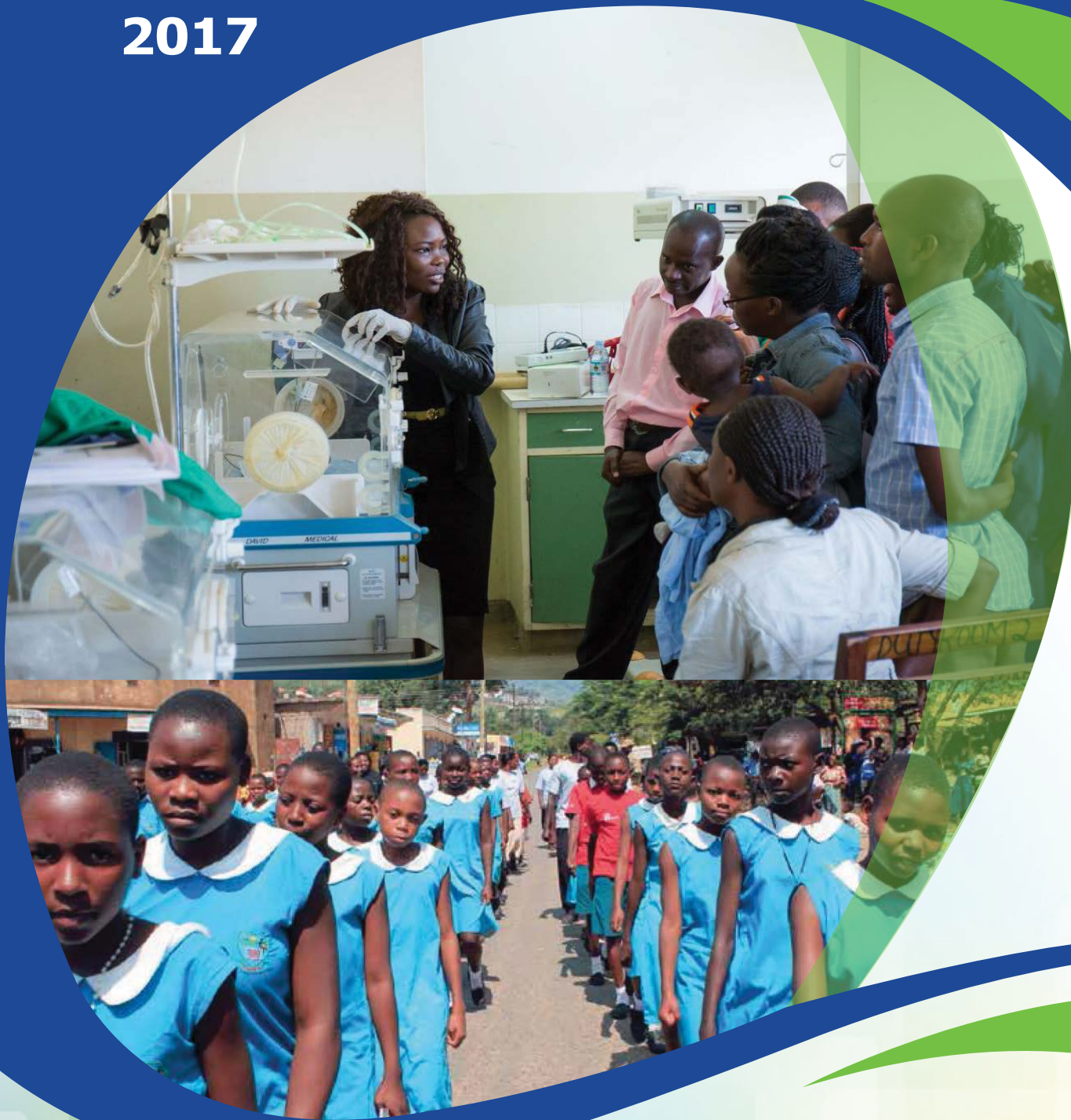


ANNUAL REPORT 2017



**ACTION FOR COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**



ACODEV
Transforming Communities

■ **Family Planning access & utilization**



87,868

■ **Youth Civic engagement & empowerment**



12,139

■ **Economic and Social support**



10,974

■ **Local government and CSOs Systems and Leadership capacity support**



3,322

■ **Education**



1,385

■ **Children empowerment, Participation and involvement**



683

■ **Child protection emergency response**



152

EVERY CHILD COUNTS

Namusisi's Story



Namusisi works with Keera Primary school in Kamira Sub-county; 3 years ago, she was trained in child protection, currently she's a Matron of the Child Rights Club within the school and has launched a menstrual hygiene initiative to help children stay in school.

I was inspired by the lives of children in my community, many times I was seeing children dropping out of school because their rights to education were being abused especially by parents engaging them in child labor, above all, lack of menstrual hygiene kit for girls was causing their irregular attendance and low concentration in class. I realized that something needed to be done, therefore I started using my skills of making washable menstrual hygiene pads in the school for girls to access and re-use them. Coupled with this, one day, ACODEV visited our school with a plan of training and starting a Child Rights Club, I was very excited about it, children were thereafter trained on their rights and how they should report any rights abuses. I participated in the training and I was appointed the Matron of the Child Rights Club in the school; since the club started, I have witnessed many children reporting abuse cases happening to them from their homes.

This club really has helped the children. In the past days there was no one they could report to. But when the club started they were able to talk to fellow pupils. I handled one case. A child was being mistreated at home, he was staying with the step mum and he reported to one of the club members - he told a story of what he was facing at home, being beaten by the father from time to time and the mother was also not giving him scholastic materials, though the father gave money for it. I gave him support by calling his father and talked to him about the need to support the child, as a result of my discussion with the father, currently the boy is now staying with the uncle peacefully. We would not have known about this situation if it was not for the Child Rights Club.

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FOREWORD

Women, Children and Youth's social and economic needs are the reasons why we wake-up every day to innovatively think and implement cutting edge and tested development models and approaches. This accounts for the uncounted reasons why we did all our best in 2017 to touch many lives.

The 2017 Annual report is a true reflection of what ACODEV accomplished through the different programs, where we celebrate a big progress made towards the operations of Youth in Uganda through their Councils; we saw government giving space for the youth to deliver to their mandate through our advocacy engagement, the improved health systems in locales we operated in; the women whom we guided to make right choices when it comes to planning for their families; the Orphans and Vulnerable children whom we supported with education, economic support and protection from abuse; and the Local governments whose systems we contributed to their growth.

Through our health program, we tirelessly touched the lives of women and children to access quality maternal and child health services by building and mentoring health personnel to deliver to their mandate. The high level performing equipment across a spectrum of health facilities in Uganda kept our performing ladder moving at high trajectory. All these efforts accounted to our direct total reach of 116,523 which included women, children and youth.



We are ambitious towards delivering on our Strategic Plan because our vision and mission are embodied in our programs and interventions. With our catch-phrase "Transforming Communities", we live up-to our word by taking action, notwithstanding the glaring challenges.

Our daily existence continue to present opportunities to give every needy women, children and youth the potential to fulfill their development desires. My gratitude goes to the donor community who enabled us reach the many lives; our committed staff who demonstrated their competencies and transparency during work, including the Government of Uganda which provided an enabling environment during our reach to the Communities. Thank you very much!
For God and My Country.

Kabanda Obed
Executive Director



Who we are

Action for Community Development (ACODEV) is a Ugandan based Non-Governmental Organization working to employ innovative solutions that are aimed at transforming communities in East and Southern Africa.

ACODEV continues delivering on its mandate by creating an environment where its target population realizes their full potential. ACODEV on a continuous basis takes on responsibilities to identify communities with the most significant needs fit for its innovative solutions through implementation research; ACODEV is thus indebted to the community it serves.

ACODEV's work is guided by well defined program areas:

Health Promotion program - This program is aimed at strengthening health care systems in partnership with Ministry of Health, CSOs and other development actors to deliver effective and sustainable health services to individuals, families and communities.

Gender and Human Rights - We aim at promoting Gender equality by empowering women and girls realize their rights to full potential. Our focus areas are: prevention of GBV, Child Protection, Child rights governance and Youth Participation in Development; we also integrate this program across other development programs.

Institutional Capacity Strengthening - develop the organization's local partner policies and systems for effective and efficient service delivery. We work directly with community members to identify service gaps and come up with solutions involving service promotion, research and communication. ACODEV provides support through partnerships and collaboration to ensure existing systems are strengthened and all operations are sustainable.

Our Vision

A society where children and women realize their rights to full potential.

Our Mission

Action for Community Development (ACODEV) exist to empower grass-root communities in East and Southern Africa with innovative solutions that give children and women opportunities to realize their full potential to living healthy and with dignity in supportive economic and social spaces.

OUR PERFORMANCE AGAINST OUR STRATEGY

Women, Children and youth today face a number of challenges -ranging from Poverty, poor health, less economic opportunities and development participation exclusion. ACODEV is determine to respond to all the challenges!

Basing on these challenges, Action for Community Development agreed on a 5-year strategy which has set the overall strategic direction of its work. At the beginning of 2017, ACODEV set out a number of priorities that directly responded to the growing challenges basing on the strategic Plan annual operations guide;

- Delivering a strong portfolio on family planning.
- Building and supporting community based systems aimed at delivering high end socioeconomic interventions.
- Recognizing and responding to the needs of children in areas of protection, governance, education, health and participation.
- Building an outstanding Local government and Civil society capacity in delivering socioeconomic services to women, children and youth.



In 2017, we supported health systems infrastructure in central and western Uganda including Kenya and Rwanda that directly helped women and children survive during birth.



Our promise to reach isolated communities in Uganda to provide social and economic capacity building through one-on-one mentoring and coaching was a cutting edge approach to empower men and women for their ability to support orphans and vulnerable children under their care.



In response to unmet needs of family planning in Uganda, ACODEV implemented an exclusive intervention with women and men to access high class family planning services and supply of commodities with proper health education to facilitate best Family Planning choices.

Child Protection and Rights Governance

Children had an opportunity to discuss with policy makers over the radio on matters affecting their level of participation in development



In 2017, ACODEV did all it takes to rescue children from a frontline of abuse through emergency response, this effort involved a coordination with Child protection units from various districts and probation office to offer a legal ground for rescue. We also innovated to improve children' participation and engagement with policy makers on matters affecting their lives, children were involved in budgeting and planning, and were at a center stage of advocacy through radio talk-shows, dialogues with leaders. This empowered their position to identify and take charge of issues affecting their lives.



We condemn child labor with no support to children' safety; a boy rescued by ACODEV & Police after exposed to hash labor.



Children presenting their needs to the district planning committee under the mandate of Child Rights Governance giving a platform for children's involvement & participation.

152

Child abuse cases handled through emergency response

683

Children were empowered through direct involvement in planning, budgeting, advocacy through Radio shows with policy makers

160

Disabled children were supported with wheel chairs in Nakasongola district, this, through the 2017 has promoted their ease to access education through effective movement

As a result of training **283** formal and Non-formal Actors on Child Protection, strengthened the identification, reporting and response to child abuse and emergency cases

The increasing utilization of OVC MIS tools attributed to the **82** trained Community Development Officers and Civil Society Organizations members, contributed to increased OVC data reporting with subsequent OVC responsive programming and resource allocation. **UGX 700,000** by Wakyato Sub county in Nakaseke district was successfully allocation for the SOVCCs meetings to facilitate planning for OVCs

Youth Civic Engagement and Empowerment



The challenge has been big, efforts to understand the challenge have been tested and effectively worked! Now here are the results.

In 2017, ACODEV made a commitment to standby the youths of Uganda using their Councils and help them understand and realize their position of engaging policy makers to support their development ideas through Capacity Building; in the same way, ACODEV made sure that these youth councils step-up to their mandates and create Awareness to fellow youth about their civic rights, policies, and other initiatives which, in the long run will facilitate the process of their participation in development planning , policy implementation at local, district and national levels respectively.



ACODEV, in this report, confirms that **1196** youth council members across Mukono, Wakiso and Kasese districts have been trained and empowered into advocacy as a result, they have caused massive changes in their mode of operations, for example, 100% of youth councils have been given offices; i.e. **27** targeted sub county based Youth council Offices and **03** District Based Youth council offices making a total of **30** councils well equipped with stationery, furniture and trained personnel to continue engaging with policy makers. **2315** youth have been empowered with life-skills and development ideas through motivation speeches. **3511** Youth empowered



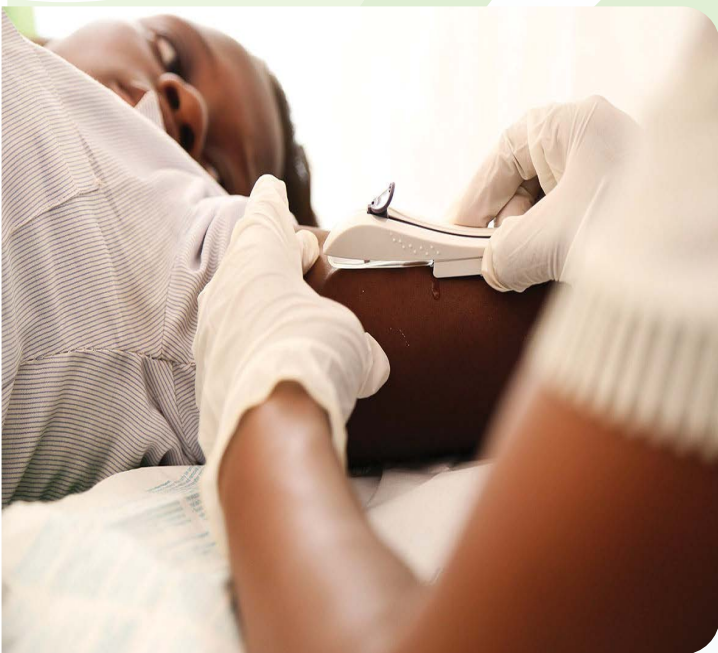
It's worthy noting that the Youth councils successfully lauched dialogues with **261** leaders to have their development ideas adopted into LG planning and budgeting.

Reproductive Health - Family Planning

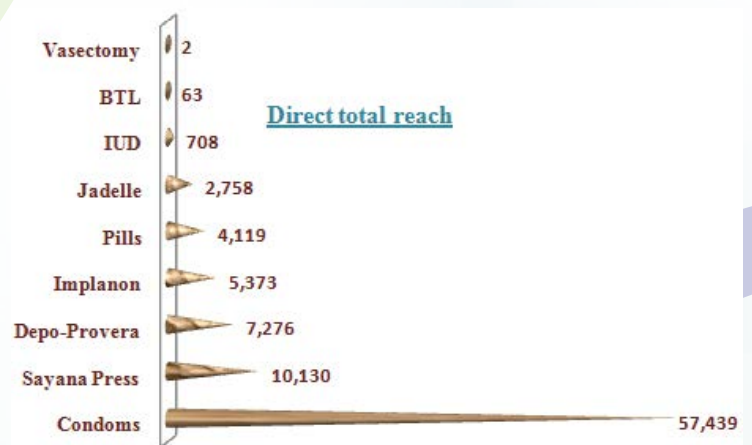
Women who want to avoid pregnancy, but are not using an effective method of contraception, account for a large majority of unplanned pregnancies. In Uganda, 44 percent of pregnancies are unplanned. There is not much variation in levels of unmet need for family planning across women's age groups.

2017 has seen ACODEV at the pick of the Game by helping women and men make right decisions to towards Family planning.

Myths and misconceptions that barred clients from taking on contraceptives were cleared as one of ACODEV 2017 promise to allow every child born be intended and well cared for as a standard of life.



Our performance at a Glance



ACODEV integrated an advocacy approach towards the staffing gaps handling family planning referrals in health facilities of Kasese district; this, in 2017 was achieved owing to health personnel recruitment and deployment in various HCs thus improved clients satisfaction and increased seeking behavior to health services.



Economic and Social Support

Premised on our catch-phrase "Transforming Communities", ACODEV through the Sustainable Outcomes for Children and Youth intervention was able to register a number of achievements in 2017;

364

Vulnerable women, men and aged persons successfully linked to the SAGE Program, currently accessing

UGX 25,000

on a monthly basis to meet their health and social needs

Our road Map to sustain the benefits of our SAGE linked beneficiaries has been the SILC groups; this report confirms a total of **432** SILC groups formed and all our beneficiaries are proud to be members - this approach has helped in accumulating economic and social capital among our targeted beneficiaries.

One of the Youth Folks was cited by the ACODEV field team busy learning motor-vehicle mechanics under the vocational learning approach



The Youth

Understanding our journey to causing change!

Our ambition to achieve change for the Youth rested in our ability to deliver an impact at scale. Last year, we took on a tested approach which worked better in engaging & empowering youth with life-skills; vocational learning, and agribusiness - The Aflateen model.

5,897 Youth
Enrolled into
Aflateen

2,000 Youth
trained in the
Aflateen



Psychosocial support

More often, the aged women and men carry a big responsibility to care for children, either orphaned as a result of parents' death or abandoned by live parents. What ACODEV did in the year was to put a smile on both the faces of caregivers and children through psychosocial counseling, discussing household improvement plans for the benefits of children and the caregiver.



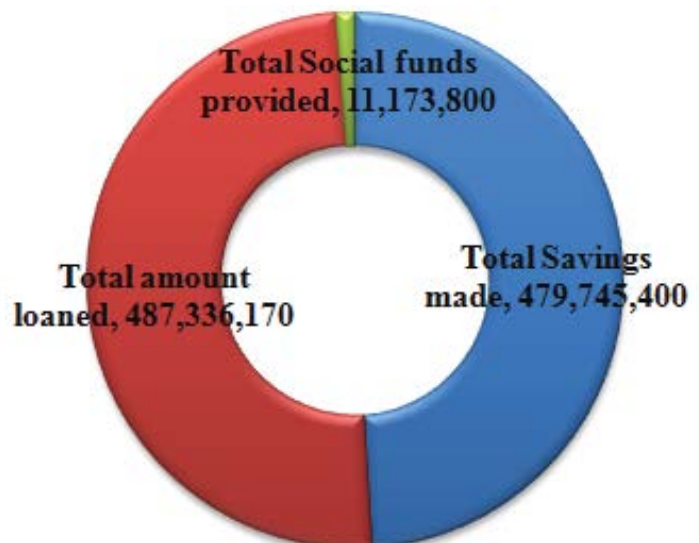
ACODEV maintained a coordination approach with Community Development Officers and Para-social Workers to ensure our beneficiaries are supported; by the end of 2017,

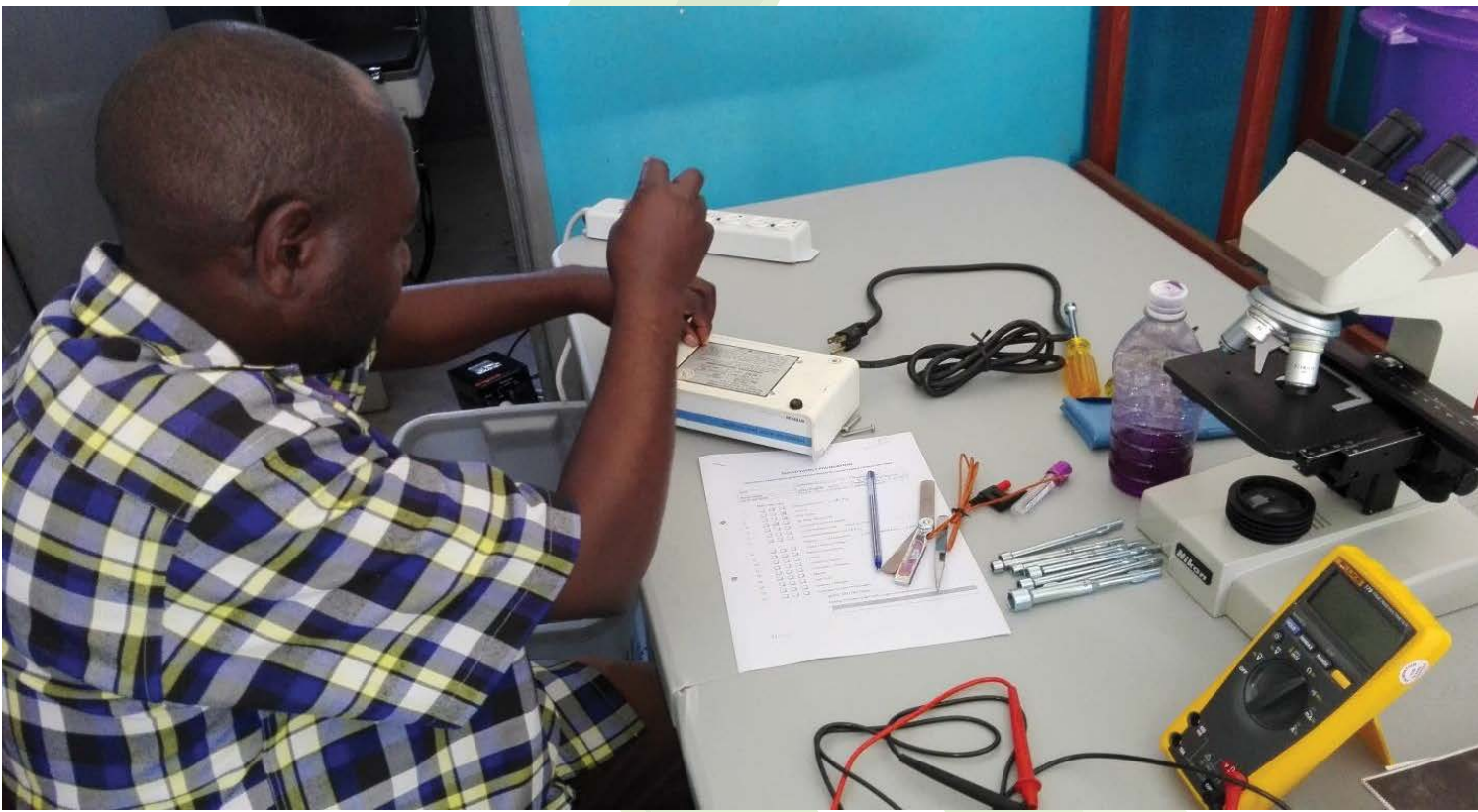
Education

Making education affordable to orphans and other vulnerable children through a Subsidy approach saw 2017 with an increase in enrolment, and retention levels. This report confirms an action that was taken by ACODEV providing education subsidies to **1,188** children (**944** children in Primary schools and, **264** youth in secondary schools).

1,213 Care Givers were served through home visits & Integrated outreaches with various Services including OVC care services in areas of economic and psychosocial support, child protection, IGAs, HIV testing & case management

Savings and Benefits among 364 SILC groups





Health Systems infrastructure Support

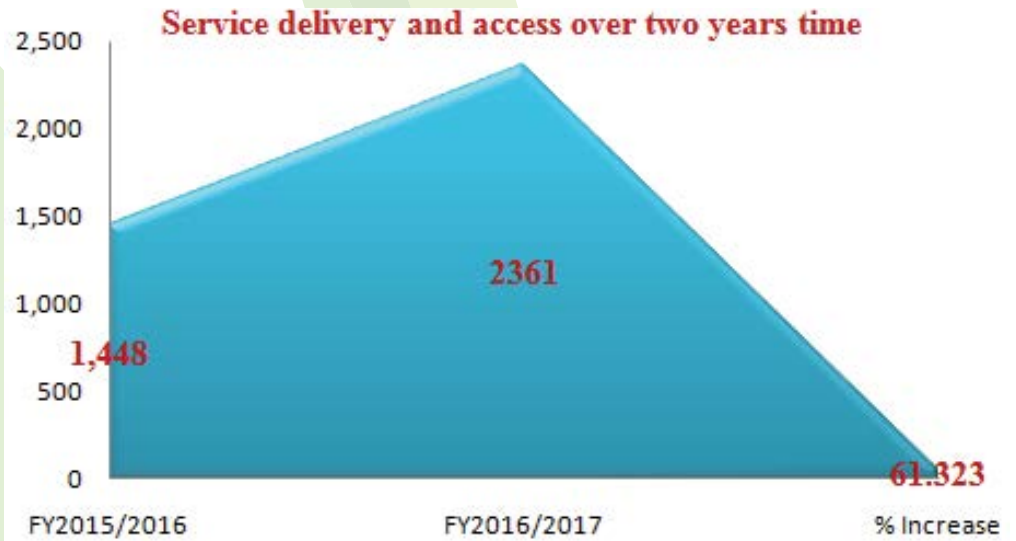
Premised in our current Strategic Plan 2016-2021; under the Health Promotion program, ACODEV registered success to its mandate and promise of strengthening Health Infrastructure support. A needs assessment in Kinyamaseke HCIII from Kasese district was conducted to ascertain their needs in terms of equipment; the reports highlighted the need for - ultrasound scan and printer, centrifuges, infant incubator, fetal heart beat monitors, laboratory incubators, blood cell counters, otoscopes, wall mount phymomanometers, weight and height scales, baby weighing scales, Laboratory microscopes and delivery beds.

As a result of ACODEV's partnership with John Gould Foundation, all the identified equipment were provided including a recruitment of a Bio Medical Engineer- BME to provide technical support & training to the Health center.



Our Comparison in Service Delivery before and after infrastructure support; 2015/2016 - 2016/2017 Financial Years.

This report is demonstrating an increase in service delivery and access given the improved conditions under which services are provided such as the availability of different equipment such as delivery beds, ultra-sound scans, microscopes, Incubator, among others.



This is an Incubator that is among those equipment that ACODEV in partnership with John Gould Foundation donated to Kinyamaseke Health Center III that have led to a trajectory increase in quality of services related to MNCH & ASRH.

Maternal Newborn & Child Health



As one of the Reproductive and Child Support initiative under our Strategic direction, ACODEV partnered with IZUMI foundation and equipped four health facilities in Luwero district with Maternal newborn equipment such as ambu-bags, bulb syringes, BP machines; trained health workers to implement MNCH packages such as Resuscitation and Antibiotics prescription), BEmOC skills and FP skills.

Some of the health facilities were provided with solar energy to improve the lighting conditions during delivery by mothers but also helping the health facilities become more functional.

193 Health workers, district leaders and CSOs members trained to deliver, respond and improve Maternal Newborn Health service delivery in Luwero district

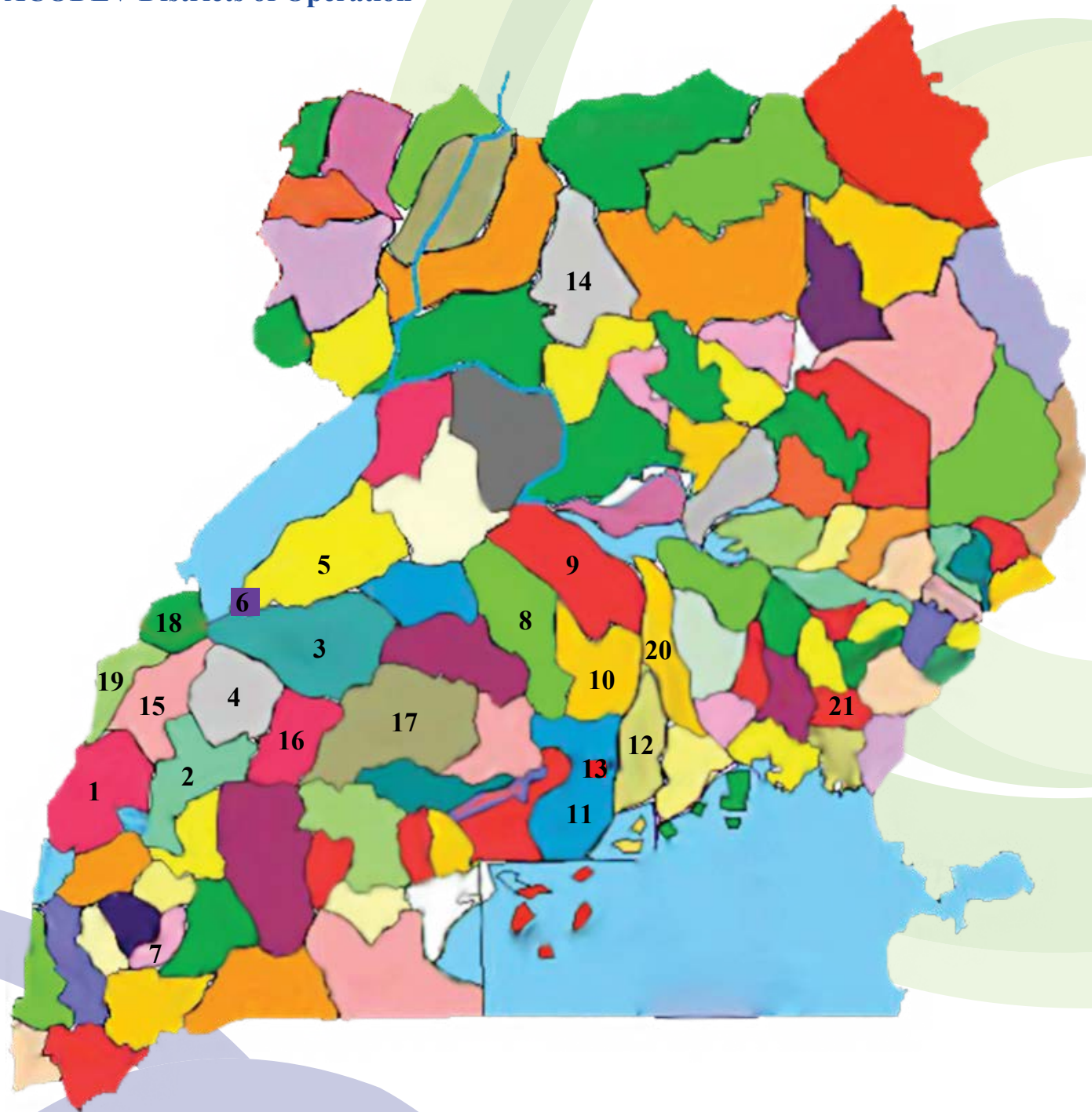
2101 mothers, and children were served with services related to ANC, Birth/delivery, PNC, Immunization, HIV Counseling testing and Family Planning



Why ACLED?

In regard to building sustainable Leadership Development across a spectrum of upcoming and the already existing leaders in East & Southern Africa from different sectors, the ACLED Center is meant to offer innovative courses in community development to charities and NGOs throughout east and southern Africa and also philanthropy awareness to donors on grassroots models and operations and how to effectively work with frontline grassroots. This Leadership Centre will train grassroots leaders, social change champions, and high caliber, intelligent leaders capable of taking on the challenge of sustainable social change. Visit our website: www.acodevuganda.org for updates.

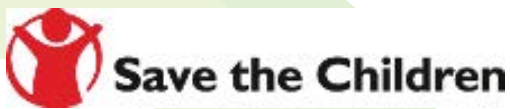
ACODEV Districts of Operation



KEY:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 - Kasese | 12 - Mukono |
| 2 - Kamwenge | 13 - Kampala |
| 3 - Kibaale | 14 - Gulu |
| 4 - Kyenjojo | 15 - Kabarole |
| 5 - Hoima | 16 - Kyegegwa |
| 6 - Kagadi | 17 - Mubende |
| 7 - Mitooma | 18 - Ntoroko |
| 8 - Nakaseke | 19 - Bundibugyo |
| 9 - Nakasongola | 20 - Kayunga |
| 10 - Luwero | 21 - Bugiri |
| 11 - Wakiso | |

Our Partners



The Erik E. & Edith.H
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The Preston -
Werner Family



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