

**AFRICAN WOMEN AND GIRLS ORGANIZATION FOR TOTAL KNOWLEDGE-  
UGANDA(AWGO)**



**PROGRAMMES REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY – DECEMBER 2017**

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## 1.0 Introduction

This programme report has been prepared as a reference document for assessing progress of activities implemented by AWGO.). The report provides feedback on the progress made in the achievements of set goals, objectives and targets and the challenges met in implementation of activities during the period of January – December 2017.

## 2.0 Overview of the AWGO Programme.

The AWGO programme comprises of a number of projects where all run for unlimited period of time. The projects address different aspects that are very critical in the empowerment of women and children to enable them fully participate in the development and knowledge of different things at all levels. The aspects include; the scholarship component (i.e. school fees/Tuition fees and functional fees, scholastic materials and basic requirements, meals and accommodation and transport), Self-development program. Such aspects help our beneficiaries to manage their mental capabilities and other stress factors, EDAPO (Economic Development and Aids Prevention Organization) provides food, shelter, education and basic medical care. UWOPED (United Women’s Platform for Empowerment and Development) provide hope for disadvantaged single illiterate mothers in Kampala

## 2.1 Scholarship Program

In a bid to enable vulnerable children from disadvantaged backgrounds AWGO provides educational support in collaboration with different schools. These include the following; Kibuye parents primary school, EDAPO orphanage primary school, Peace High School and Ideal Girls high school

### 2.1.1 primary and Secondary School Scholarship

AWGO since 2011 has implemented Consciousness Based Education in both primary and secondary level for vulnerable girls and boys. The scholarship provided not only school fees, transport, basic and personal needs but mentoring and career guidance to the beneficiaries as well. Each school has teachers that were trained as mentors and responsible for mentoring the beneficiaries. This is in addition to the group mentoring done when teams from AWGO visit during the monitoring exercise as well as when identified role models visit the schools. Every end of term a joint meeting of AWGO and the directors of different schools is held to discuss about the programme implementation as well as jointly chat out a workable way forward and solutions to any raised issues.

**Table 1: Number of beneficiaries per Primary school and by gender by close of 2017**

Primary schools	Districts	Female	Male	Total
EDAPO	Mukono	423	195	618
Kibuye Parents school	Kampala	25	20	45

**Table 2: Number of beneficiaries per Secondary school and by gender by close of 2017**

Secondary Schools	District	Female	Male	Total
Peace high school	Wakiso	100	30	130
Ideal Girls	Mbale	200	0	200

As a motivational approach, students who excel Uganda Certificate Examinations (UCE) are granted the opportunity to continue with high education. This year 33 students 4 boys and 29 girls benefitted from this affirmative arrangement. The boys were admitted at Peace High School while the girls were admitted to both Peace High School and Ideal Girls High School. The students received the scholastic materials and basic personal requirements that the beneficiaries receive throughout the year.

As part of the comprehensive educational support, all the beneficiaries are provided with transport and pocket money at every beginning and end of term to sustain them at school and enable them go back home.

AWGO works closely and in partnership with the program schools. The schools at the close of the term submit the fees bills for the beneficiaries against which fees is paid into the school bank account for the subsequent term and all acknowledgement receipts collected during the school visits.

In addition, the beneficiaries come from vulnerable households where they require holistic/comprehensive educational support. As a result, selected scholastic materials (exercise books, counter books, pens, mathematical sets, calculators, graph books and art books) and other basic needs (basins, bathing and washing soap, sanitary towels, knickers/panties, tooth brushes and tooth paste) for the students were purchased and distributed on a termly basis for all of the beneficiaries. The items are purchased centrally and delivered to the students within the first 2 weeks of reporting back to school.



**Students picking their school requirements as they are going back to school.**

### **2.1.2 Monitoring beneficiaries reporting back to school**

AWGO organized beginning of term visits to ascertain the reporting behaviors of the beneficiaries. Reporting back to school was sometimes affected depending on what community activities were there for example at the beginning of term one, some of the beneficiaries delayed to report back to school because they were sent to villages by their by care takers due to the hard economic situations during school holidays. To establish this data, we used a check list placed both at the gate and Director of studies where each student on reporting registers before entering the school.



**Ms. Judith Nassali the National Director talking to the students at the beginning of the term during a school visit**



**The National Director and Some of the teachers poses with the students for a photo during a school visit.**

### 2.1.3 Routine School Visits.

In addition to the beginning of term school visits, the Program Coordinator conducted another round of schools visits to all the 4 core schools which greatly strengthened the implementation of this bursary program.

The purpose of the visit was to monitor the presence of the beneficiaries in school and also to make sure the project activities are implemented the way they are described in the plan like; collecting mentors work plan, mentors reports, fee bills, carrying out mentoring, updating stakeholders, share experiences and address other bursary issues.



### 2.1.4 Provision of Psychosocial support

The beneficiaries' because of their background require more than payment of school fees and provisional of educational support materials. As a result ,AWGO introduced the self-development program as a component of the scholarship program to provide psychosocial support to the beneficiaries. Self-development program is AWGO strategic initiative meant to motivate and develop the total potential of individual by improving health and wellbeing, increase creativity and intelligence for the beneficiaries as they pursue their education until completion. The beneficiaries are exposed to role models, adequate information, knowledge and skills to enable them make informed decisions and at the same time cope with the various emerging issues as they grow up. This is because majority of the beneficiaries fall in the adolescent stage – a tempting period during growing up and also because AWGO realized that payment of tuition fees alone is not enough to motivate a child to stay in school until completion.

AWGO also appreciates that the beneficiaries spend more time at school and with the teachers. In each of the project schools, teachers are trained and equipped with mentoring knowledge and skills to ably handle and support the beneficiaries in form of mentoring and counseling such that the students are comforted and so they are settled in school and concentrate on education. The mentoring is sometimes done in a group while other times it is done one on one to attend to individual specific issues.



***Ms Night Kichoncho, one of the mentors at Ideal Girls High School speaking to the beneficiaries.***

**2.2 Child Protection Program:** This program covers activities which aim at protecting the rights and wellbeing of vulnerable children to help them grow into better citizens of our nation. Activities include exercise and nutrition, mental health support, career guidance, human rights education, child violence protection, and empowerment education. This program also includes counseling sessions and training workshops to students about their rights and HIV aids. Additionally, UWOPED is one of the organizations selected as part of the government program of the Ministry of Gender and Social Development called ***Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)***, which trains us as Para-Social Workers to identify cases of child neglect, and to work with children with disabilities.



Children receiving holiday package (Rice)





Some of the children during the holiday classes and checkups.

## 2.2university Scholarships

All of the beneficiaries' tuition and other related requirements were paid for in their different universities and vocational institutions based on the fees structures from universities/ institutions and payment requests from different hostels.

Majority of the beneficiaries studied from within Uganda namely; Makerere University, Makerere Business School, kyambogo university Kampala International University and Uganda Christian University.

**Table 3: Students selected to study in university by close of 2017**

N/s	Name	Sex	Year	University
1.	Ainembabazi Alexzandria	F	2	Makerere University Business School
2.	Suzan Nakafeero	F	3	Uganda Christian University
3.	Ednah Ampaire	F	1	Kyambogo University
4.	Molly Kembabazi	F	1	

In 2017, 4 beneficiaries (all females) also completed their studies in different fields (1 complete her degree course and 3 beneficiaries diploma courses).

**Table 5 : list of beneficiaries completed their courses and graduated in 2017.**

N/s	Name	Course	University/ institution	Month of graduation
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1.	Hope Fokushaba	Bachelor of Statistics	Makerere University	Feb,2017
2.	Edinah Ampire	Diploma of Civil Engineering	Uganda Military Engineering College	Feb,2017
3.	Molly Kembabazi	Diploma in Human Resource Management	Makerere University Business School.	May,2017
4.	Ainembabazi Alexandria	Diploma in Human Resource Management	Makerere University Business School	May, 2017

One of our beneficiaries from this program Ms.Hope Fokushaba is currently employed at Orient Bank head office on Jinja Road. Some have joined university and some are yet to join.

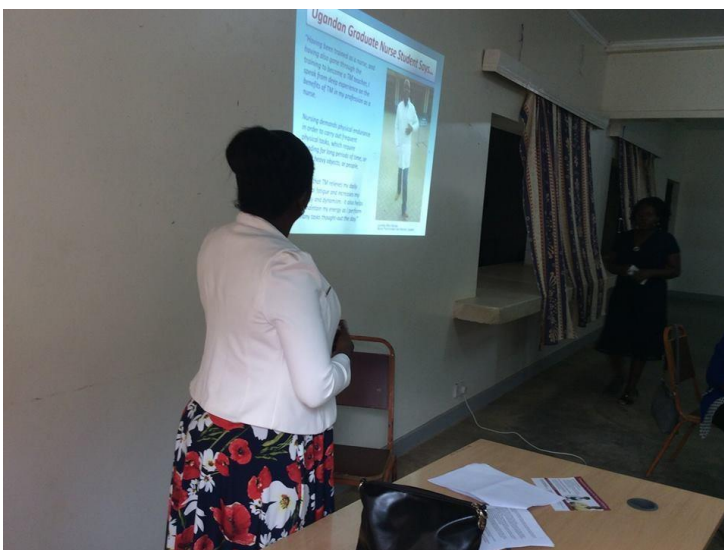
### The 2017 Graduates





### 2.3 Mentoring of teachers.

For the purpose of keeping the mentors up to date with knowledge, skills and to strengthen the mentoring activity through sharing and learning from one another, refresher training is organized every year.





### **3.0 United Women Platform for Empowerment and Development (UWOPED) program**

One of Our missions is to empower women with practical skills through training to develop talents and reduce the number of vulnerable and unemployed women in Uganda and Africa at large. To fulfill this mission, we offer various important programs in the areas of health and education to benefit young mothers and their children. In 2012 since we partnered with UWOPED the number of women increased from a total of 30 to 600 women. Now the mothers are enjoying emotional stability, less anger, clear thinking, happiness and wellbeing. They are motivated and engaged in taking care of themselves and their children.

#### **3.1 Skill Training for Poverty Eradication**

**Tailoring**—Our TAILORING training teaches mothers to make several different things, such as casual wear, office wear, as well as traditional clothing. They also learn how to make school uniforms, bags, wallets, etc. In this way we are trying to help a vulnerable mother be in position to take care of herself, her children and all her dependents. We make sure that by the end of the training; a mother can acquire a sewing machine and create an employment opportunity for herself.



**Agnes learning how to measure during the tailoring class and some of the women receiving new sewing machines**

**3.2 Hairdressing**—In Uganda, most urban women plait their hair, so targeting those women, our HAIRDRESSING training teaches mothers how to plait and set different hair styles, such as twist, dreadlocks, corn rows, etc. After training UWOPED helps them set up simple salons, and we also try to offer start up kits to help them get their businesses going.



Some of the hair dressing students being guided on how to plait hair.



**3.3 Computer training**—Most of our mothers are illiterate, so we find that it is very valuable to provide COMPUTER training to teach them essential computer skills in order to help them be part of the modern world. We pick out the most important packages, and we encourage them to use computers in their businesses and in day-to-day life.

**3.4 Arts and Crafts**—Our ARTS AND CRAFTS training provides mothers with both traditional and contemporary craft-making skills. They learn how to make modern jewelry for every day and formal wear that is attractive to local consumers. We also specialize in creating accessories like tote bags, purses and wearable art that appeals to an international market. With both the international and local markets to generate income, our artisans have the most sustainable way of supporting themselves.

**3.5 Catering**—In our CATERING training mothers are mostly taught how to make cakes, doughnuts, and different specialty foods and sweets like those sold in restaurants. With these skills, they can create small groups to be hired to cater for weddings, graduations, birthdays, etc. Working hand in hand with UWOPED, we also help them form simple nice restaurants with good food, which can still be a source of income for them.

**3.6 Soap making**—Our SOAP MAKING training teaches women how to make liquid soap to use in their homes, as well as sell to their communities, schools and hotels.

**3.7 Mushroom growing**—Our MUSHROOM GROWING project is an income generating initiative that not only trains our mothers in mushroom cultivation, but also improves their diet and quality of life. We encourage mothers work in teams from their home, since the greatest market for mushrooms is in their communities and local markets.

**Ritah showing off her mushroom produce.**



**3.8 Women’s Health Program:** This program involves all of UWOPED’s programs that help women with health issues—including Home Based Care for HIV positive mothers and children; Sensitization Program, which covers condom use, family planning, hygiene, sexually transmitted diseases; and training in regard to diseases such as cholera, typhoid, cancer, etc. As women when we are feeling healthy and strong we are able to be successful in all our activities in our work, caring for our children and in our relationships as a result of maintaining responsibilities at work and home.

**3.9 Business Incubation Poverty Eradication Program:** This program is helping women incubate businesses individually or in groups in order to reduce the numbers of vulnerable and unemployed women in Uganda and Africa at large. I want to assure you that empowerment created from within produce the greatest success and fulfillment personally, and radiates to ones family, community, and Nation.

**3.10 Women’s Education Program:** Our education program provides literacy training in English and other language training, including French for Congolese refugees. Our Functional Adult Learning program teaches illiterate mothers how to read and write. Many of our UWOPED members have had to drop out of school and we support them to advance their literacy at every level.

**Table 6: Number of women that were enrolled for different courses by end of 2017.**

	Course	Total Number enrolled
1.	Tailoring	28
2.	Hair dressing	22
3.	Crafts	43
4.	Liquid soap	52
5.	Computer	15
6.	mushroom	35

**4.0 Transcendental Meditation Program**

The AWGO for total knowledge is eternally grateful to thank all the well-wishers for the opportunity to bring enlightenment and invincibility to the mothers and families of Uganda. To create a healthy ,happy prosperous world to protect and create new world order, affluence and peace.



#### 4.1 New projects

Our new expansion project is with the Uganda nurses and midwives union (UNMU). For care givers, such as midwives, who are the backbone of a nation's health care system We have a proven solution to help midwives remain comfortable and thrive in their profession so that Midwives can be protected from the daily buildup of stress on the job that can deplete them of emotional stability, physical energy and vitality, and ability to cope

This helps midwives in performing their jobs at the highest level. Its widely known that under – performance leads to mistakes and can have damaging effects on the health of the patient.



Ms. Judith Nassali the National Director AWGO giving presentation during the 2017 UNMU Conference





### 4.3 Age Well Program

It's such a great joy to share with you that Dr. Grace Nambatya who is the Director of the Natural Chemotherapeutic research laboratory and the chairperson of the public private partnership in health at the ministry of health learned transcendental meditation and she finds it so beneficial. She recently launched the AGE WELL PROGRAM and recommended Transcendental Meditation program as a number one value tool for one to age well

Recently we instructed 324 children into the TM Program through this organization .We launched children meditation TM club and have had three successful meditation lessons with hundreds of children participation. The children are becoming familiar with the principle of Total knowledge and now TM enriches their lives. This is a joyful program that we are very proud of and look forward to expanding.



### 4.4 Monthly Group Meditation.

We continue to have monthly group meditation a checking for the mothers. We currently have over 600 mothers with a goal of 1000 meditating mothers. We hope to inspire the mothers to take the TM-Sidhi program for creating even greater coherence for the nation

At our AWGO TM center, group meditation and advanced lectures on Transcendental Meditation are conducted on a monthly basis. These lectures include calls from Raj Rajeshwari to give deeper knowledge and understanding of experiences, it is always a joy to meditate together and share experiences.

