



**KIRUHURA WOMEN
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR
THE YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER 2023**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is with great pleasure that I present the annual report for Kiruhura Women Development Agency for the year 2023. This report highlights our achievements, challenges, and impact in empowering women, girls and promoting sustainable development in Kiruhura.

Over the past year, we have made significant strides in our mission to improve the lives of women and girls in our community. Through our various programs and initiatives, we have provided education, skills training, and support to empower women to become agents of change in their families and communities.

We have also faced challenges, particularly with fluctuation of Ugandan shilling, which has affected our ability to deliver some of our programs. However, we have adapted and continued to find ways to support women and girls in need.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our staff, volunteers, partners, and donors for their unwavering support and dedication. Together, we have achieved so much, and I am confident that we will continue to make a positive impact in the lives of women and girls in Kiruhura.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

JKR

Hon. Twinobusigye Jovanice Rwenduru

Board Chairperson

Organizational background information

The Kiruhura Women Development Agency (K-WIDE) is pleased to present its annual report for the year 2023. This report highlights the key activities, achievements, challenges, and financial performance of the organization over the past year.

Kiruhura Women Development Agency (K-WIDE) is a registered indigenous Non-Government Organization that was formed in 2014 by a group of 05 women touched by the unfair conditions in which women and girls live in Uganda and Kiruhura in particular. The organization has evolved from a small Community Based Organization to a National NGO registered with the NGO bureau of Uganda. The organization has a Board of Trustees, (05 members) whose role is to provide oversight, approve work plans, policies and budget and mobilize resources for the organization. We are women founded, women led and women focused.

Target Beneficiaries

We work with girls and women as our primary focus while men/boys, parents and community leaders are our secondary beneficiaries. We are women founded, women led and women focused.

Mission

To enhance social-economic empowerment of women and girls for self-dependency and sustainability

Vision

Improving the livelihoods of women and girls to live to their full potential

Goal

A world where every woman is free from violence, and able to participate in decisions that affect her life

Organization core Values

Our work is hinged on; transparency and accountability, do no harm, honesty and integrity, non-discrimination, inclusiveness, participation, respect to privacy and confidentiality. Recently,

we have integrated cross cutting issues ie disability, HIV, environment and gender into our programs.

Strategic Objectives

- To strengthen existing community based structures to effectively prevent, report and respond to violence against women and girls
- To scale up prevention efforts that address unequal gender power relations as a root cause of gender based violence
- To enhance access to SRHR services and information by women and girls
- To strengthen the capacity of women and girls for self reliance and dependency
- To advocate for inclusiveness of crosscutting issues such as gender, disability, environment and HIV in programs and projects
- To improve coordination, networking and collaboration amongst actors within the district

Implementation strategies

- Advancing Women's' leadership by working directly with women and girls
- Mobilizing families, communities, and influencers to cause change in the community
- Promotion of girls education and leadership
- Economic empowerment of families
- Awareness raising and mindset change
- Providing direct services to at-risk, married, and formerly married girls and women
- Advocating for the establishment and implementation of effective laws and policies

Implementation approaches

Our work is hinged on social behavior change and communication (SBCC), sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and promotion of girls leadership.

Theories of work

We are guided by a mixture of theories of behavioral change, i.e social ecological theory and the social learning theory. These guide our program designs in general.

Programs and Activities

- **Women's Empowerment:** K-WIDE continued to implement programs aimed at empowering girls and women economically, socially, and politically. This included support to girls' education, skills training, entrepreneurship development, and leadership workshops.
- **Girl Child Education:** K-WIDE supported girls' education by providing scholarships, school supplies, and menstrual hygiene products. We also conducted awareness campaigns on the importance of girls' education. Education Support: K-WIDE awarded scholarships to 03 girls, enabling them to continue their education beyond primary school.
- **Health and Nutrition:** K-WIDE promoted health and nutrition among women and children through training on hygiene practices, nutrition education, and access to health services.
- **Gender-Based Violence Prevention:** K-WIDE worked to prevent gender-based violence through community sensitization, counseling services, and referral of survivors to support services.
- **Advocacy and Networking:** K-WIDE engaged in advocacy efforts to promote gender equality and women's rights at the local and national levels. We also collaborated with other organizations working on similar issues

Achievements/activities implemented during the year ending 2023

- Provided skills training to over 500 women in various income-generating activities.
- Distributed educational materials to 200 girls, enabling them to continue their education.



Some of the picture taken during school activities

- Conducted health and nutrition workshops reaching 300 women and children.
- Raised awareness about gender-based violence, reaching 1,000 community members.



- Successfully advocated for the inclusion of gender-sensitive policies in the district development plan.



- Provided 15 schools with tree seedlings for planting
- We supported 5 schools to participate in the soccer gala
- We conducted 28 school based outreaches to motivate young boys and girls to keep in school



- Partnership and networking, we hosted a 3 day learning event for GFF grantee



- 14 radio talk shows held



Challenges

- Limited funding and resources to implement programs effectively.
- Cultural barriers that hinder women's participation in certain activities.

- Limited access to healthcare services in remote areas of the district.

Impact

- Over 20 girls benefited from our education and skilling programs
- 150 women received skills training, enabling them to start their own businesses and generate income.
- 50 women started their own businesses with support from K-WIDE, improving their economic status and quality of life.
- Health workshops and access to healthcare services benefited over 300 women and girls, improving their health and well-being.
- Over 05 girls were rescued from being married off forcefully at an early age

Data collection activities

- We held a series of one-on-one interviews with police officers, survivors of child marriage as well as child mothers on the dangers of child marriage, their roles as well as the suggestions to end child marriage in Kiruhura district.
- We held focus group discussions with key stakeholders, that is the religious leaders, RDC, DCDO, Opinion leaders, district councilor, Media, Head Teachers on the magnitude of child marriage in Kiruhura and what they had to say.

Success story

Sarah (Pseudo name) completed her Senior Two last year and will be joining Senior Three this year 2024. She is a child marriage survivor whose family had planned to give her away in marriage during the second term school holidays. Sarah was at school, and she did not know that her family had finished all the marriage arrangements including receiving the dowry and setting the ceremony date. On reaching home for holidays, her grandfather told her everything the

family had planned and that her future husband was on his way coming to pick her so that they go for HIV testing. Sarah broke down, and she immediately ran away from home to a neighbor's place where she borrowed a phone and called our organization for rescue. We immediately swung into action to save her future. We worked with her Head Teacher, Police and the RDC and the marriage was blocked, and dowry returned. Today she is an inspiration to other young girls who are dying in silence. Her dream is to become a lawyer and defend other vulnerable girls and women undergoing suffering due to negative social cultural practices. Sarah's school administration was also supportive and gave her a bursary. Our organization has continued to engage the family, leaders and the general public to appreciate the value of girls' education in comparison to dowry.

Financial Performance

In 2023, K-WIDE had a total income of UGX 103,437,710 including UGX 2,656,210 which was balance carried forward from the year ending 31st December 2022. The organization received a total of UGX 100,781,500 during the calendar year 2023 (UGX 30,045,100 received on 6/2/2023 and UGX 70,736,400 which was received on 19/07/2023 respectively). By 31st December 2023, the organization had Ugx 21,520 as balance carried forward.

Below is a summary of how funds were spent per budget category

Budget category	Budget	Amount spent	Budget category definition
Personnel/Staff	22,800,000	22,800,000	Includes salaries and stipends for staff and volunteers working directly on the project.
Program and activities costs	50,100,000	52,756,210	Includes all other direct costs associated with implementing the project. Includes travel, accommodation, food, and other miscellaneous expenses incurred by staff or volunteers to implement the project. Individuals or organizations that have been contracted to provide a service to your organization to implement the project.
Others	20,481,500	20,481,500	Includes machinery, furniture, computers, electronic devices, printers, etc. to implement the project. Includes consumable materials, such as stationery, pens, paper, business cards, etc. to implement the project.

Budget category	Budget	Amount spent	Budget category definition
Girls First Fund Wellness Support	3,000,000	3,000,000	Includes, retreats, staff parties and outings to ban and reduce work related stress
Girls First Fund participation	4,400,000	4,400,000	Includes costs set aside to participate in Girls First Fund convening, events, visits, etc.
Total	100,781,500	103,437,710	

Conclusion

KWDA remains committed to its mission of empowering women and girls in Kiruhura District. We are grateful for the support of our partners, donors, and community members who have contributed to our success. Together, we will continue to work towards a more inclusive and equitable society for all. We would like to thank all our partners, donors, volunteers, and staff for their dedication and support. Special thanks to the women and girls of Kiruhura District for their resilience and determination.

As we look ahead, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and remain committed to our mission of empowering women and girls in Kiruhura.

Thank you once again to everyone who has supported us on this journey.

Sincerely,

[kyomukama](#)

Kyomukama Phoebe Tumwebaze

Executive Director

Kiruhura Women Development Agency

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With lots of appreciation to GFF for your support

