (2004/05 to 2007/08). According to the Government of Uganda, the impressive GDP growth performance in recent years has contributed to a significant reduction in poverty levels from 56% in 1992/93 to 31% in 2005/2006. In spite of this commendable economic performance, the country has not achieved significant productivity growth in the agricultural sector which employs more than 74% of Uganda's population. Dominance of primary commodities over industrial products and slow accumulation of core production infrastructure such as energy and transport are some of the structural bottlenecks in the economy that make this growth unsustainable.

Uganda is still ranked in the category of the Least Developing Countries ranking number 161 in the UNDP Human Development Index (2011). The quality of life of Ugandans still remains low, 20% of the population still living in chronic poverty. Glaring regional and income inequalities exist within the country among socio-economic groups and geographic regions which have reportedly increased compared to the early 1990s. The proportion of the population living in poverty is also much higher in some areas of the country: North 61%, North East 46% and South and West 27%. The levels of inequality are greater in the urbanized central region and least in Northern Uganda suggesting that the quality of economic growth needs to be improved in order to have a strong downward influence on poverty to ensure inclusive growth and development.

Uganda's fast rising population growth rate is at 3.2%, which is the third highest in the world. This is one of the emerging exogenous factors that may impede Uganda's growth if not decisively dealt with. The growth of the Ugandan economy has not been rapid enough to keep pace with its population growth leading to persistent unemployment. The unemployment levels are worrying, unemployment among the youth stands presently at 83%, this constitutes a real danger and a threat to Uganda's economic growth, democracy and quality of life of Ugandans. The creation of quality jobs is a central development challenge for Uganda; labor productivity is low and the labour market is fraught with great inequalities between men and women.

According to the 2010 Third Progress report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Uganda, the country has made important progress towards many of the MDG targets. Progress has been particularly strong in reducing the share of the population that lives in abject poverty and there has also been significant progress towards reducing the share of the population suffering from acute hunger. There has also been reported progress in terms of gender equality and empowerment of women, gender parity between boys and girls in primary education has been achieved and the country is on track in meeting the targets for access to HIV/AIDs treatment and access to safe water. However, even with this overall progress towards many of the MDGs, there is unevenness in how the benefits are being shared. The risk of unequal distribution between regions is high.

Reports of hunger in various parts of Uganda are common. Karamoja records 22% of underweight children as compared to Kampala which is 10%. The rates of completion of a full course of primary education have stagnated over the years (*from 72% - 54% for boys and 54% - 42% for girls in 2006*), while several of the health targets including those related to child and maternal mortality, access to reproductive health and the incidence of malaria and other diseases, have also progressed slowly.

Significant challenges in sustaining past gains in the area of HIV/AIDS exist, including an increase in new infections, approximately 2 million people in Uganda are newly infected.

The high incidence of corruption and inadequate public accountability has contributed to the slow progress in meeting some of the MDGs. Abuse of procurement procedures and diversion of public funds for service delivery, constitute some of the worst forms of corruption. The *World Bank' Governance Indicators, 2010*, ranks Uganda in the lowest percentile in respect to Government's commitment to controlling corruption in comparison to its counterparts in Rwanda and Tanzania. Although the current Government has supported the development of a legal and institutional framework to deal with the vice, lack of political will and selective prosecution mar these modest achievements.

Oil wealth management is at the core of current public discourse. The most recent allegations of corruption against three cabinet ministers has raised speculation and debate over the expected use of oil and its benefits. There is therefore a need to develop a comprehensive legal, policy and institutional framework to guide natural resource management, oil exploration and management of benefits. Issues of equity and access to benefits should be at the centre of the discussion because if not properly managed, oil discovery could be a source of conflict in Uganda.

Although Uganda has registered some success in setting up a legislative and institutional infrastructure to promote good governance, constitutionalism, rule of law, accountability and respect for human rights, its ranking on quality of governance is still below the 50% percentile. A number of unresolved issues arising from the 2006 and 2011 elections remain, including the restoration of Presidential term limits, the independence and credibility of the Electoral Commission and the absence of a credible National Voters' Register.

Independent reports on the state of human rights in Uganda paint a gloomy picture on the human rights situation in the country; reports of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment by security agencies, extra judicial killings, illegal detention, abuse of freedom of association and assembly, abuse of media freedoms, violation of the right to a fair hearing, election related abuses, abuses against women and children, discrimination of vulnerable persons like PWDs, the elderly, continued use of the death penalty, mob justice, abuse of the rights of refugees and asylum seekers, ritual killings and child sacrifices, abuse of rights of workers and poor quality health care have been routinely cited.

On 11th October 2011, Uganda presented its National Report to the UN Human Rights Council, Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). While reviewing the human rights record of Uganda, the Working Group on the UPR applauded the Uganda Government for its achievements in the field of human rights. However, the UN Human Rights Council made similar observations of human rights abuses as documented by the independent reports.

Beyond respect for human rights, there exists an interrelated challenge of developing a human rights and civic culture. Without such a culture, integrity, transparency and mutual respect remain devoid of any meaning. Fostering respect for human rights will go hand in hand with nurturing these much needed values.



The Uganda Police Force patrol on Jinja Road during the walk-to-work demonstration in April 2011

Relatedly, the policy and legislative framework though largely positive hinders free expression, association and assembly. Legislation such as the Anti-terrorism Act, 2001; the Public Order Management Bill, 2010, The Institution of Cultural Leaders Act, 2010, the NGO Registration (amendment) Act, 2006 as well as the recent Statutory Instrument declaring Activists for Change an unlawful society, undermine the available space for independent thought, expression, action and dissent and deserve legislative review. Similarly, holding protestors on a charge of treason and or terrorism which are both capital offences only triable by the High Court and only bailable by the High Court under exceptional circumstances, for a non violent act of peaceful demonstration and/or the intent to demonstrate by 'walking to work', has a chilling effect on free expression and dissent.

On the socio-economic front, poverty continues to afflict a large part of the Uganda population. Notwithstanding current anti- poverty campaigns such as, 'Prosperity for All' (Bonna Baggaggawale), National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS); Saving and Credit Cooperatives Organizations (SACCOs), NUSAF and the Youth Empowerment Fund, a decisive approach to addressing poverty is yet to be adopted. A policy framework that encourages commercialization of agriculture, industrialization and vocational training are still lacking. Programs that maximize the voice and participation of the youth, disabled, as well as women call for measures that maximize involvement, choice and attitudinal change. Maximum participation of the ordinary people calls for meaningful levels of human rights awareness which according to current studies are low. A study by the Human Rights Awareness and Promotional Forum on; '*The State of Human Rights Awareness and Promotion in Uganda: 2011*', found that only 10% of the respondents could correctly define the term 'human rights'; 77% had heard of the term none the less. Even awareness levels vary by regions; the majority in the eastern region are able to define the term while the west recorded the lowest. The urban population was better at understanding and defining the term. Only 30.7% of the respondents were aware of the Bill of rights of the 1995 Constitution while 37% correctly identified the government as primary duty bearer.

Whereas Uganda is committed to gender equality and empowerment of women to promote socio-economic transformation; is a signatory to a number of international human rights treaties and has domesticated these in the 1995 Constitution and a number of legislation like the Domestic Violence Act (2010), the Prohibition of the Female Genital Mutilation Act (2010) and the Land Act (1998), the plight of women remains far from satisfactory.



The National Gender Policy also provides a framework for gender responsive development. Nonetheless, critical gender inequalities still remain and sexual and gender based violence is on the rise; 40% of women and 10% of men have experienced some form of physical and sexual violence in their lives. [MOH: 2006]. Moreover, access to justice for victims is still poor as are prevention and treatment services. Passing of legislation key to the protection of women' rights such as the Marriage and Divorce Bill and the Sexual Offences Bill remain outstanding.

Uganda has adopted and ratified most of the relevant international human rights treaties. However there are still a number of important instruments that have not been signed or ratified which have a strong bearing on the respect of human rights. These include the 2nd Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition

of the death penalty (1989), 2nd Optional Protocol to the UNCAT (2002) and the Protocol on the Court of Justice of the African Union (2003). Uganda is yet to make the Declaration under the protocol establishing the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights allowing Ugandans to access this court.

The challenge of domestication and meeting multiple reporting obligations is apparent. Periodic and in some instances initial State party reports have not been submitted with respect to the UNCAT, ICCPR and ICESCR. Dissemination of concluding observations and effective follow up and implementation of recommendations of treaty bodies still remains a challenge.

Despite the challenges, access to justice and the functioning of the legal system in Uganda has slightly improved. The use of the sector-wide approach has helped to decentralize the delivery of justice, promoted the use of codes of conduct and performance standards and strategic coordination. Promotion of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms has yielded positive results while the adjudication of corruption cases has improved. Case disposal rate has gone up from 38.9% in 2009/10 to 44.7% in 2010/11. For the first time in 10 years, Uganda Prisons Service reversed the proportion of remand to convict population from 62:38 in 2003 to 55:45 in 2010. The average stay on remand for capital and minor offences has also reduced.

That said, there are still some serious challenges: corruption and perceived corruption is still at alarming levels, political interference continues to obstruct judicial independence and fair trial; respect for the 48 hour rule and general enforcement of laws and standards still remains a challenge while torture and abuse of offenders is still widespread.

The congestion of the criminal justice system with case backlog and case file congestion which is in part due to budgetary constraints still remain an issue of concern. Crisis at the level of practice and the general lack of enforcement of standards within the sector is still a problem. Late court appearances, lost files, incomplete investigations, ignorance of the law, lack of information of court processes and continuous adjournments and delays at all stages of the criminal justice system are common occurrence.

Files for committals are archived in magistrates' courts instead of being forwarded to the High Court, cause-listing is not influenced by the first in, first out principle, *nolle prosequi* are signed and not forwarded to the relevant officers, witnesses do not turn up because they are not contacted, lawyers and prosecutors are badly prepared and the accused is not brought to court because of lack of transport.

Poverty also constitutes a significant obstacle to access to the formal justice system; partly because it is connected to ignorance of the law and because many people cannot afford legal assistance and representation or cover the costs related to transport, user fees or even bribery. Geographical distribution and proximity of justice delivery remains a problem. In particular, conflict affected areas such as northern Uganda suffer from these problems. Capacity challenges still dog Local Council Courts which are intended to be the nearest centers for arbitration at the village level. Informal justice mechanisms still remain under exploited by the Justice, Law and Order Sector.

In spite of a Constitutional Court ruling that in 2006 denied the military courts the jurisdiction to prosecute civilians, the court martial routinely prosecutes civilians for crimes related to fire arms and ammunition which raises questions of fair trial and due process. Over 287 civilians are in prison, having spent an average of 5 years on remand and await trial before the Court Martial.

The inability of indigent persons to access legal aid services is still one of the pressing challenges that need to be addressed. The National policy on legal aid is in the final stages. Legal aid provision still relies extensively on private initiatives. Legal aid schemes are not sufficiently available to the population and are more prevalent in urban centres compared to rural areas. 85% of registered lawyers operate in urban areas. The quality of legal services, the lack of information about the existence of legal aid schemes and how they operate adversely affects access to justice.

The conduct of the police and other security agencies has not always met internationally agreed standards. The failure to uphold the 48 hour constitutional rule, due to logistical constraints, excessive use of force and acts of corruption are practices which are inconsistent with the obligation to enforce law and order with due respect to human rights principles.

The Press Freedom Index 2011 cites the police and security agencies as primary violators of media freedom. The report accuses the police and other security agents of physical attacks, harassment, raids, arrests and illegal detention.

Media freedom in Uganda has been under threat. With a few notable exceptions, it appears that Uganda has to do more to protect press freedom.

The media has been accused of being partisan. The media has been labeled unpatriotic and enemies of Uganda's economic recovery. While some media houses have tried to withstand the interference, others have succumbed to external pressure and have increasingly exercised self-censorship.

The functioning of political parties is crucial for the long-term political development of any country aspiring to attain political democracy. No doubt political parties are key to the governance of a modern state. Political parties however need political space to be effective counterweights to government. 'Walk to work campaign' that political parties conducted shortly after the 2011 elections that attracted stiff resistance from the state demonstrated the vulnerability of political parties in Uganda. The rights to freedom of association, expression and assembly were routinely abused as state reactions showed.

Political parties too need to develop an ideology and coherent policies, responsive to the needs of the population, improve internal democracy and develop programs that make them socially relevant to the under privileged.

Following the end of conflict in Northern Uganda, peace has returned to the region. Displaced persons have returned to their homes and what remains is to implement the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan. To promote justice and accountability, Uganda has domesticated the Rome Statute, with the enactment of the ICC Act 2010. The crimes court Division has been established in the High Court. Perpetrators of heinous crimes are yet to be brought to justice.

The setting up of the International Crimes Division of the High Court is believed to offer hope for victims of the 20 year old conflict in Northern Uganda. However with the discontinuation of the trial of Thomas Kwoyelo by the Constitutional Court has raised a number of issues of substantive law and procedure. The relevance and conformity of the Amnesty Act (2000) with the principles set out in the agreement on accountability and reconciliation have come into question while issues of victim participation, witness protection and compensation still need to be addressed.

Civil society in Uganda is still weak, largely unresponsive to issues of governance and levels of apathy are very high. There is therefore a need to develop a credible, independent and efficient human rights and democracy monitoring system able to consistently generate data, document human rights and democratic patterns and trends and provide credible, objective, timely, representative and accurate information.

With the revival of the East African Community (EAC), new opportunities for regional cooperation arise. Under Article 6 of the EAC Treaty, good governance expressed as adherence to the principles of democracy, the rule of law, transparency, social justice, gender equality as well as the recognition, protection and promotion of human rights is emphasized. In Article 7 of the Treaty, the partner states undertake to abide by the principles of good governance including adherence to the principles of democracy, the rule of law, social justice and the maintenance of universally accepted standards of human rights standards. Human rights defenders should take advantage of this provision to forge partnership with the EAC in order to promote State practices that conform to these ideas.

Finally, Uganda celebrates 50 years of independence on October 9th 2012. This occasion calls for reflection on the progress so far made in various fields including challenges to participatory democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law and measures in place to promote economic empowerment of the under privileged.

Section

2

Program Activities

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

2011 marked the final year in the implementation of FHRI's 6th Strategic Plan: Put our World to Rights: Deepening Democratic Practices in Uganda (2009-2011).

The program has nine (9) 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.

The program has six themes: civic participation, access to justice, freedom of expression, association and 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 have been executed under six operational divisions: Research Division, Legal Services Division, Capacity Development Division, Communication and Information Division, Program Development Division and the Executive Division.

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 and;
- Lower Level Platforms.

Implementation

The areas of focus include; right to a fair hearing, labour rights, juvenile justice, rights of persons with disabilities, right to healthcare, 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 Division periodically publishes and disseminates thematic human rights reports at the national and district level through Lower Level Platforms (LLPs).

Planned Activities

Three (3) activities were planned in 2011: Publication of two human rights thematic reports on labour rights in Uganda and the right to a fair hearing; participation in the 49th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) in Banjul and the 12th Session of the UN Universal Periodic Review mechanism in Geneva and; to convene two (2) Lower Level Platforms in the districts of Mpigi and Jinja.



Mr Sam Nsubuga, Chief Executive Officer, ACTV (front row centre) and Mr. Frank Baine (right), Public Relations Officer, Uganda Prisons Service at the launch of the Labour Rights Report, 19 th April 2011, Hotel Africana

Output

The report on Labour rights in Uganda titled: *“The Long road to realizing labour rights in Uganda, (September 2010 - March 2011)”* was published by the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) on 19th April 2011. The report was made public at a press launch that was attended by eighty five (85) delegates at Hotel Africana, Kampala. The report was officially launched by the Executive Director FHRI, Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana. The report which covered the period: September 2010 - March 2011, examined the progress in the implementation of the national legal and policy frame work as well as the international human rights obligations relating to labour rights in Uganda. The report also contains an assessment of the human rights situation in Uganda for the period. The six months research covered the districts of Bugiri, Kasese, Bushenyi, Hoima, Kampala, Lira, Kitgum and Gulu.

Two hundred and fifty (250) copies of the report were printed and widely disseminated to the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, government ministries and departments, the private sector, civil society groups, Federation of Uganda Employers, Trade Unions, political parties, Parliament, Judiciary, Constitutional Bodies, Practicing advocates, academia, the media and development partners.

Under the Treaty reporting component, FHRI participated in both the 49th and 50th sessions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights in Gambia from 28th April – 12th May 2011 and 24th -29th October 2011 respectively. On both occasions, FHRI presented brief country reports on the human rights situation in Uganda.

FHRI also participated in the 12th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva on 11th October 2011. During this session, Uganda submitted its National report to the UN Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). FHRI among other stakeholders submitted a stakeholders report on some of the key human rights areas that Uganda needs to improve on. Some of these include: the application of the death penalty, acts of torture, cruel and degrading treatment, respect for freedom of expression, association and assembly, the Public Order Management Bill (2010) and the Anti-Homosexuality Bill (2010).

During this period, two (2) Lower Level Platforms (LLPs) on the Right to Health Care in Uganda were held in Mpigi district; 19th – 21st July 2011 and Jinja district; 26th to 28th October 2011.

The objectives of both platforms were: to disseminate the findings of the report published by FHRI titled: *“Right to HealthCare in Uganda; Jan- June 2010”*; to promote dialogue and local level response among district leaders, district health officers, medical personnel, community based and national civil society groups on key challenges in the delivery of health services in Uganda and; to create awareness of current initiatives being undertaken to address the challenges in the sector. Fifty participants (50) including (21 female and 29 male) attended the LLP in Mpigi while (16 female and 34 male) attended the LLP in Jinja. Participants included: district leaders, district health officials, medical personnel, community based and national civil society groups and the media from both districts.

The LLP in Mpigi district was graced among others by Mr. John Mary Lwakanye, the LC.V Chairperson Mpigi district who presided over the official opening. Dr. Kenya Mugisha, the then Director General, Health Services in the Ministry of Health (MOH) represented the Ministry while Ms. Ewa Spasowskie represented the World Health Organization in Uganda. In Jinja, the district was represented by the District Chairperson, Mr Gume Fred, the Vice Chairperson, Mr Balidawa Paul and the Chief Administrative Officer, Mr Ben Otim. Dr. Paul Kagawa, the Communications Commissioner and Dr. James Mugisha, the Senior Health Planner represented the Ministry of Health.

During the two LLPs, a number of possible reforms and campaigns spearheaded by civil society organizations in the health sector were also discussed. Ms. Robinah Kaitiritimba, from Uganda National Health Consumers Organisation (UNHCO) discussed the state of maternal health care in the country while Ms. Ruth Mukiibi from the Sickie Cells Association of Uganda focused on the associated health care challenges of sicklers.

Research findings were covered in the local media as indicated in figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Media coverage of activities under the Research Division: 2011

Title of the Article	Source
<i>Labour rights being abused in Uganda.</i>	<i>Daily Monitor, Monday 25th April 2011</i>
<i>Observe the rights of labourers</i>	<i>The New Vision, Sunday 1st May 2011</i>
WB, ADB boost health with shs.550b	Daily monitor, Friday 22 nd July 2011
Activists want health rights	The New vision, Monday 31 st October 2011

Outcome

"The thematic reports are aesthetically appealing and are highly informative. They have been used as reference materials in a number of cases. FHRI reports are well referenced, citing international treaties, norms and standards in human rights law and practice. They are used as references by government agencies, academics, students and journalists." [pg. 31: SIDA Uganda Final evaluation report of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative, November 2011]

The labour rights report influenced and informed the debate on labor rights during the reporting period. Public and Media attention to the findings of the report have exposed the challenges associated with the lack of a minimum wage for workers and the extent of abuse of labour rights in Uganda. Both issues were actively discussed by Parliament and policy makers in the run up to and during the Labour Day celebrations on 1st May 2011. See figure 2 here below:

Figure 2: Media focus

Title of the Article	Source
Labour rights being abused in Uganda	Daily Monitor, Monday 25 th April 2011
Observe the rights of labourers	The New Vision, Sunday 1 st May 2011

The absence of a conducive legislative framework for the operation of Trade Unions in Uganda is one of the issues that the labour rights report highlighted. In 2011, Trade Unions took advantage of the report and utilized the findings during their negotiations with Government on the same matter. On 22nd November 2011, a recognition agreement was signed between Government and trade unions. The agreement among others operationalises the Trade Union Act 2006 by providing a platform for dialogue between the employer (Government) and the employees.

Of the 171 recommendations made by the UPR Working Group, Uganda accepted and supported 110. Out of the ten (10) issues raised by FHRI during the lobbying process, only three (3) did not enjoy support from the Government including: abolition of the death penalty, decriminalization

of homosexual activities and withdraw of the Public Order Management Bill (2010). Uganda gave assurances among them to adopt a National Action Plan on Human Rights that would cater for these concerns and develop strategies to improving respect of human rights.

There has been increased advocacy at the lower level towards improvement of health service delivery. For example, organisations such as Mpigi District Union of Persons With Disability, World Vision in Gulu, National Health Users/Consumers Organization (UNHCO) and Sickie Cell Association of Uganda have mobilised civil society actors at this level to support campaigns on: physical access to health centres by PWDs, improvement of maternal health care; improved medical assistance to sicklers; patients' rights and increased funding to the health sector.

Furthermore, the health and human rights working group in the Ministry of Health to which FHRI is a member benefited from the LLP. Some of the members of this group like UNHCO, WHO, and the Ministry of Health officials have also participated in the lower level platforms. A Working Group to finalize and roll out a Human Rights Training Manual for health workers is working on a manual to help workers acquire skills and knowledge in health care delivery. The Manual will be tested in the districts of Mityana and Mubende in 2012 and thereafter rolled out nationally.

Challenges

A number of existing laws and bills narrow civil society space thereby limiting engagement of government on its human rights record. Examples of such cases include; the Public Order Management Bill, 2010, the *Press and Journalists (Amendment) Bill (2010)* and The Uganda Communications Regulatory Authority Bill (2012).

II. LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION

Objective

The Legal Services Division seeks to promote sustainable access to justice for the poor and vulnerable persons in Uganda. It also advocates 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 (legal representation of death row inmates and Paralegal Advisory Services) and;
- Public Interest Litigation/ Legislative Advocacy.

Implementation

The campaign to promote sustainable access to justice and advocate for best practices in the administration of justice, involves; research, strategic litigation, pro-bono legal aid services to the poor and vulnerable persons, death row inmates, suspects in police cells and inmates in prison; capacity building for communities and inmates in prisons on human rights and criminal justice procedures, tracer services for prisoners and their family members and legislative advocacy for policy and practice change.

Planned Activities

In 2011, planned activities under the division were: to offer pro-bono legal aid services to at least two hundred and fifty (250) clients, lobby for the establishment of a National Legal Aid policy, publish and launch the *Handbook on Bail*, submit memoranda to the Legal and Parliamentary affairs committees in respect of the Public Order Management Bill 2010, publish a report on alternative sanctions and death penalty trends in Kenya and Uganda, support mitigation hearings for death-row inmates and produce a documentary film on the death penalty and conditions of death-row inmates in Uganda.

Output

(a) Legal Aid Assistance

In 2011, FHRI handled three hundred and forty eight (348) cases of human rights abuse. Figure 3 below illustrates the number of cases handled by FHRI from 1993 to 2011:

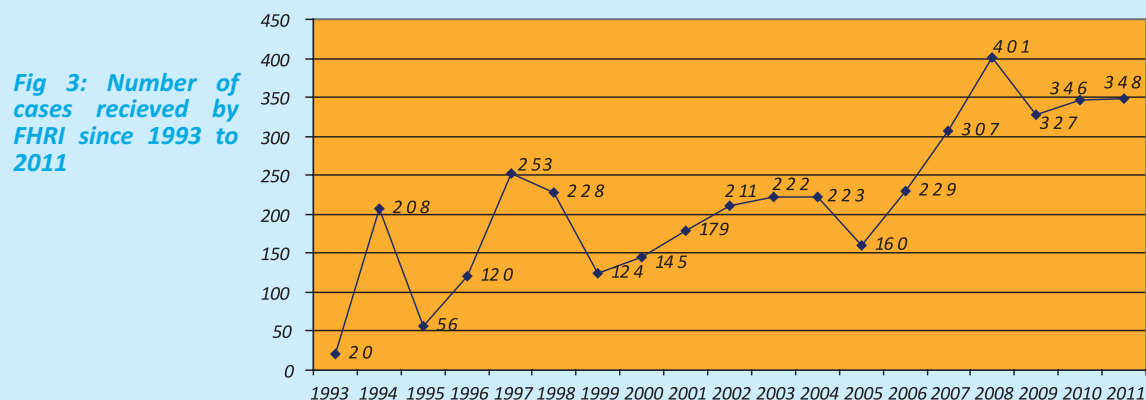
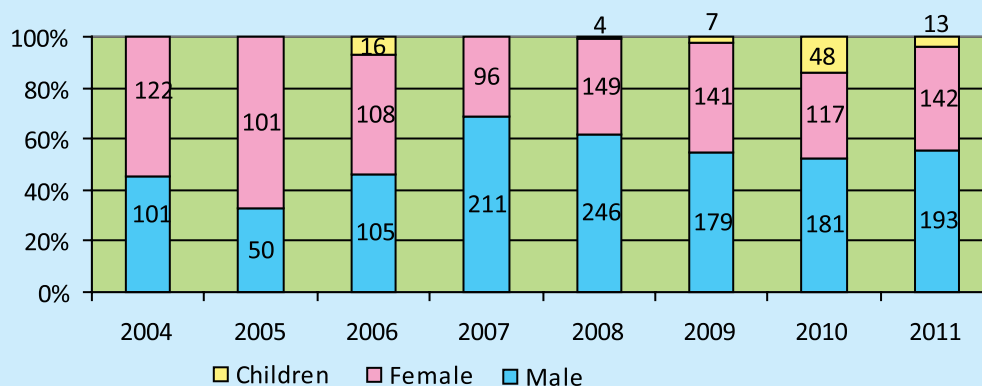


Figure 3 shows an increase in the number of clients received in 2011 compared to 2010.

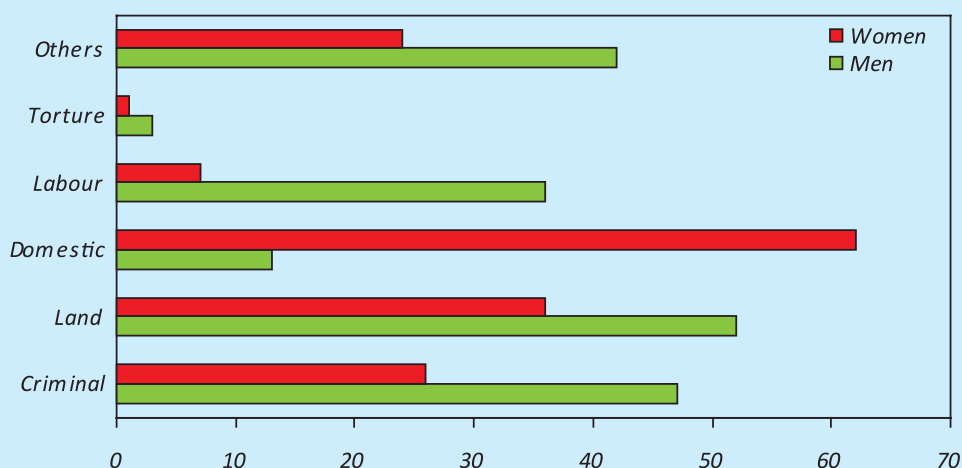
Category of case load is shown in figure 4 below:



Male clients constitute the bulk of cases handled; 193 male, 142 women and child related cases stood at 13. Like in previous years, the proportion of men was higher to that of women. Although women remain vulnerable, the number of cases reported by women is relatively lower. Poverty constitutes a significant obstacle to access to justice; both because it is connected to ignorance of the law and because women cannot afford legal assistance and representation or cover the costs related to transport and user fees. The number of children who reported cases was lower than in 2010.

Like in 2010, the majority of cases handled in 2011 were domestic related cases. Figure 5 illustrates the nature of complaints reported in 2011 disaggregated by gender.

Fig 5: Nature of violations and prevalence by Gender: 2011



Domestic related cases comprised the largest category of cases handled in 2011. The case load comprise: child neglect, child custody, desertion, inheritance and domestic violence. Most of the cases were resolved through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms like mediation in effect affirming the view expressed that ADR is more affordable and accessible.

Land matters such as disputes between land owners and “bibanja holders,” unlawful land evictions and trespass ranked second.

Criminal cases ranked third. These include; assault, threatening violence, theft, robbery, defilement, malicious damage to property, and assault occasioning grievous bodily harm. Labour related cases came fourth comprising of non-payment of salary dues, wrongful dismissal and failure to honour

compensation claims. There was a noted reduction in the number of torture related cases handled compared to previous years.

b) Criminal Legal Defence

This component has two key activity areas: campaign against the death penalty and the Paralegal Advisory Services program (PAS).

i. Campaign Against the Death Penalty

In 2011, FHRI provided legal assistance to sixteen (16) death row inmates. The nature of support includes: preparation of mitigation briefs, witness tracking, provision of legal advice and legal representation.



Guests at the opening session of the conference on the Death Penalty in East Africa, 24- 27 July, Silver Spring Hotel, Nairobi. L-R Mr Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director FHRI, Her Worship Lucy Njora, Judicial Officer, Kenya, H.E Rob Macaire, British High Commission to Kenya (Chief Guest), Hon. Judge Yorokamu Bamwine, Principal Judge, Uganda and Hon. Justice J W Tsekooko, Chairperson Judicial Training Committee, Uganda

As part of the death penalty campaign, FHRI, in partnership with Penal Reform International (PRI) convened a one day National roundtable on 10th March 2011 at Sarova Panafric Hotel Nairobi, Kenya. Under the theme, *'Developments, Effectiveness and Deterrence'*, the meeting focused on the continued application of the death penalty in Kenya. Participants reflected on the progress made in fostering progressive abolition of the death penalty in Kenya including the search for alternative sanctions. The event was attended by thirty two (32) delegates (24 male, 8 female) drawn from the Kenya Prison Service, the Kenyan Judiciary, legal practitioners, academia, government departments of the Justice, Law and Order sector in Kenya. Among the speakers at the meeting were: *Mr Titus Kirani, (Asst. Commissioner, Kenya Prison Service), Ms Florence Jaoko, (Commissioner, Kenya Human Rights Commission), Mr. Robin Busolo, (Kenya Law School), Justice Fred Ochieng, (High Court of Kenya) and Mr Livingstone Sewanyana, (Foundation for Human Rights Initiative).*

In a related development, FHRI together with Penal Reform International, ICJ- Kenya and the Judicial Studies Institute, convened a regional roundtable on the abolition of the death penalty from 24th – 27th July, 2011 at Silver Springs Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. Under the theme: *'Death penalty in East Africa, challenges, strategies and comparative jurisprudence'*, the meeting was attended by fifty five (55) delegates, (30 male, 25 women), including: magistrates, Judges of the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Uganda and Kenya, the retired Chief Justice of Tanzania, civil society representatives from across the East African region, the academia (Kenya Law School), the Kenya and Uganda Prisons Services, Development Partners and the media. The British High Commissioner to Kenya, H.E Rob Macaire was the Chief Guest. A communiqué outlining future activities was adopted at the end of meeting.

A multi- regional conference under the theme; *'Progressing towards abolition of the death penalty and alternative sanctions that respect international human rights standards'* was held soon thereafter. It was held at the European Union offices in United Kingdom under the auspices of Penal Reform International, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK and the European Union from 19th – 20th September 2011. Delegates to the forum discussed the scope and application of the death penalty in practice, how to reconcile religious and cultural arguments in favour of the death penalty with international trends toward abolition and the declining use of the death penalty across the globe. Conference delegates included, representatives of transnational non-governmental departments, academia, Development Partners and representatives of government departments such as prisons, judiciary, parliament as well as the media.

Then on 10th October 2011, human rights defenders and abolitionists assembled at the Human Rights House, Nsambya to commemorate the World Day Against the Death penalty. Highlights of the occasion was the launch of a project to promote access to justice for inmates on death row, supported by the Foreign and Commonwealth office of the United Kingdom. Launched by the British High Commissioner to Uganda, H.E Mr. Martin Shearman and witnessed by the Head of Delegation of the European Commission to Uganda, H.E Dr. Roberto Ridolfi who delivered the Key note address on the *'European Union's efforts towards the Global Campaign Against the Death Penalty.'* The occasion was graced with the presence of the French Ambassador to Uganda, Her Excellency Mrs. Aline Kuster – Menager and H.E Anders Urban Anderson, the Swedish Ambassador to Uganda.

Lastly, research was conducted on death penalty trends in Kenya and Uganda. The research report titled; *'The Abolition of the Death Penalty and its Alternative Sanction in East Africa: Kenya and Uganda'* was published in April 2012.



Commemorating the World Day Against the Death Penalty in Uganda on 10th October 2011, Human Rights House, Nsambya. Front row centre: Her Excellency Mrs Aline KUSTER- MENAGER, the French Ambassador to Uganda, H.E Mr. Martin Shearman, British High Commissioner to Uganda, H.E Dr Ridolfi Roberto, Head of Delegation of the European Commission to Uganda and H.E Mr. Anders Urban Anderson, Swedish Ambassador to Uganda

ii. Paralegal Advisory Services program(PAS)

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

PAS commenced in October 2005 as a pilot project in four sites and had by end of 2011 expanded to eleven (11) sites including: Gulu, Jinja, Arua, Kitgum, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Lira, Fort Portal (hosted by Uganda Prisons Service), two sites in Kampala (hosted by Uganda Prisons Service and Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF) and Mbale (hosted by Uganda Prisons Service). The programme was at the end of 2011 directly implemented by thirty eight (38) paralegals and forty -one (41) social workers 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 remand prisoners to their families and community members for legal assistance.

In 2011, PAS completed the implementation of the three year Strategy: (April 2007 - June 2011). Following the 2010 evaluation of the program, a new Paralegal Advisory Services Strategy: 2011/12 – 2015/16 has been developed.



PAS at a Justice Forum in Lira District: 28th September 2011.

In 2011, the paralegals contributed to the process of physical and case file decongestion within the targeted magisterial areas as illustrated in figure 6 below:

Figure 6: Tabulation of PAS releases: January-December 2011

Project Site	Bail	Police Bond	Community Service	ADR	Fines	Other releases	Total Releases
Kampala	1123	887	922	61	68	603	3,664
Mbale	399	801	41	144	47	1193	2,625
Bushenyi	53	576	48	76	13	392	1,158
Jinja	643	1,617	179	247	39	892	3,617
Fort Portal	320	840	55	96	6	191	1,508
Gulu	1294	1273	88	88	81	944	3,768
Kitgum	375	645	56	162	13	522	1,773
Mbarara	552	899	701	194	12	1448	3,806
Arua	581	1,237	77	34	28	413	2,370
Lira	1489	909	28	110	63	929	3,528
Total	6,829	9,684	2,195	1,212	370	7,527	27,817

In 2011, the total number of suspects and inmates released through PAS interventions was twenty seven thousand eight hundred seventeen (27,817) and among them: six thousand eight hundred twenty nine (6,829) received bail, nine thousand six hundred eighty four (9,684) received bond, two thousand one hundred ninety five (2,195) got community service sentences, one thousand two hundred twelve (1,212) benefited through mediation/diversion, three hundred seventy (370) through fine payment and seven thousand five hundred twenty seven (7,527) through other mediations and diversions. The Paralegals traced a total of forty four thousand six hundred sixty seven (44,667) sureties and offered basic legal advice and counseling to eighty six thousand eight hundred sixteen (86,816) inmates. Other releases include cases that have been dismissed, cautioned, discharged, discontinued and acquittals.

In order to strengthen the capacity of, promote collaboration amongst stakeholders in the criminal justice system and promote better understanding of the PAS program, PAS organized two (2) Justice fora in Bushenyi and Lira 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. They were made aware of the new amendments in criminal law and the value in collaborating with the paralegals for improved service delivery.

In 2011, three (3) PAS Steering Committee meetings were held at which several bottle necks in the administration of justice were discussed. Follow up of challenges identified contributed to better performance of criminal justice institutions in areas where PAS operates.

Four (4) monitoring visits were conducted by the Secretariat team to all the project sites in a bid to provide back up support to the paralegals and social workers. PAS also participated in the National Legal Aid Conference organized by JLOS and Justice Centres Uganda both as a member of the National Task force on the Legal Aid policy as well as a legal aid service provider from 27th – 28th October 2011, at Speke Resort Munyonyo.

C) Public Interest Litigation / Legislative Advocacy

i. Access to justice for pre-trial detainees

The right to bail for pretrial detainees has been a centre of controversy in Uganda. The right to bail though guaranteed by the Constitution of Uganda 1995 has been under threat following government pronouncement to the effect that it be reviewed. A campaign to promote the right to bail has been initiated by FHRI.

To promote understanding of the right to bail, FHRI organized a roundtable on the right to bail on 8th June 2011 at Hotel Africana, Kampala. During the forum, *'The Citizens' Handbook on the Law Governing Bail* was launched. At this event the legal effect of Constitutional Petition No. 20 of 2006 (*Foundation for Human Rights Initiative v Attorney General*) was also discussed.

Addressing seventy six (76) participants to the roundtable (48 male, 28 female), Hon. Justice Lameck Mukasa, the Head of the Criminal Division of the High Court who presided over the launch, credited FHRI for producing a useful resource handbook for ordinary citizens on the right to bail. Other speakers included; Mr. Victor Loka, Assistant Commissioner, Uganda Prison Services, Mr. Kenneth Kakuru from Kakuru & Co. Advocates, Mrs. Dorothy Nandugga Kabugo from Kabugo & Co. Advocates, Mr. Wycliffe Birungi from Birungi & Co. Advocates and Chairperson of FHRI Board of Directors and Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI.

Two thousand (2,000) copies of the handbook were printed and distributed to government ministries including the Ministry of Justice, judiciary, Members of Parliament, development partners, prisons, tertiary institutions, civil society and the media.

On 3rd September 2011 FHRI met with the Attorney General, Hon Peter Nyombi and discussed among others: the President's proposal to scrap bail, the Public Order Management Bill of 2009, the NGO Registration Amendment Act of 2006 and the need for Government to comply with and enforce judicial decisions. The Attorney General promised to consult relevant stakeholders on some of these controversial issues.



Some of FHRI Board of Directors and staff meet with the Chief Justice His Lordship Hon. Justice Benjamin Odoki (3rd from right) and Principle Judge Hon. Judge Yorokamu Bamwine (2nd from right) on 18th May 2011 at the High Court, Kampala

Then on 18th May 2011, an FHRI delegation met the Chief Justice of Uganda, His Lordship Justice Benjamin Odoki. Discussions centered on the walk to work demonstrations, judicial independence, non-enforcement of judicial decisions, the right to bail and the pending petition filed by FHRI before the Supreme Court cited as; *Constitutional Petition No. 20 of 2006; Foundation for Human Rights Initiative Vs. the Attorney General*] that challenged overstay on remand of pre-trial detainees.

ii. **Legislative Advocacy**

FHRI made submissions to the Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs on the Public Order Management Bill (2010) on 7th December 2011. FHRI urged the Committee to among others, strike and maintain a delicate balance between exercising the freedom of expression, association and assembly and maintenance of law and order. The bill is due for presentation to the plenary of Parliament for the second reading.

FHRI also submitted a memorandum to the NGO Board on the 21st July 2011 in which it outlines areas for review in the NGO Registration (Amendment) Act cap 113. This submission was prompted by a call by the NGO Board to interested parties to submit their views during the review process.

FHRI has also petitioned the Constitutional Court on the human rights implications of charging demonstrators with treason. The petition is cited as Constitutional Court Petition No. 50 of 2011 [*Foundation for Human Rights Initiative Vs Attorney General*], No. 50 of 2011. A hearing date is yet to

be appointed.

Lastly, on 24th June 2011, the Executive Director Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana spoke at the Induction Seminar for the 9th Parliament of the Republic of Uganda. In his address Mr. Sewanyana made a case for the establishment of a Parliamentary Committee on human rights, ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and urged Parliament to consider the possibility of having a human rights parliamentary forum.

Outcome

- **Legal aid assistance**

'For a long time, the Justice Law and Order Sector in Uganda has grappled with the issue of availing justice to all, and how to ensure that victims' rights are redressed efficiently and effectively. Victims of injustice who have approached FHRI for legal aid have, to a reasonable extent, managed to get legal representation to facilitate access to justice.' [FHRI External Evaluation Report: page 21]

Through the provision of legal assistance, mediation, legal representation, out of court settlements the legal aid division secured access to remedies for victims of human rights abuse. 23 children received maintenance, 6 clients compensated for losses incurred, 11 had their property recovered, 7 were released on bail and bond and 69 clients received legal advice as illustrated in figure 7 below:

Figure 7: Nature of remedies aggregated in 2011

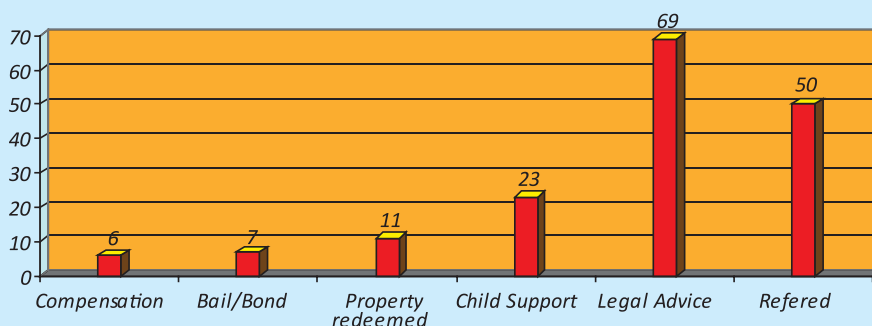


Figure 7: Nature of remedies aggregated in 2011

As indicated in figure 7 above, majority of the clients received legal advice in matters such as domestic violence, child maintenance, custody, land disputes, divorce and separation.

- **Campaign against the Death Penalty**

Following the Constitutional and Supreme Court ruling in *Susan Kigula Vs AG* mandatory death sentences were outlawed. The Justice Law and Order Sector's 3rd Strategic Investment Plan (2011/12 – 2015/16) has prioritized legal and policy reforms as one of the key components it will address. A number of laws including those that provide for mandatory death penalty have been listed to be fast tracked for review.

Mitigation hearings continue in the High Court. In 2011, 6 mitigation hearings were conducted. FHRI prepared mitigation briefs in support of commutation of the death sentence in these cases. 5 sentences were commuted to life while 1 death sentence was upheld. This brings the number of persons on death row down from 487 in 2010 to 423 in 2011.

FHRI has also advocated for the establishment of a new sentencing regime to enhance uniformity, consistency and transparency in sentencing in capital cases. On 30th November 2011, new Sentencing Guidelines were launched by the Chief Justice of Uganda. The Guidelines seek to address the challenges cited above. A Sentencing Reform Bill, 2011 that will establish a Sentencing Council to periodically review the Sentencing Guidelines and procedures necessary, will come before Parliament shortly.

The debate on the continued application of the death penalty in Uganda continues within the public and the Justice Law and Order Sector. In 2011, 11 articles featuring public debates on the efficacy of death penalty were published in the media as shown in figure 8 below:

Figure 8: Articles on the death penalty in Uganda: 2011

No.	Title of the Article	Source
1	Prisons stuck with 450 inmates on death row	New vision, April 4 th 2011
2	Court orders fresh trial for death row convicts	Daily Monitor, July 24 th 2011
3	Judges back death penalty	Daily Monitor, July 26 th 2011
4	Court upholds two death sentences	New vision, August 4 th 2011
5	UPDF soldier sentenced to death	New vision, 2 nd September 2011
6	Agaanyi okukyusa mu ky'okuttibwa	Bukedde, October 21 st , 2011
7	Judge backs death penalty as a deterrent	New vision, October 24 th 2011
8	Ssempebwa decries death penalty	New Vision, October 19 th 2011
9	Three convicts on death row survive hangman	The Daily Monitor, October 20 th 2011
10	Death sentence: inmates to get free legal services	Daily Monitor, October 15 th 2011
11	Abolish death penalty	New vision, October 10, 2011

A region based campaign against the death penalty continues to evolve. Part of this evolution stems from a committee comprising of Kituo cha Sheria, ICJ-Kenya, FIDA-Kenya, Transparency International, the Judiciary, Kenya Human Rights Commission and Kenya Prison Service that has been formed to spearhead the campaigns in Kenya. This follows roundtables hosted by FHRI and PRI on progressive abolition of the death penalty in East Africa.

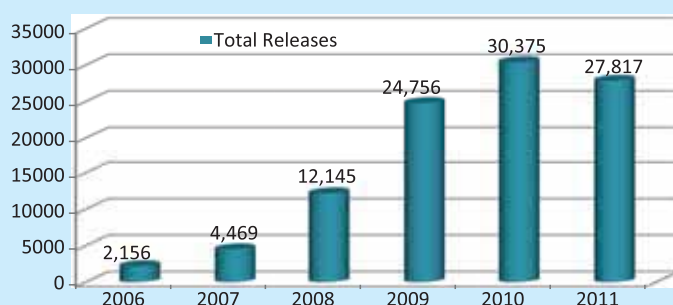
The formation of the East African Civil Society Coalition against the Death Penalty is part of these regional efforts.

- **Paralegal Advisory Services program (PAS)**

Within the framework of PAS, the total number of inmates released through PAS interventions has steadily increased as shown in figure 9 below:

Figure 9: Number of releases due to PAS; 2011

Figure 9: Number of releases by PAS: 2011



The number of prisoners released from places of detention attributed to PAS interventions in 2011 was 27,817. Although there was a slight decrease in numbers compared to those released in 2010, PAS continues to provide legal assistance to inmates who would be denied any form of such support.

‘Perhaps the most significant achievement of the 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, at a reasonable cost (estimated at US \$ 2.60 per person per advice session), PAS has demonstrated that legal advice and assistance can be provided effectively by suitably trained paralegals, as well as by fully qualified advocates.’
[Pg 6 Government of Uganda Criminal Justice Paralegal Advisory Services Strategy 2011/12 – 2015/16]

- **Legislative Advocacy**

Positive results have also been registered at the institutional and practice levels with a bearing on respect for human rights and democratic development. Among these is the establishment of the parliamentary committee on human rights, human rights desks in police stations, the adoption of new Sentencing Guidelines in capital cases as well as the adoption of The Anti- Torture Bill (2010).

- **The Right to Bail campaign**

The right to bail campaign has generated debate and public discussions. Figure 10 below lists the number of media articles on this issue.

Figure 10: Media articles on the Right to Bail: 2011

No.	Title of the Article	Source
1.	<i>Do not out law fundamental rights</i>	<i>Daily monitor 13th May 2011</i>
2.	<i>NRM moves to scrap Constitutional bail</i>	<i>Sunday monitor 15th May 2012</i>
3.	<i>Rights group decry new bail term</i>	<i>The new vision 16th May 2011</i>
4.	<i>Museveni names team to amend Constitution</i>	<i>The Observer 16th May 2011</i>
5.	<i>Taming riot does not need amending the Constitution</i>	<i>The new vision 19th May 2011</i>
6.	<i>Law body advises Government on bail</i>	<i>The new Vision 20th May 2011</i>
7.	<i>Why not just abolish the Constitution</i>	<i>The Observer 22nd May 2011</i>
8.	<i>Bail is a sacred national treasure of justice</i>	<i>Sunday Monitor 22nd May 2011</i>
9.	<i>Lawyers protest Museveni's proposal to scrap bail</i>	<i>Sunday Monitor 22nd May 2011</i>
10.	<i>Bail is a fundamental right</i>	<i>The new vision 23rd May 2011</i>
11.	<i>Let's just abolish the Constitution of Uganda</i>	<i>Daily Monitor 23rd may 2011</i>
12.	<i>Law should be rooted in righteousness and justice</i>	<i>Daily monitor 24th May 2011</i>
13.	<i>Mp's reject amending Constitution</i>	<i>Sunday Monitor 29th May 2011</i>
14.	<i>It would take referendum to scrap bail</i>	<i>The Observer 2nd -5th June 2011</i>
15.	<i>Bail is a constitutional right</i>	<i>The new vision 5th June 2011</i>
16.	<i>Rights Body says Bail should not be denied</i>	<i>Saturday monitor 11th June 2011</i>
17.	<i>Museveni draws fire against over bail vote</i>	<i>Daily monitor 14th July 2011</i>
18.	<i>Bail denial may mean suspending Constitution</i>	<i>The Observer 18th July 2011</i>
19.	<i>Museveni Insists on law against granting bail</i>	<i>Daily Monitor 21st July 2011</i>
20.	<i>Museveni wants Bail law passed</i>	<i>Daily Monitor 21st July 2011</i>
21.	<i>Human Rights cannot be subjected to vote</i>	<i>The Observer 28th July 2011</i>
22.	<i>What is the essence of the bail debate</i>	<i>The New vision 23d July 2011</i>
23.	<i>Bail law not bad</i>	<i>Daily monitor 25th July 2011</i>
24.	<i>Legal experts meet to draft anti-bail law</i>	<i>Daily Monitor 15th August 2011</i>
25.	<i>To deny bail is draconic to say the least</i>	<i>Sunday Monitor 18th September 2011</i>

Challenges

Despite the improvements in the functioning of the legal system in Uganda, there are still some serious challenges: case backlog, file congestion, lost files, corruption and perceived corruption, incomplete investigations, ignorance of the law, lack of information of court processes and continuous adjournments are still common problems.

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.

Under this effort, activities are designed 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 program areas has four key activity areas including:

- Capacity building for Local Government;
- Capacity building of community based organizations;
- Capacity building for the judiciary and;
- Leadership development for Human Rights Defenders.

Implementation

FHRI conducts capacity building courses for Local Government, community -based human rights associations, convenes organises annual judicial roundtables, organises human rights sessions for university human rights associations and hosts annual Inter-University human rights competitions.

Planned Activities

In 2011, the following activities were planned: Convene a one day end of project feedback meeting under the Local Government program, launch a project on good governance and democratic accountability at a one day partners consultative meeting, support 4 university human rights seminars and conduct at least 4 community outreach human rights sessions.



Delegates attending the launch of the DGAP program: Front Row (sitted) L-R : Mr Opedun Micheal, Kumi Human Rights Initiative, Mr Celestine Mugisha, OXFAM-NOVIB & CEWIT, Mr. Paul Otim, European Union, Ms Robinah Namusisi, Program Manager, PMU/DGAP, Mr Livingstone Sewanyana, FHRI, Ms Josephine Wasike, Under Secretary, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Mr Suleiman Senyonjo, Kalangala Human Rights Defenders, 7th October, 2011, Green Valley Hotel, Gaba

Output

a) **Capacity Building for Local Government.**

On 23rd March 2011, FHRI hosted ten (10) beneficiaries of the program; *'Enhancing Decentralised Governance in Uganda'* to an end of project evaluation meeting. The 15 months training program run from 2009 – 2011 targeting local government leaders in the four districts of Wakiso, Kamuli, Mbarara and Sembabule district. Local government representatives were introduced to participatory decision making in the formulation of policies and programs in the selected districts; documenting best practices in local governance and fostering strategic linkages between Parliament and Local Government for improved service delivery and oversight.

b) **Capacity building of Community Based Associations**

On 7th October 2011, FHRI launched a two year program under the 10th EDF support to Democratic Governance and Accountability Program titled; *'Promoting good governance and democratic accountability through human rights monitoring and reporting, legislative advocacy and leadership development of human rights defenders in Uganda.'*

Attended by 66 (sixty six) beneficiaries (45 male, 21 female) from community based associations in Gulu, Amuru, Soroti, Kamuli, Koboko, Tororo, Kasese, Masindi, Sembabule, Kumi, Kampala, Lira, Mbale, Soroti, Kayunga, Kotido and 9 university human rights associations, the program was launched at the Green Valley Hotel, Kampala by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Internal Affairs who was represented by Ms. Josephine Wasike, the Under Secretary in the Ministry. Also in attendance was Mr. Paul Otim from the European Union, Ms Robinah Namusisi, Program Manager, PMU (DGAP), Ms Everse Ruhindi, Deputy Program Manager, PMU (DGAP), Mr. Christopher Gumisiriza, Grants Officer, PMU (DGAP) and other grantees under the program.

The first four-day training course on human rights monitoring and reporting under the program was conducted for the Eastern region from 4th – 8th December 2011 at Pretoria Hotel, Mbale. Twenty five (25) (19 male, 6 female) community monitors participated. The monitors drawn from the districts of Mbale, Soroti, Tororo, Kamuli, Kumi, Moroto, Butaleja, Manafa, Malaba, and Nakapiripit.

This training course enlisted speakers from the Electoral Commission, the Uganda Police and Uganda Prisons Services. Panel discussions, case studies and role plays were used to help trainees improve on their analytical skills.

A Country Specific Pocket Guide on Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting was re-printed and made available to the trainees as a reference tool.

Efforts were also made to reach out to teachers given their precarious situation. The Executive Director, FHRI addressed the 2nd Ordinary Teachers Congress on 5th October 2011 of over 400 teachers on labour laws and labour rights at their headquarters in Mengo, Kampala. The Executive Director, FHRI also presided over the Kiboga National Teachers Day celebrations held in Bukomero on 21st October 2011 which was attended by 300 teachers.

During this period, the National Outreach Coordinator, FHRI delivered a guest lecture to the Rotary Club of Rubaga on the *'rights and duties of a citizen.'*

In a related development, staff of FHRI spoke at several human rights seminars organized by; Universal Human Rights Defenders in Lugazi and Hope for Children in Kasese district.

c) Leadership Development for Human Rights Defenders

- Strengthening the University human rights network

On 14th October 2011, Nkumba University Human Rights Association held a seminar on human rights and good governance. The seminar was held at Nkumba University Hall and was attended by two hundred fifty five (143 males , 112 females). The seminar was conducted by FHRI staff who explored the concept of human rights and democratic accountability.

Then on 19th October 2011, Kampala International University Human Rights Association and the KIU Law Society hosted their annual human rights day at Kampala International University. Two hundred thirty (230) students participated (75 female, 155 male). In attendance was the Principal Judge of Uganda, His Lordship, Justice Yorokamu Bamwine, the Patron of the KIU Law Society Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana and Ag. Dean Faculty of Law, Mr. Sewaya who addressed the students.

Kyambogo University Human Rights Association thereafter convened its annual human rights seminar on 21st October 2012. Three hundred thirty two (332) students attended (197 male, 135 female). The key note speaker was Mr. Asuman Basalirwa, party president, Justice Forum, who addressed the students on the current trends and democracy challenges in the country.

On 29th October 2011, the Islamic University Human Rights Association in Mbale conducted a human rights seminar in the University hall. The Chief Magistrate Grade II, His Worship Mukwasi Paul spoke on the role of the judiciary in promoting democratic accountability. 176 students; (41 female, 135 male) took part in the seminar.

Finally, a human rights seminar was convened by Nkozi University – Kampala Campus- Human Rights Association on 9th November 2011 at the University premises to discuss the concept of human rights and responsibilities. The seminar was attended by over 300 students (153 male, 147 female).



A cross section of participants who attended the training course Human Right Monitoring for Eastern region: 4th – 8th December 2011, Pretoria Hotel, Mbale



Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana addresses the 2nd Ordinary Teachers Congress on 5th October 2011, Mengo

Outcome

FHRI's two decade old capacity building program has been rated highly by the FHRI 2011 external evaluation mission.

'FHRI has supported the build-up of a significant and consistent mass of people who are aware of their rights and of the key issues pertaining to human rights and governance in Uganda. This has been done through continuous capacity building and training of individuals and communities, as well as faith- based organizations, civil society organizations, and academic institutions. The community based actors that have been reached are beginning to act as watch dogs at the grassroots level.' **[FHRI external evaluation: 2011]**.

The report affirms that as a result of this outreach and advocacy, appreciation of the importance of human rights is increasing and opinion towards human rights promotion and protection is being shaped positively among current and future policy and decision makers.

On the other hand, the University Human Rights Network has continued to grow. From thirteen (13) associations in 2009, the network now boasts of fifteen (15) with Cavendish University and Mutesa 1 Royal University as the new entrants. This expression of interest by other universities is a testimony to the important role played by the university human rights clubs.

'The schools outreach programme has had an impact in the Universities. For example, Nkumba University as one of the beneficiary organizations has recorded an increase in the number of students joining the students association for human rights development. Students in academic institutions have become more vigilant and display more consciousness about their civic rights and duties. However, it must be noted that the universities do teach human rights and thus the success rate cannot be solely attributed to FHRIs initiatives, but the presence of these students in the FHRI premises and library is a mark of involvement.' **[FHRI external evaluation: 2011]**

Challenges

The demand for training opportunities is overwhelming. FHRI has the challenge to upscale the capacity building and outreach program to more districts and different audiences in Uganda including the private and informal sector.

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 Center,
- Public Affairs Unit and
- The Documentation Unit.

Implementation

Within the framework of the Communication and Information Division, FHRI maintains an Information Centre that provides library, internet and secretarial support to staff and the Information Centre users; maintains the FHRI website www.fhri.or.ug and face book page, issues quarterly *e-newsletters*, participates in book exhibitions, conducts media briefings, issues press releases and oversees the publication and dissemination of the *Human Rights Defender magazine*, the *Annual report* and *Brochure*.

Planned Activities

The planned activities for 2011 were; issue 2 *e-newsletters*, conduct 2 book exhibitions, publish the *Human Rights Defender* magazine, publish the 2010 FHRI Annual Report; maintain FHRI website and face book page; provide Internet and library services to staff and users; organize media briefings; issue press releases and provide rapid response to human rights violations through Urgent Actions/ Appeals.

Output

a. *The Information Centre*

The Information Centre is a reading and reference facility which seeks to promote access to information internally, nationally and internationally.

In 2011, the Information Centre upgraded FHRI's website to a more interactive and informative site. It has links to relevant sites of development partners, national and international human rights groups, human rights defenders, media groups among others.

FHRI's face-book page is up and running and is used as an advocacy tool on key human rights issues. It has taken advantage of the *u-tube* facility to share audio visuals and other human rights information and documents archived. It links to relevant face-book pages like East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network Project, the UNHCR, the NED Africa Program, a number of international human rights groups and and useful media groups.

In 2011, the Information Centre provided library services to 144 users (52 female to 92male). These were mainly students from universities including Kampala International University, Makerere University, Uganda Martyrs University-Nkozi, and Nkumba University. The Centre also received and registered a total of one hundred twenty materials from civil society organizations and government

institutions. Purchase of legal reference materials contributed to the stock.

The Information Centre issued one (1) e-newsletter; *Volume 10: January – December 2011* which was widely circulated.

b. Public Affairs Unit

The Public Affairs Unit seeks to promote FHRI profile and create awareness of services rendered. The unit reaches out to the greater public to explain FHRI advocacy role.

On 6th December 2011, the Unit hosted a Press Launch at which The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (OMCT) and FIDH launched their Annual Report on the situation of human rights defenders in the world. The report titled: *Steadfast in Protest: Annual Report 2011* was launched by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders, Mrs. Margaret Sekaggya at a function held at the Human Rights House, Nsambya.

95 articles featuring FHRI activities, positions and views were covered in the print and electronic media. These covered diverse issues such as: the death penalty, labour rights, electoral democracy, civic education, political accountability, the right to bail, the Public Order Management Bill and the general human rights situation in Uganda.

On 8th July 2011, FHRI had the honor to host Prof Gordon Wavamuno Chairman, Wava Group of Companies/Spear Motors Limited to a Guest Lecture on; *'Working with the Private Sector in Uganda.'* Prof Wavamuno highlighted the prospect of FHRI working closely with the Private Sector in Uganda.

On 17th August 2011, an FHRI delegation paid a courtesy call on Mr. Matia Bwanika, the Wakiso District LCV Chairperson who they met at the Wakiso District Council headquarters in Wakiso. Mr Bwanika requested FHRI to explore the possibility of providing technical support to the district in setting up a district human rights committee.



Mrs. Margaret Sekaggya UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders launches the Annual Report 2011. Besides is Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana, Executive Director, FHRI on 6th December 2011, Human Rights House, Nsambya.



Staff members pose for a picture with Prof Gordon Wavamuno (centre) at the Human Rights House, Nsambya on 8th July 2011.



Mr. Matia Bwanika (standing in brown suite) with FHR staff at his office, Wakiso District Headquarters, 17th August 2011.



Mr. Sewanyana receives the FHRI 2010 Annual Reports from Wavah Group of Companies representative at the Human Rights House, Nsambya, 16th June 2011.

c. *The Documentation Unit*

The documentation Unit oversees the publication of the *Human Rights Defender, Annual Report* and *Brochure*.

In 2011, FHRI published one thousand seven hundred fifty (1,750) copies of the Annual Report 2010. One thousand (1000) copies of the report were generously printed through the support of Prof Gordon Wavamuno Chairman, Spear Motors Ltd. Copies of the report were distributed to development partners, government institutions, civil society organizations, media, universities, academia, FHRI membership and the general public.

Outcome

Thank you for the e-newsletter. It provides a good run down of the activities.

[Vincent Babalanda, UNHCR, 2011]

The Annual report is very beautiful and informative. The information is very well analyzed.

[Fred Mukasa: FHRI member: 2011]

FHRI always produces very good quality reports.

[Stella Ndirangu: ICJ- Kenya Chapter: 2011]

Dear FHRI, during a very informative visit in Uganda, I came across your very helpful leaflet and website.

[Jeremy Cunningham: UK:2010]

Hullo FHRI, I am a Ugandan Student at Linnaeus University, Sweden. I strongly believe you have a wealth of knowledge regarding civil societies in Uganda and I would like to share it.

[Noel Kansiime: Sweden: 2010]

The Information Center has become an important depository of information on human rights and democracy. Much as the stock has increased, the usage of the resource centre has also steadily grown.

The periodic assessment of the facility by its users has rated the Centre very highly. Majority of users acknowledge the importance and relevance of the facility. The increased acquisition of new and contemporary human rights material including the on-line resources has transformed the facility into a more relevant and responsive information and documentation centre well suited to the academic needs of students, researchers and government officials. The on-line resources provided by the Resource Centre including the internet facility, on-line data bases and audio and visual resources have positioned the Centre in a premier position within the sector as an important reference point.

The Information Centre has complemented and supported program implementation within FHRI through on-line resources like the provision of Internet and email facility and an updated Website and Face book page. The research capacities of FHRI staff continue to improve.

In 2011, FHRI sent out a total of over 5,000 emails in the form of emails, inquiries, compliments, reports, information and suggestions.

The FHRI Website and face book page which the Information Centre updates regularly has contributed to enhancing FHRI's visibility both nationally and internationally. Over 20,000 hits were recorded on the FHRI website in 2011 and 144 friends recorded who 'like' FHRI.

Suffice to note that in 2011, FHRI received 14 requests from researchers at graduate, post graduate and doctoral level to understudy FHRI as a human rights organization in Uganda.

FHRI also received a total of one hundred eleven (111) requests for internship and volunteer placement within FHRI. The organization was able to extend the opportunity to a total of twenty nine (29) interns from: the Canadian Bar Association, University of Dar-es salam, Osgood Hall Law School of York University, University of Alabama, University of Illinois, University of Limerick, Aixen University, Kingston University, Makerere University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Christian University, (Mukono), Kampala International University, Kampala University, Bugema University, Nkozi University, Law Development Centre and Ndejje University.

Challenges

Much more needs to be done to exploit the advantage of ICT in every aspect involving This programming, information management and dissemination within FHRI.

V. PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Objective

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

The Program Development Division has four major activity areas:

- Periodic review of the Strategic Plan.
- Alliance Building.
- Fundraising.
- Program reporting.

Implementation

Under the Program Development Division, FHRI develops Annual Work Plans; organizes quarterly program meetings and Board of Directors' meetings; Annual General Meetings (AGMs); end of year staff/Board retreat and Annual Donor Reviews. The Division also coordinates fundraising, release of periodic reports and organizes joint campaigns with similar organizations.

Planned Activities

The planned activities in 2011 were: Update the 2011 annual Work-Plan and Year Planner; organize three program review meetings, convene three Board of Directors' meetings, host one Annual General Meeting, hold one Board-Staff retreat, undertake fundraising and coordinate release of periodic reports.



Ms. Maureen Nahwera, Programme Officer-SIDA speaking at the FHRI Strategic Planning Session, 2011, 29th June 2011, at Rwizi Arch Hotel-Kansanga

Output

In 2011, FHRI held three program review meetings and three Board of Directors' meetings to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan (2009-2011). During these meetings, the Board of Directors adopted the Annual Work-plan and Year planner 2011.

Two Strategic planning sessions and a validation meeting for staff and the Board of Directors were held from 15 – 17 June 2011, 29th June – 1st July 2011 and 10th November 2011.

FHRI held the 15th Annual General Meeting on 6th August 2011 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya. During the Annual General Meeting (AGM), members deliberated on the challenges and future of the organization. The AGM was attended by two hundred fifty three (253) members and staff (161 male, 92 female). Members adopted reports of the Chair person of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director as well as the Audited financial Reports.

Finally, a Staff/Board retreat was held from 14th-16th December 2011 at Rwizi Arch Hotel. The Staff and Board of Directors took stock of the achievements during the year and set targets for 2012.

VI. SPECIAL PROJECTS

CITIZENS COALITION FOR ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY IN UGANDA (CCEDU)



Commissioner Justine Mugambi of the Uganda Electoral Commission launches the Electoral Reform Handbook on 7th December 2011 at Imperial Royale Hotel-Kampala

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 through mobilizing citizens to partake in civic education, advocate for electoral reform and engage in election monitoring.

Implementation

CCEDU was launched on 19th August, 2009 by the then Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Edward Kiwanuka Sekandi. At its inception CCEDU signed up 487 civil society groups. To date CCEDU has membership of 780 civil society organizations and over 10,000 individual members.

CCEDU has three governing bodies: CCEDU Membership Platform, the Advisory Board and Executive Committee. The Advisory Board comprises of 12 configurations elected by the CCEDU membership including: elderly, workers, farmers, faith based networks, media, Development workers, Student/youth, Persons With Disabilities, private sector, women, human rights and Persons Living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda. The CCEDU Executive committee whose duty is to oversee policy implementation of the project has a membership of 90 civil society groups.

Planned activities

In 2011, CCEDU's planned activities were to:

- Conduct a multi-media messaging campaign in the run up to the 2011 General elections.
- Convene five (5) Face the Citizens Debates.
- Launch regional road shows on the electoral process.
- Convene one (1) CCEDU members' review meeting.
- Launch the CCEDU Electoral Reform Handbook.

In 2011, CCEDU supported the multi- media messaging campaign in the run up to the 2011 General Elections. During the campaign, citizens were mobilized to participate in the General elections slated for February 2011.

The campaign includes Face the Citizens Debates which were concluded when CCEDU hosted a total of five such debates in the five regions of Uganda. Two Presidential candidates were hosted during these debates including Dr. Kizza Besigye of Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) and Mr Norbert Mao of Democratic Party (DP) on 10th January 2011. Over 100 Ugandans participated in each of these debates. All the debates were recorded and aired on five television stations namely, UBC, NTV, WBS, NBS and BTN.

Country wide road shows were launched between 11th and 28th January, 2011 in Jinja town. This was an opportunity to bolster people's confidence in the electoral process and encourage participation in the process. CCEDU traversed eleven major towns across the country including: Jinja, Iganga, Mbale, Soroti, Lira, Gulu, Arua, Hoima, Fort portal, Mbarara, and Masaka. Each road show attracted over 1,500 people. At each stop-point, CCEDU members addressed the crowds on the importance of voting.

On 7th April 2011, CCEDU hosted a Membership Platform to review the campaign. The CCEDU members rated the 2011 multi-media messaging campaign highly and endorsed three four key strategic actions that CCEDU should be focusing on in the next 3 years or so. These include: civic education; electoral reform and political accountability.

Relatedly, on 1st November 2011, the 'Honor Your Vote' campaign was rated in an independent poll among the best, widely known and innovative initiatives supported by Deepening Democracy Program (DDP). This independent evaluation was undertaken by Wilskens Agency, contracted by the Deepening Democracy Program of DANIDA which provided financial support to CCEDU.

On 7th December 2011, the CCEDU Electoral Reform Agenda was launched at Imperial Royale Hotel. *'The Citizens Electoral Reform Handbook'* was officially launched by Commissioner Justine Mugabi of the Uganda Electoral Commission with 300 guests in attendance. Then on 1st November, 2011 CCEDU embarked on a countrywide media campaign to popularise and publicise the electoral reform proposals.

Outcome

CCEDU efforts in the area of electoral democracy have been acknowledged by the Uganda Electoral Commission and other stakeholders as a constructive platform that has through its campaigns, promoted civic participation in the electoral process.

Out of the eight (8) electoral reform proposals mooted by the Citizens Coalition for Electoral

Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), proposal No. 1 calling for the restoration of two, five year term limits for the tenure of office of the president gained sympathy within the religious, academic and political circles.

Challenges

Given that the 2016 General elections are not too far, CCEDU has the challenge of intensifying the civic education and electoral reform program to ensure a fairer electoral process.

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: the 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. Trial observation in the International Crimes Division of the High Court .
2. Stakeholders' Meeting on the National Transitional Justice Policy.

Output

i. Trial Observation in the International Criminal Division of the High Court (ICD).

In 2011, FHRI observed the trial of Col. Thomas Kwoyelo of the Lord's Resistance Army in the ICD. A summary of the proceedings including challenges and gaps arising out of this trial process have been documented in the thematic report on the right to a fair hearing in Uganda (June 2011 – June 2012).

ii. Stakeholders Meeting on the National Transitional Justice Policy

The Stakeholders meeting was postponed to 2012 to allow for national processes to evolve on the Transitional Justice Policy.

3. PRO - POOR INTEGRITY PROGRAMME (PPI)

Objective

The 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. The four target districts are: Bushenyi, Sembabule, Tororo and Iganga.

Planned Activities

Program activities we to:

- Develop a Monitoring Integrity Tool.
- Participate in the Pro -Poor Integrity (PPI) district dialogues.
- Monitor the quality of service delivery in Local Council Courts.

Outputs

i. **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 monitors and stakeholders in the four districts.

ii. **Participate in the PPI district dialogues.**

Community monitors under the project participated in the district meetings organized by the Uganda Debt Network in the districts of Kamuli on 2nd March 2011, Iganga on 3rd March 2011, Tororo on 4th March 2011 and Bushenyi on 10th March 2011.

iii. **Monitoring quality of service delivery in Local Council Courts.**

25 community monitors undertook to monitor the quality of service delivery in local council courts in the 4 districts. They interrogated and monitored aspects of independence and impartiality, equality and non -discrimination, court processes, ethical conduct of judicial officers and application of rules of natural justice.

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

FHRI is a focal point for eastern Africa for the NGO coalition for an effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

In this respect capacity FHRI attended a sensitization seminar organized by the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in collaboration with the Government of Uganda and the Uganda Law Society on 19th August 2010 at Protea Hotel, Kampala.

The main objective of the seminar was to raise awareness of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights among government officials, civil society and other organizations in Uganda. FHRI raised concern about the poor funding of the court and the need for states to make adequate consultations with stakeholders during the process of nominations of judges to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. FHRI extended its appreciation to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights for working with NGOs and more specifically with the Coalition for an effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Relatedly, FHRI participated in the three day meeting organised by the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights in Malawi. Held in Capital Hill Hotel from 9th – 11 March 2011, the meeting sought to promote and popularise the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights as an important tool for the protection of human rights on the continent. The meeting which was attended by the Judges of the African Court provided space for civil society and national human rights institutions to interface with the Court and to understudy the Court’s mandate, its relationship with the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights and other regional human rights bodies.

Lastly, FHRI attended the General Assembly of the NGO Coalition on the African Court from 19th -22nd October 2011 held in Mombasa, Kenya. FHRI was re-elected as focal point for Eastern Africa at this event.

5. THE WESTMINSTER CONSORTIUM (TWC)

The Westminster Consortium is a multi-regional initiative supported by DFID to strengthen the work of Parliaments in selected countries in Africa Europe and Asia. The program is being implemented in Uganda, Mozambique, Georgia, Ukraine and Lebanon and works through partnerships with Civil Society Organizations.

In Uganda, FHRI is a partner in the area of democracy, respect for human rights and rule of law. As one of the local partners under the Consortium, FHRI conducted a training for Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff from 16th – 18th March 2011. Thirty (30) parliamentarians and members of staff attended the training at Jinja Nile Resort which was co-facilitated by the International Bar Association (UK).

Then, on 30th March 2011, FHRI attended the launch of the *Human Rights Handbook for Parliamentarians and Staff* in London, UK. FHRI contributed to the handbook within the TWC framework.

6. EAST AFRICA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) together with the East Africa Civil Society Organisations Forum (EACSOFF) based in Arusha, Tanzania and the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) with the support of the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD, UK) convened a one day roundtable under the theme: ‘*Strengthening the implementation of human rights standards in the EAC region: the role of the East African Legislative Assembly*’ on 27th May 2011 at the East Africa All Suites Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania.

Delegates to the roundtable were exposed to the different topics of handbook on ‘*Parliaments and Human Rights*’, within EALA and the wider East African Community.

The meeting was attended by thirty seven (37) participants including: Members of Parliament from EALA, members of the EAC Secretariat, the EACJ, civil society groups from the region and the media. The participants were addressed by the EAC Secretary General, H.E Ambassador Dr. Richard Sezibera, the Hon Speaker of EALA and the Rt. Hon. Abdirahin H. Abdi.

7. AFRICA DEMOCRACY FORUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY: 22ND – 23RD SEPTEMBER 2011

The 5th General Assembly of the Africa Democracy Forum was held in Kampala, Uganda from 22nd – 23rd September 2011 at the Common Wealth Speke Resort Munyonyo. It was jointly hosted by FHRI, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network Project and the Uganda National NGO Forum. The Assembly was attended by fifty five (55) participants (27 male, 29 female) from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Somaliland, Cameroon, DRC, South Sudan, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Malawi, South Africa, Zimbabwe and the USA.

The Assembly assessed the progress registered in African Countries in as far as ratification and implementation of the African Charter on Democracy and Good Governance is concerned.

Delegates to the Assembly also paid a courtesy call on the Attorney General of the Republic of Uganda, Hon. Peter Nyombi on 23rd September 2011 with whom they discussed the emerging challenges to democratic development on the African Continent.



Delegates to the 5th General Assembly of the African Democracy Forum: 22nd-23rd ept. 2011, Speke Resort Munyonyo

VII. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

Objective

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

Implementation

Like in previous years, FHRI continues to work closely 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; country visits; internships and volunteer placements and; participation in regional and international treaty institutions like the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the UN Human Rights Council and the African Union.

Output

- **FHRI Executive Director's visit to Paris- France**

From 27th November – 3rd December 2011, FHRI represented by the Executive Director, Mr Livingstone Sewanyana visited Paris, France. The visit was organized by the “**Direction De La Prospective**” of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs through the Embassy of France in Kampala.

The visiting program was created 22 years ago following a resolution of the French National Assembly. Leading personalities (diplomats, public service, private sector, and most recently civil society) are invited to meet their counterparts in France and share perspectives on the future. In the last 12 years of the program Mr Sewanyana was the third personality from Uganda to be invited to participate in this program.

During this visit, discussions were centered on the French system (*French history, how it responds to varying viewpoints, how the French system deals with issues such as the death penalty, prisoners' rights, justice system, human rights, etc*).

Over twelve (12) meetings were held during the week long program. Among leading personalities met include: diplomats, researchers, prison administration, defender of rights, human rights NGOs and Ministry of Justice officials from a number of institutions including: Department of Foreign Affairs/ Human Rights Cooperation; National Centre for Scientific Research (**CNRS**), Observatoire International Des Prisons (OIP), Ecole Nationale D'administration, National Institute of Security and Justice, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Paris School of International Affairs, Institute of Political Science, Le Systeme' Judiciaire Francais, World Coalition Against The Death Penalty/ECPM, Federation of International Human Rights Defenders (FIDH), Robert Badinter - Ancien Ministre, Directorate of Penitentiary Administration in the Ministry of Justice and the Human Rights Watch-France.

The one week visit to France exposed FHRI Executive Director to workings of French institutions and how they shaped French human rights policy, practice and civic values.

- **Membership to Networks**

FHRI is a member of ten (10) networks/coalitions including: East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network, 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), Uganda Land Alliance (ULA), the Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), the NGO Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (CEAC), World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), the East African Coalition Against the Death penalty (EACADP). The organization is affiliated to the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).

In 2011, FHRI played critical roles within some of these networks as shown in figure 12 below:

Figure 11: FHRI roles in Networks/Coalitions: 2011

Network/Umbrella	Position
<i>Citizen's Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU)</i>	<i>Chairperson, Executive Committee,</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>

In 2011, FHRI participated in a number of events organized by partners, civil society actors and government institutions. Key issues covered during these meetings include: *progress in the implementation of APRM National Program of Action, management and prevention of violence against women in politics in Uganda, campaign for an East African Protocol on Gender Equality, training judicial officers and the Electoral Commission on how to handle Election Petitions in Courts of Law of Uganda, the draft Mental Health Bill, consultations on sentencing guidelines and developing statistical governance indicators in Uganda.*

Some of the meetings attended in 2011 include:

- 147th International Senior Seminar on the UN Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders: *13th January – 10th February 2011, Tokyo, Japan*
- Seminar on the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights: *9th -11th March 2011, Lilongwe Malawi.*
- ICNL Global Forum on Civil Society Law, *21st -23rd August 2011, Stockholm, Sweden.*
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) workshop organized by the International Commission of Jurists, Kenya; *4th October 2011, Kampala, Uganda*
- Conference on the Abolition of the Death Penalty hosted by the Government of Rwanda: *13th -14th October 2011, Kigali, Rwanda.*
- National Validation workshop on the 2nd Annual Meeting of the APRM Governing Council: *20th January 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Workshop on Rights of Minorities by Global Rights: *20th January 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- UICC Sharing Forum: *21st January 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*

- 2nd Annual Lien Uganda stakeholders' meeting organized by LIEN DENISEN : 27th January 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- Strengthening Access to Justice in East Africa (SAJEA) National Working Group meeting convened by Uganda Law Society: 28th January 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- Consultative workshop on preventing violence against women in politics in Uganda organized by the African Democracy Institute IDASA: 14th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda
- Civil Society validation meeting: An African Parliamentary Index: 4th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- Media-Police dialogue organized by HURINET-U : 8th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- National Validation Workshop organized by Transparency International Uganda: 8th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- A one day stakeholders meeting on promotion of peaceful and fair elections organized by the Uganda Human Rights Commission: 14th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- PPI Public Dialogue Forum: 17th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- Reflection meeting on Uganda NGOs and Citizens State Contraction: 28th February 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- A consultative meeting on the Universal Periodic Review organized by the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC): 2nd March 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- A disability fund grantee covering a special session organized by the National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda and Disability Rights Fund: 2nd March 2011, Kampala, Uganda
- A one day conference to promote ECOSOC Rights organized by the Uganda Human Rights Commission: 7th March 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- JLOS Strategic Plan-SIP III Consultative forum: 31st March 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- The NGO Direction Forum organized by the NGO Forum: 11th April 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- A post election round table organized by the African Center for Media Excellence: 11th April 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- Round table discussion on Sexual and Gender Based Violence/Persecution (SGBV/P): 20th April 2011, Kampala, Uganda.
- A Strategic National Planning meeting organized by National Association of Women Organizations in Uganda (NAWOU): 21st April 2011, Kampala, Uganda.

- KIOS Partner Regional Conference organized by National Association of Women Organizations in Uganda (NAWOU): *21st April 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Public Dialogue on World Press Freedom Day organized by UNOHR: *29th April 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- The Uganda Law Society Pre-AGM meeting organized by the Uganda Law Society: *5th May 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- National Elders' Forum meeting organized by the Inter Religious Council of Uganda: *21st May 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A workshop on sensitization of rights of PWDs for Human Rights Organizations and Legal Aid Service Providers organized by National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU): *6th May 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A breakfast meeting and launch of election report organized by Human Rights Network Uganda: *10th May 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Training on incorporating the Human Rights Based Approach in the work of the member organizations, organized by Human Rights Network Uganda: *11th May 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A Community Based Association (CBA) technical assistance workshop: *21st June 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A public dialogue on The Prevention of Torture Bill organized by the Uganda Human Rights Commission: *6th July 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Ethics of the Attorney workshop organized by the Uganda Law Society (ULS): *12th August 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A Civil Society Organization dialogue on the Alternative Media Bill organized by the African Center for Media Excellency: *15th August 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS), Criminal Justice Working Group meeting: *6th September 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Strengthening Access to Justice in East Africa (SAJEA) Criminal Working Group meeting organized by the Uganda Law Society (ULS): *7th September 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A dissemination workshop of the dossier on corruption organized by the Uganda Debt Network (UDN): *8th September 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- The Civil Society Constitutional Reform meeting organized by the Advocate Coalition on Development and Environment (ACODE): *23rd September 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Kyambogo University Human Rights Association (KYUHRA) workshop on Human Rights: *3rd October 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Consultative meeting on the draft Mental Health Bill 2010 organized by the Uganda Human Rights Commission: *19th October 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*

- A training Workshop on Civil Society Organization engagement with Government policy and processes organized by Center for Justice Studies and Innovations: *20th October 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- The Social Accountability Workshop organized by the NGO Forum: *4th November 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A Policy Advocacy meeting organized by National Association of Women Organizations in Uganda (NAWOU): *9th November 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A validation workshop on Sentencing Guidelines organized by the Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC): *9th November 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A National workshop on income security for older persons organized by Help Age International: *18th November 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A validation workshop on the EU Model law organized by the African Union: *21st November 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Stakeholders' consultative meeting with the Uganda Human Rights Commission: *23rd November 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Stakeholders breakfast meeting organized by the Anti Corruption Coalition of Uganda: *2nd December 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- The 5th steering committee meeting of Democratic Governance and Accountability Program: *2nd December 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A national evaluation workshop of the 2011 general election organized by the Electoral Commission: *6th December 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Workshop in celebration of International Human Rights Day under the theme "*Claiming Spaces: Tactical Tools for Human Rights Defenders*": *5th -9th December 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*
- A National Legal Aid Policy Task Force retreat organized by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs: *14th December 2011, Kampala, Uganda.*

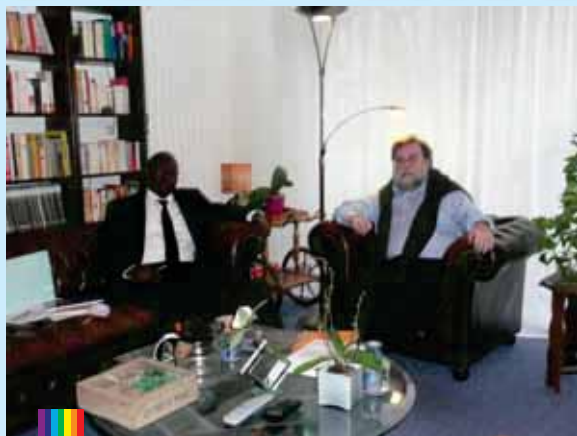
Outcome

The networking undertaken as stated above at the national, sub-regional and international levels affords FHRI an opportunity to contribute to the global, regional and national human rights agenda; share contextual information on different human rights situations and best practices and initiate new partnerships.

Challenge

The increased demand for FHRI's involvement in many initiatives calls for a careful cost-benefit analysis and value addition to ensure unanimity in a common agenda or goal.

PARIS VISIT PICTORIAL



Livingstone hosted by M. Pierre Victor TOURNIER



Livingstone meets Isabelle Combarnous AFRICA/ Middle-East Desk Officer, Department of International Relations



Livingstone with Christian Lecherv, Directeur, Direction De La Prospective



Livingstone with Hon. Robert Badinter, Former Minister of Justice, France.



'Lunching' with the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty/ECPM



Livingstone visiting FIDH

Section

3

Organisational Development

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Objective

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

1. Staff Development

The 2011, on -job training for staff was encouraged. A number of staff enrolled for Masters Programs while the Executive Director continued to pursue his PhD program in Public Law at the University of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa.

2. Governing Bodies

FHRI is a membership organization with an organizational structure that comprises the General Assembly, Board of 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 on the other hand 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 and initiatives, Annual reports; and Audit reports. The Board of Directors meets four times a year to appraise staff, discuss and approve activity reports, budgets and programme work plans.

FHRI held its 15th Annual General Meeting on 6th August 2011 at the Human Rights House, Nsambya. The meeting was attended by two hundred fifty three (253) members and staff (161 men, 92 women). Members adopted reports of the Chair person of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director as well as the Audited financial Reports 2010.

By end of 2011 FHRI membership had grown to 638 members up from 357 in 2010.

TRUSTEES

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

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2009- 2012)



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, Njeru*



Mr. James Kizito-Mayanja

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
Programme Officer CEW-IT



Mr. Joseph Nkandu

Member
*Executive Director, National
Union of Coffee Agriculture
Business and Farmers
Enterprises (NUCAF)*



Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana

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

Staffing

In 2011, FHRI depended on a reliable, effective and resourceful human resource to implement its programs. The strong and responsible team comprised of professional and support staff.

FHRI had a staff of 66 including: 25 programme staff, 14 administrative staff and 26 student interns. The Secretariat held three programme meetings to reflect on the progress of the programme, the relevance of the programme and two planning meetings to develop the 7th strategic plan (2012 – 2016).

Below is the list of staff that served FHRI during 2011:



**Mr. Livingstone
Sewanyana**
Executive Director



Sheila Muwanga
*Deputy Director
Programs*



Elizabeth Nantamu
*Deputy Director
Administration*



**Elinor Wanyama
Chemonges**
*National Coordinator
Paralegal Advisory
Services Project*



Rose Kamuli Mwesigwa
Finance Manager



**Alice Nassaka
Lakwonyero**
*Manager – Capacity
Development Division*



**Doreen Namyalo
Kyazze**
*Manager - Right to Life
Project*



**Josephine Kankunda
Mulondo**
*Senior Researcher
Research Division*



Bernadette Katongole
*Deputy Manager
Programmes
Development Division*



Barbara Kitui
*Legal Officer - Paralegal
Advisory Services Project*



Lydia Namazzi
*Legal Officer
Legal Aid Unit*



George Musisi
Legal Assistant
Legal Aid Unit



Salome Nagadya Khauka
Legal Assistant
Legal Aid Unit



Rashid Bunya
Legal Intern - Research
Division



Penny Mbabazi Atuhairwe
Associate Researcher



Patrick Lugunga
Accounts Officer, Finance
Division



Milly Nakakande
Executive Officer



Isabella Bwiire
Executive Assistant



Faith Mutumba
Administrative Assistant -
Paralegal Advisory Services,
Project



Edmond Nkalubo
National Outreach
Coordinator



Denis Angeri Okello
Projects Assistant
Programme Development
Division



Faridah Naluyange Lule
Public Affairs Assistant



Daniel Ntambi
Marketing Officer



Gladys Mirembe
Administration Intern



Veronica L.M. Tayo
Legal Intern - Research
Division



Edrine Katushabe
Legal Intern
Research Division



Connie Samantha Numbi
Project Assistant



Olivia Barbara Nanseko
Legal Intern - Legal
Services Division



Hannah Taremwa
Project Intern
Communication and
Information Division



Josephine Namukasa
Legal Intern - Paralegal
Advisory Services Project



Isaac Ssekuuma
Communication Intern
Communication and
Information Division



Elizabeth Nakato
Front Desk Officer



Stephen Sebaana Segulanyi
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 Guard/ Cleaner

CCEDU STAFF



Crispy Kaheru
Project Coordinator



Sammy Gwada Ogot
Project Communications
Manager



Rhona Adong
Project Assistant

Interns

Name	Institution
Ritah Nankinga	Makerere University, Uganda
Doris Mpoza	Makerere University, Uganda
Jacqueline Kizito	Makerere University, Uganda
Yvonne Atwine	Makerere University, Uganda
Anita Nyangweso	Makerere University, Uganda
Frank Tamale	Makerere University Business School, Uganda
Kate Namukwaya	Makerere University Business School, Uganda
Vivian Kukunda	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Benjamin Wangi	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Ivan Gwayambadde	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Gloria Kabazairwe	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Amosi Ngabiirwe	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Patrick Turinawe	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Brenda Namazzi	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Paul Womakuyu	Uganda Christian University, Uganda
Veronica L.M. Tayo	Kampala International University, Uganda
Racheal Kobusinge	Kampala International University, Uganda
Nanfuka Hanifa Kasule	Kampala International University, Uganda
Edrine Katushabe	University of Dar e Salaam, Tanzania
Jon O'Kane	Osgoode Hall Law School, Canada
Lydia Guo	Osgoode Hall Law School, Canada
Ainslie Paige	Canadian Bar Association, Canada
Meredith Wolfe	University of Alabama School of Law, USA
Rachel Ryan	University of Limerick, Ireland
Benoit Bargeas	Aix Province, France
Burger Grace	School for International Training in Europe

Office administration

Like in the previous years, FHRI continued to meet the wage and salary bill as well as utility bills on a regular basis. Regular maintenance of assets was under taken. The rising inflation however posed as a serious challenge to program implementation as commodity prices were less affordable.

As an established practice, FHRI commissioned Carr Stanyer Sims & Co. to carry out an External Audit of the 2010 organizational accounts. The 2010 Audit Report and the 2010 FHRI's Annual Report were approved and adopted by the membership during the Annual General meeting was held on 6th August 2011.

Investments

Office acquisitions included: One laptop computer. The organisation duly insured, serviced and repaired its equipment including vehicles, photocopiers, generator, furniture, computers and their accessories.

Section

4

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: carrstang@carrstanyersims.com

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 2011 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



30 APR 2012

Kampala, Uganda

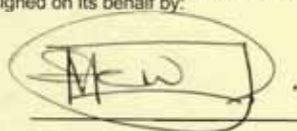
FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (FHRI)

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

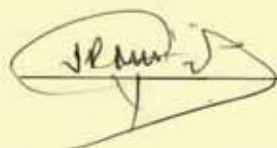
Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2011

	Note	2011 Ushs.	2010 Ushs.
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	3	232,756,258	301,287,020
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at Bank	4.1	520,522,064	234,285,150
TOTAL ASSETS		753,278,322	535,572,170
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
CAPITAL FUND	5	232,756,258	301,287,020
RESTRICTED FUNDS	6	346,332,841	50,414,944
		579,089,099	351,701,964
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and accruals	7	174,156,468	179,737,753
Overdraft	4.2	32,755	4,132,453
		174,189,223	183,870,206
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		753,278,322	535,572,170

These financial statements were approved by the Board on ...20.1.2012... 2012
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 2011

	Note	2011 Actual Ushs.	2011 Budget Ushs.	2010 Actual Ushs.
INCOME				
Grants Income	8	2,268,766,302	2,357,911,365	1,504,283,620
Other Grants	9	65,648,096	64,391,982	122,568,133
Bank Interest		-	-	45,824
TOTAL INCOME		2,334,414,398	2,422,303,347	1,626,897,587
Less: Capital Expenditure		(3,250,000)	(3,255,000)	(67,871,535)
Balance available for recurrent expenditure		2,331,164,398	2,419,048,347	1,559,026,052
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE				
PROGRAMMES				
RESEARCH				
Research and Documentation of Human Rights Violations		64,313,761	65,582,800	66,031,506
Lower level Platform		28,035,000	42,359,500	-
Sub-total Research		92,348,761	107,942,300	66,031,506
LEGAL SERVICES				
Access to Justice for Socially Deprived Women and Children		-	-	70,958,415
Legal Aid		29,995,913	33,624,000	-
Representation of Death Row Inmates		242,582,896	269,508,412	173,633,526
Public Interest Litigation / Legislative Advocacy		66,492,077	78,239,630	70,373,005
Sub-total Legal Services		341,070,986	381,372,042	314,964,947
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT				
Capacity Building for Local Government		33,672,834	46,605,450	93,359,535
Strengthening Grass root Associations		80,409,211	80,858,090	141,804,213
Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting Courses		191,573,550	504,114,667	339,166,524
Leadership Development for Human Rights Defenders		2,146,720	2,500,000	87,595,355
Sub-total Capacity Development		307,802,315	634,278,207	661,925,628
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION				
Information Centre		13,821,840	15,000,000	5,221,825
Documentation Unit		83,166,456	87,850,000	25,278,598
Public Affairs Unit		28,891,560	37,000,000	36,359,174
Sub-total Communication and Information		125,879,856	139,850,000	66,859,597
PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT				
Periodic Review and Alliance Building		66,671,077	77,450,000	106,672,656
Fundraising and reporting		35,862,500	39,500,000	4,397,420
Making Integrity work -TIRI		35,586,451	36,778,400	174,865,288
Sub-total Programme Development		138,120,028	153,728,400	285,935,364
STAFF DEVELOPMENT				
Staff Training and Development		28,983,761	30,300,000	26,190,676
Sub-total Staff Development		28,983,761	30,300,000	26,190,676

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 2011

	2011 Actual Ushs.	2011 Budget Ushs.	2010 Actual Ushs.
EXPENDITURE (Continued)			
SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Uganda Reach the Aged Association (URAA)	-	-	18,460,000
African Court NGO Coalition	4,706,000	3,996,000	-
Africa Democracy Forum (General Assembly)	209,264,791	215,923,324	-
Safer World (Voter education photo exhibition)	3,902,915	4,000,000	-
NGO Forum (Africa Democracy Forum General Assembly)	14,000,000	14,000,000	-
ICJK (EAICJ)	7,776,850	15,822,562	38,668,152
MISR	-	-	23,754,559
WFD Consultancy	24,177,500	-	10,082,453
WFD Consortium	64,777,666	82,506,812	-
Sub-total – Special Projects	328,606,022	336,248,698	90,965,694
Total Programme Expenditure	1,362,811,729	1,783,719,647	1,512,373,982
ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
Staff salaries, benefits and taxes	427,805,940	440,518,400	357,772,103
Office administration	26,711,991	27,090,982	17,402,613
Communication and postage	13,437,744	14,952,000	6,207,312
Space and Utilities	32,554,591	31,981,518	10,912,168
Office supplies and stationery	7,297,900	7,354,700	3,972,000
Governing bodies	9,919,475	10,000,000	6,793,400
Transport and fuel	45,484,500	47,600,000	9,491,100
Audit	14,750,000	15,000,000	21,902,890
Furniture and equipment maintenance	26,530,060	26,331,000	16,129,478
Insurance	14,197,266	14,500,000	17,406,273
Bank charges	9,065,371	-	8,973,946
Total Organisational Development	627,754,838	635,328,700	476,963,283
Total Recurrent Expenditure	1,990,566,567	2,419,048,347	1,989,337,265
Surplus / (Deficit) before exchange gain	340,597,831	-	(430,311,213)
Exchange gain / (loss)	(44,679,934)	-	106,483,039
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	295,917,897	-	(323,828,154)
Balance at 1 January	50,414,944	-	527,535,846
Prior year adjustment	-	-	(153,292,748)
BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER	346,332,841	-	50,414,944
Represented by:			
Bank balances	520,522,064	-	234,285,150
Bank overdraft	(32,755)	-	(4,132,453)
Creditors	(174,156,468)	-	(179,737,753)
	346,332,841	-	50,414,944

CONCLUSION

'2011 marked 20 years since FHRI set out to change the human rights landscape of Uganda through its interventions. While it has faced several challenges in its eventful journey, FHRI is one of the leading home-grown human rights institutions in the region. It has implemented 6 strategic plans with a great measure of success'[Evaluation of the FHRI, final report, November 2011]

For the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI), 2011 was not an ordinary year. In 2011 FHRI marked two rewarding decades of human rights activism in Uganda. Looking back, despite the challenges, the signs of progress are visible. The changes at the policy, practice and institutional level bear testimony to this.

As we look forward to the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan (2012-2016), a new chapter opens. Determination, dedication and openness will surely drive us to new heights.

We shall count on you: our partners, friends and peers to move forward.

“TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM IN UGANDA: (1991- 2011)

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 organization.

Vision

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

Mission

To enhance respect and observance of human rights practices and civic values, promote best practices through training, education, research, advocacy, ICTs, and strategic partnerships.

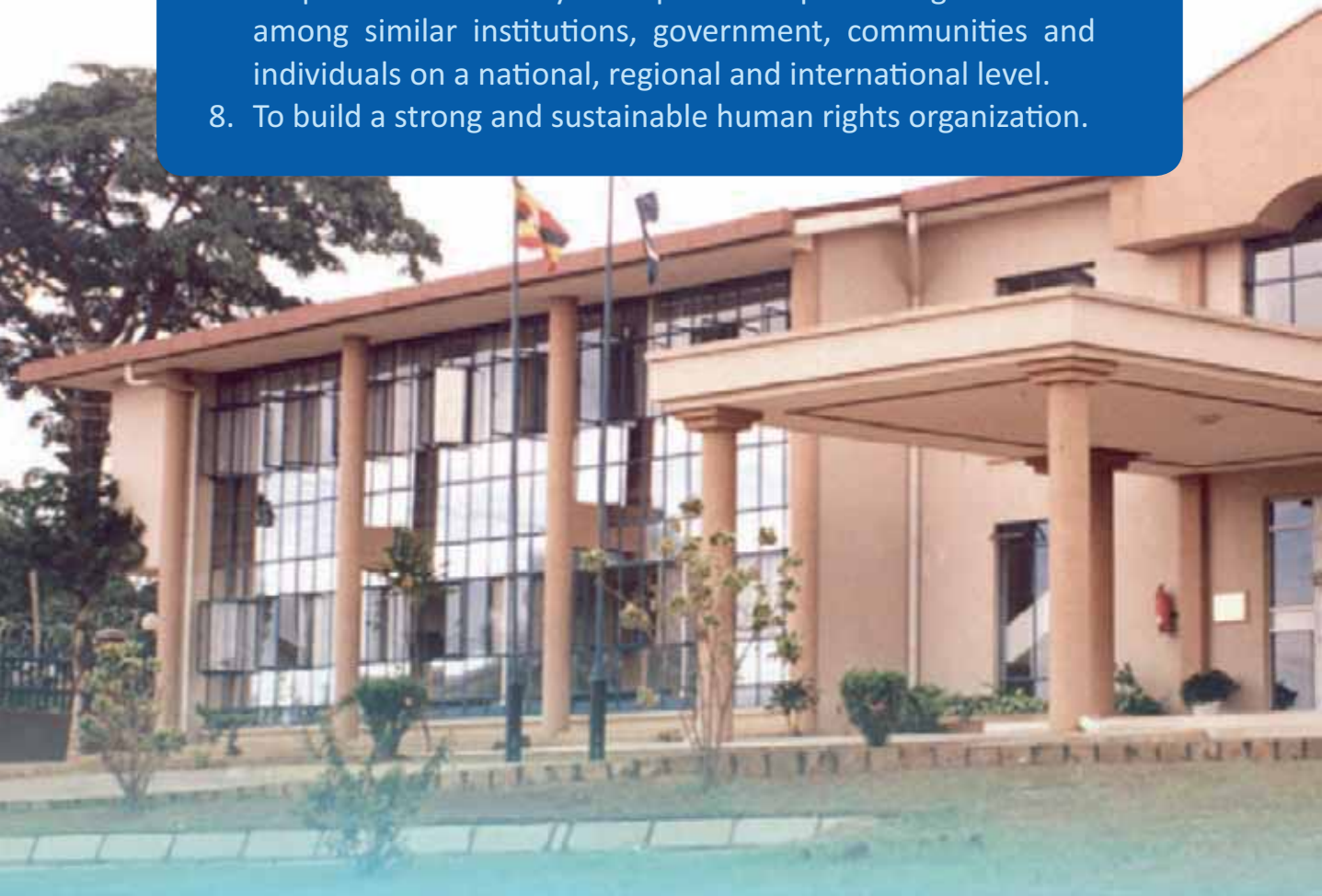
Mandate

- To promote respect for human rights and civic values.
- To empower citizens with human rights knowledge and skills to demand and defend their rights.
- To advocate for a human rights-friendly policy and legislative framework that can foster respect for human dignity.

ABOUT FHRI

Objectives

1. To promote citizen awareness of basic human rights and duties guaranteed in the Ugandan Constitution and international human rights instruments.
2. To undertake research, monitoring and documentation of human rights practices.
3. To promote good governance, respect for the rule of law, democracy and legal protection of human rights.
4. To promote best practices in the administration of justice in Uganda.
5. To enhance the capacity of democratic structures with knowledge on legal rights, procedures, remedies and civic obligations.
6. To promote access to justice through public interest litigation and legal aid services.
7. To promote solidarity and partnership building with and among similar institutions, government, communities and individuals on a national, regional and international level.
8. To build a strong and sustainable human rights organization.



ABOUT FHRI

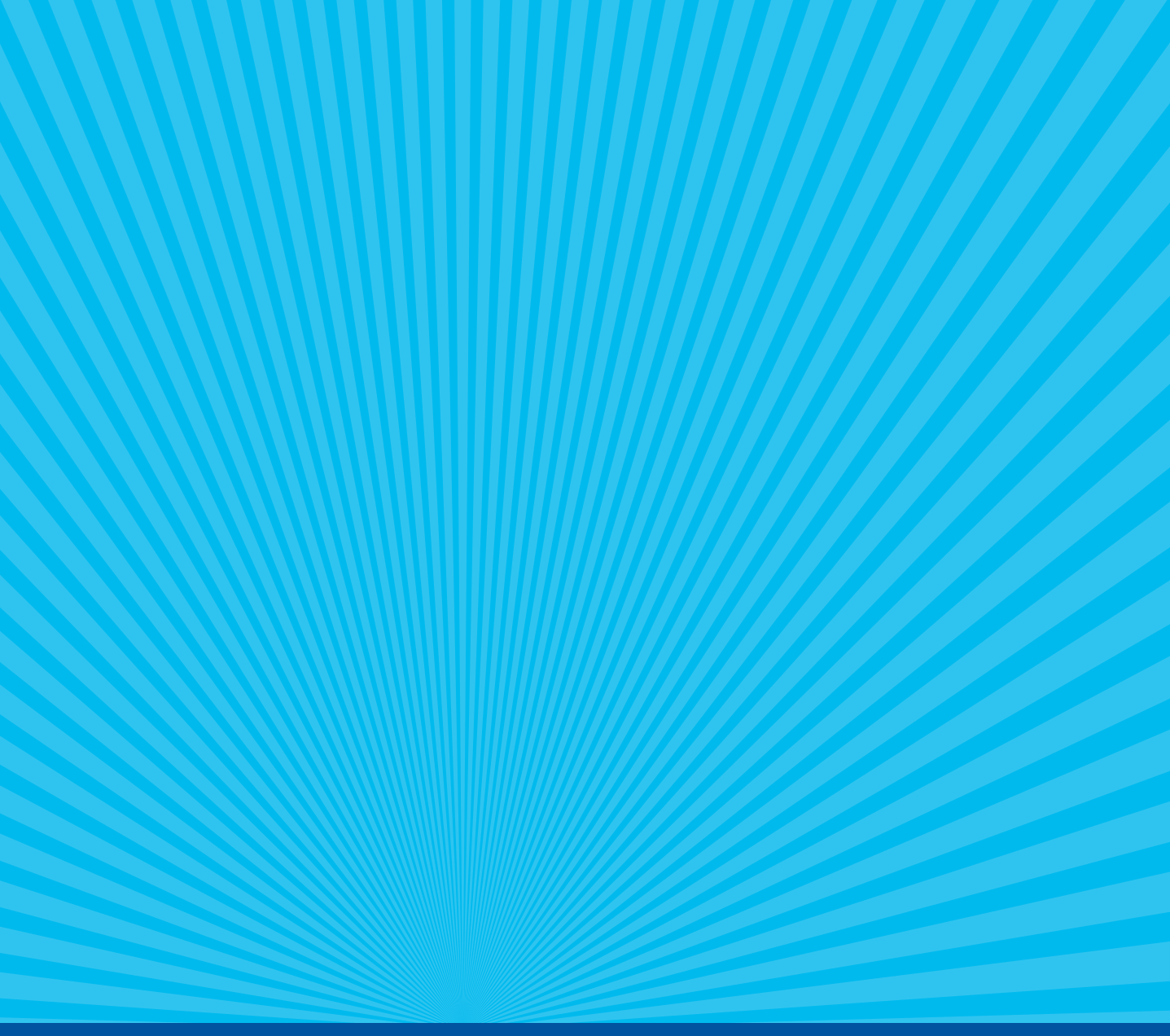
Core Values

- Equal opportunity
- Result-oriented
- Team work
- Excellence
- Timeliness

Legal Status

The Organization is legally registered as a Non-governmental human rights organization under the Non-Governmental Organisations (amendment) Act, 2006. It is duly incorporated under the Companies Act, Cap. 110 as a body corporate.





Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)
Human Rights House,
Plot 1853, Block 15, Lulume Road, Nsambya,
P.O. Box 11027, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: 256-414 - 510263/510276/ 510498/ 466880
Cell: 256-75-2791963
Fax: 256-414- 510498
Email: fhri@dmil.ug
Facebook page: Foundation For Human Rights Initiative FHRI
Skype: fhri1235
Web site: www.fhri.or.ug