



FACILITATION FOR
PEACE AND
DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



'Deepening Relevance, Strengthening Impact'

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FORWARD	3
1.INTRODUCTION.....	4
1.1 NATURAL RESOURCES, FOOD AND INCOME SECURITY	5
Project 1: The Food security for family farmers through agroecology programme.....	5
Project 2: Strengthening Vulnerable Households (SVH) project.....	7
1.2 ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE	8
Project 1: The Citizens’ Initiative for Police Reform.	8
1.3 GENDER JUSTICE	9
Project 1: Promoting Peace Building on land conflict and the use of wetland.....	9
Project 2: Responsible land policy in Uganda (RELAPU).	10
Project 3: Scarification, Torment, Ostracization and profiling: Silent Trauma from Invisible Gender- Based Marginalization (STOP –STIGMA).....	12
Project 4: Rapid response against child sexual exploitation and abuse. (R-CSEA).	13
Project 5: Rights and Access to Justice Activities (RAJA).	16
1.4 RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION.	17
Project 1: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Children Born of War: Impact Enhancement Hub Lira (IEHL).	17
2.CAPACITY BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT.....	18
3.KEY NETWORKING ACTIVITIES.	19
4.KEY LESSONS LEARNED	20
5. OUR PARTNERS IN 2023.....	22

It is my pleasure to present FAPAD's Annual Report for the year 2023, highlighting our progress during the fifth year of our Strategic Plan 2019/2023. Despite challenges posed by a rapidly changing civil society environment and complex development issues, we continued to learn and adapt.

As we navigated the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, our commitment to addressing the multifaceted challenges facing marginalized families and communities remained steadfast. Our goal was clear: to build resilient families and communities that can thrive in the face of adversity.

Throughout the year, we collaborated closely with communities, local governments, and development partners. This collaboration was instrumental in our ability to make significant progress and achieve tremendous impacts on our four strategic objectives:

1. **Improved Sustainable Use of Natural Resources:** We focused on promoting the sustainable use of natural resources for food and income security, ensuring that communities can meet their basic needs while preserving the environment for future generations.
2. **Promoted Accountable Governance:** By strengthening systems and structures to promote transparency in public resource utilization, we worked towards promoting accountable governance that serves the interests of all members of society.
3. **Strengthened Income Security for Unemployed Youth:** Recognizing the importance of economic empowerment, we dedicated efforts to strengthening income security for unemployed youth, providing them with opportunities to build sustainable livelihoods.
4. **Promoted Gender Justice:** We placed a particular emphasis on promoting gender justice, ensuring that women have equal access to productive assets such as land, which is crucial for their economic empowerment and social inclusion.

As we closed the year, we concluded our previous strategic plan and ushered in a new one dedicated to fostering equitable, inclusive, and resilient communities. Our focus remains on improving the quality of life for marginalized communities through the delivery of essential services and the strengthening of existing systems.

As we continue to navigate the evolving statutory requirements that shape the operating space for CSOs, we remain committed to reflecting on lessons learned and staying true to our mandate. Our primary target beneficiary groups – children, women, youth, and subsistence farmers – remain at the forefront of our efforts as we strive for equitable, inclusive, and resilient communities.

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the extraordinary efforts of our staff and Board of Directors during the past year. Your dedication has propelled us closer to achieving our goals. We also value our strategic cooperation with government and partners at both national and global levels.

Allen Kiconco.

Organization Coordinator.

1. INTRODUCTION

In 2023, Facilitation for Peace and Development (FAPAD) successfully concluded the implementation of its five-year strategic plan, spanning from 2019 to 2023. This plan was instrumental in guiding FAPAD's mission to collaborate with marginalised individuals and communities, empowering them to effectively utilize their personal and collective resources. The ultimate goal was to address various challenges and adversities within their environments, thereby facilitating progress towards improved overall well-being.

Throughout 2023, FAPAD diligently worked alongside individuals and communities striving to harness their inherent strengths and capacities. The focus was on fostering resilience, empowerment, and sustainable development initiatives. The end of this strategic plan marked a significant milestone in FAPAD's journey towards achieving its mission and objectives.

In this report commemorating the accomplishments of 2023, FAPAD celebrates the progress made and reflects on the lessons learned during the implementation of the strategic plan. It acknowledges the contributions of individuals and communities in realizing positive change and overcoming obstacles. Furthermore, the report outlines our aspirations and goals for the upcoming year, 2024.

As we embark on the new strategic plan (2024/2028), FAPAD aims to build upon the successes and insights gained from previous years. This will involve refining strategies, expanding partnerships, and innovating approaches to better serve the needs of the communities we work with. Additionally, the organization will set new targets and initiatives aligned with evolving challenges and opportunities in our operating environment.

1.1 NATURAL RESOURCES, FOOD AND INCOME SECURITY

Project 1: The Food security for family farmers through agroecology programme.

The ongoing program aims to enhance the food, nutrition, and income security of 1000 family farmers and youth from farming households in Amolatar. It seeks to empower them to actively participate in decision-making processes at the household, community, and national levels. This 5-year (2022-2026) initiative is being implemented in Muntu and Awelo sub-counties in Amolatar district, with funding from Broederlijk Delen. Through this program, participants will receive training and support to improve their farming practices, increase their crop yields, and access markets for their products. Additionally, they will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to engage in advocacy and represent their interests in various forums, ensuring that their voices are heard in decision-making processes that affect their lives.

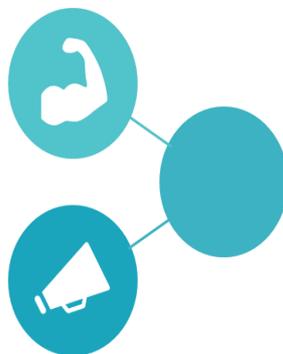


Photo 1: A program participant receives a certificate of participation during the 1st Annual seed fair held in Amolatar with Support from BD on 30th August 2023 at Amolatar Primary School.

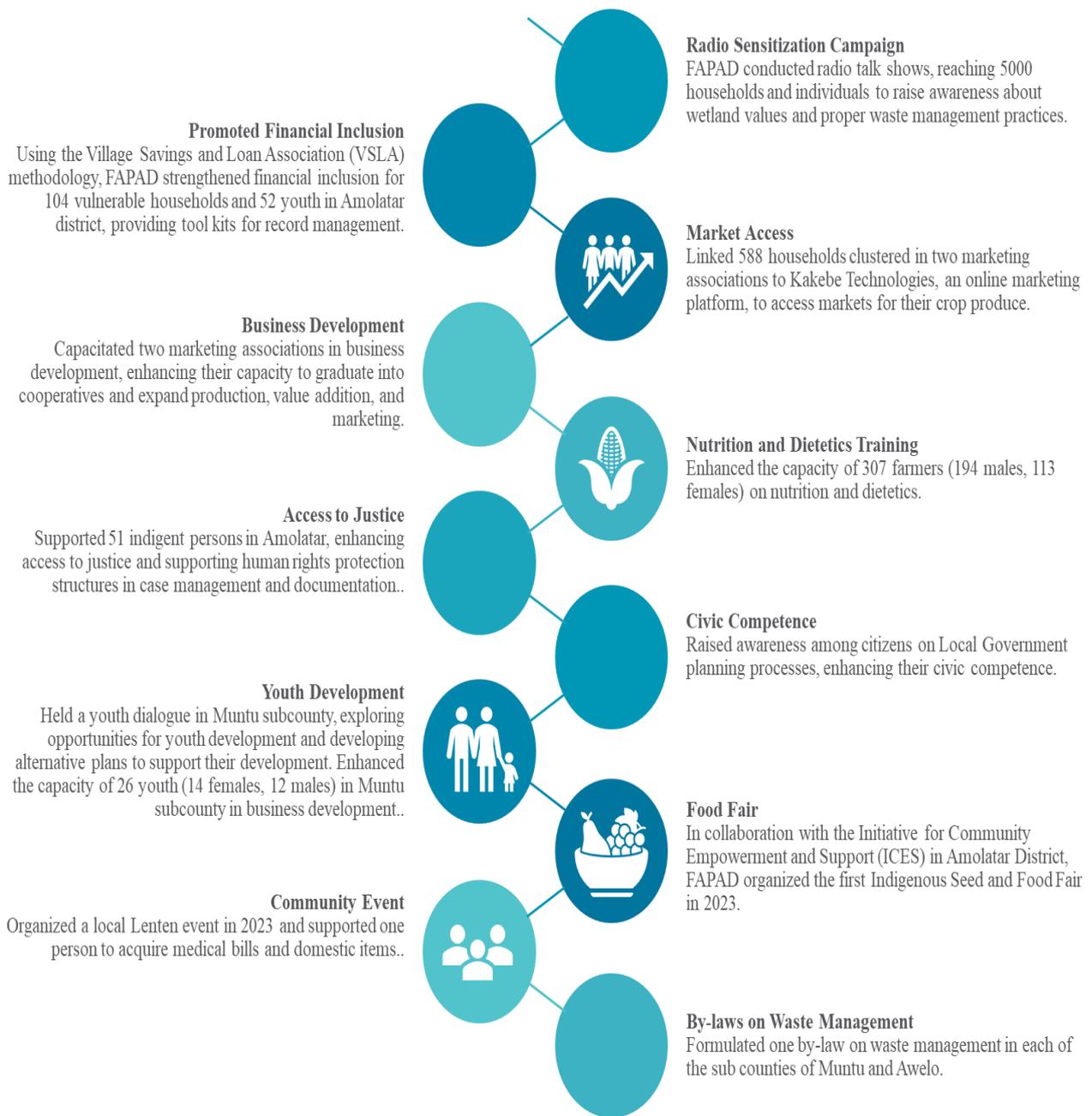
The key highlights of this programme in 2023 include;

Strengthened Agroecology Committees
Collaborating with PELUM Uganda, FAPAD enhanced the visibility and capacity of two agroecology village committees and one Regional Agroecology Actors Platform committee in Amolatar district.

Raised Awareness on Sustainable Farming
Through awareness-raising outreaches, FAPAD reached 487 individuals (278 males, 209 females) on agroecology and sustainable farming systems, promoting sustainable utilization of natural resources and the environment.



Established Subcounty Nutrition Committees
FAPAD facilitated the establishment and capacity-building of two subcounty nutrition committees in Muntu and Awelo subcounties, educating them on their roles and responsibilities.



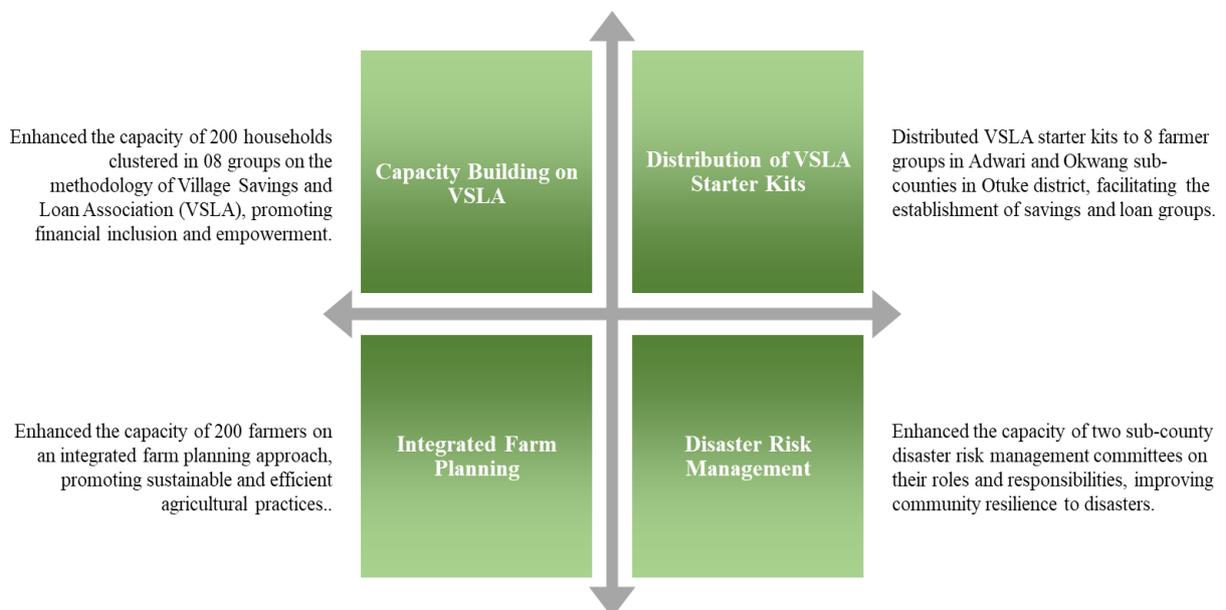
Project 2: Strengthening Vulnerable Households (SVH) project

Strengthening Vulnerable Households (SVH) project, a 3-year initiative running from 2023 to 2026, is a crucial intervention aimed at improving the livelihoods of 400 vulnerable households and communities in Adwari and Okwang sub-counties of Otuke district. Funded by AWO International and Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH), the project focuses on enhancing food security, income stability, and resilience to disasters among its target beneficiaries, including females, persons with disabilities (PWD), and child-headed households.



Photo 2: Some project participants and project team during the mapping of water points in Adwari sub-county in September 2023.

In 2023, the project achieved several key highlights:



These initial achievements demonstrate the project's commitment to empowering vulnerable households and communities, enhancing their resilience and food security, and promoting sustainable development in Otuke district.

1.2 ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

Project 1: The Citizens' Initiative for Police Reform.

The Citizens Initiative for Police Reform is a program aims at promoting a pro-people and accountable police system in Uganda through policy advocacy. Supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), the program has two main objectives:

1. **Strengthening Organizational Capacity:** The program seeks to enhance FAPAD's organizational capacity to engage in police reform activities effectively. This includes building the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to advocate for meaningful change within the police system.
2. **Advocacy for Ethical and Accountable Security Sector:** The program aims to promote and advocate for an ethical, accountable, and transparent security sector in Uganda. By raising awareness about the importance of these values, the program strives to create a more just and equitable society.

Currently, the program is actively supporting the review processes of the Police Act (2009) in collaboration with the Greater North Parliamentary Forum. This involvement demonstrates the program's commitment to driving tangible policy changes that will benefit the Ugandan population and contribute to a more accountable and transparent police system.



Photo 4: Members of Uganda Police Force brass band and FAPAD staff taken during the SDGs walk in Lira City 6th-8th May 2023, in Northern Uganda

In 2023, the Citizens Initiative for Police Reform achieved significant milestones including;

The project, in collaboration with the Retired Uganda Police Officers Association, conducted a thorough examination of the age limit for the appointment of persons to the rank of Assistant Inspector General of Police.

This examination likely involved research, consultations, and analysis to inform potential policy recommendations.



FAPAD, working closely with Honourable Aogon Silas and the Greater North Parliamentary Forum, successfully submitted the draft Police Act Amendment Bill to the Speaker of Parliament. This bill is a critical step towards reforming and improving the police system in Uganda, intending to make it more ethical, accountable, and transparent.

These key achievements demonstrate the program's commitment to advancing police reform in Uganda through strategic collaborations and advocacy efforts. By engaging with key stakeholders and actively participating in policy discussions, the program is contributing to the development of a more effective and people-centered police system in the country.

1.3 GENDER JUSTICE

Project 1: Promoting Peace Building on land conflict and the use of wetland.

In partnership with AGIAMONDO, FAPAD is actively engaged in a multifaceted project aimed at promoting peacebuilding and non-violent resolution of land conflicts, while also focusing on the sustainable management of wetlands in Lira District's Barr, Itek, and Agali sub-counties. The project's primary focus is on marginalized groups, aiming to empower them economically and promote environmental stewardship within their communities.

Furthermore, FAPAD's collaboration with Green and White Enterprises has led to the implementation of a significant initiative focused on empowering communities through vocational skills training in commercial beekeeping. This initiative is designed not only to improve livelihoods but also to emphasize the importance of environmental conservation and stewardship in the region.



Photo 3: A lot Lawrence, a community peace promoter taking part in a wetland management awareness raising drive in Barr sub county in 2023.

Throughout 2023, the program achieved several key milestones, including:

Community outreach

FAPAD conducted extensive community outreach efforts, reaching 1,476 farming communities. These outreach activities aimed to raise awareness on various critical issues, including land conflicts, the land tenure system, environmental management policies, land administration, and alternative dispute resolution (ADR). By empowering communities with knowledge and information, FAPAD sought to promote peaceful and sustainable land use practices.

Vocational training

FAPAD successfully enhanced the capacity of 100 farming community members (50 males, 50 females) clustered in 4 groups in commercial beekeeping. This vocational training initiative aimed to provide community members with the necessary skills and knowledge to engage in sustainable beekeeping practices. By promoting beekeeping as a viable income-generating activity, FAPAD sought to improve livelihoods and reduce dependency on unsustainable land-use practices.

Establishment of beekeeping project site

FAPAD established 4 beekeeping project sites in Barr and Agali sub-counties in Lira District. These project sites served as practical training grounds for community members interested in beekeeping. By providing hands-on training and support, FAPAD aimed to encourage the adoption of sustainable beekeeping practices and promote economic empowerment within the community.



Capacity Building

The program successfully enhanced the capacity of 65 community peace promoters and sub-county stakeholders. This capacity-building initiative focused on gender sensitivity and conflict management, with a particular emphasis on the components of ADR. By equipping community members with these skills, FAPAD aimed to promote peaceful conflict resolution at the grassroots level.

Support to local government

FAPAD provided financial support to the Lira district local government's Natural Resource and Environment department. This support enabled the department to conduct sensitization campaigns within the community, highlighting the importance of wetland preservation and demarcation. By working closely with local authorities, FAPAD aimed to foster a sense of environmental responsibility and promote sustainable land management practices.

Broadly, these FAPAD's efforts and achievements in 2023 have made a significant impact on the communities of Lira District. By focusing on peacebuilding, sustainable land management, and economic empowerment, FAPAD has helped to create a more resilient and environmentally conscious community. Through continued collaboration and strategic partnerships, FAPAD aims to further expand its impact and promote lasting positive change in the region.

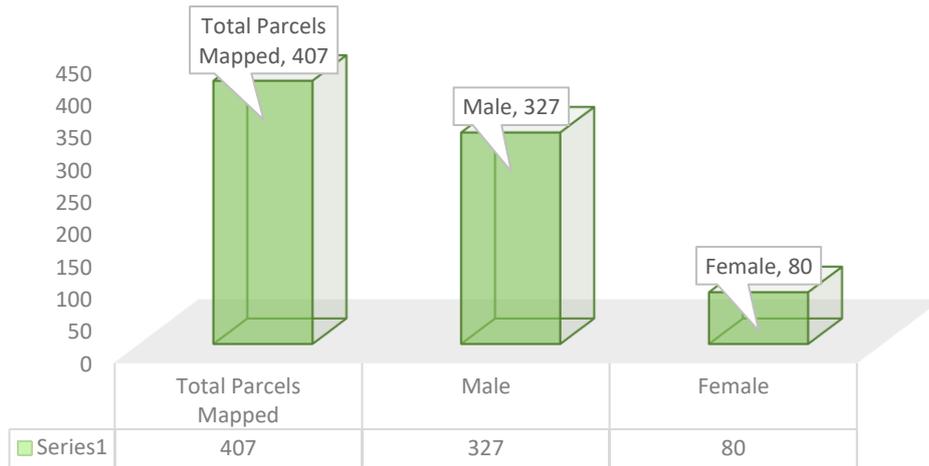
Project 2: Responsible land policy in Uganda (RELAPU).

The Responsible Land Policy in Uganda project, supported by GIZ, is a crucial initiative aimed at improving customary tenure security for rural households in Amwoma and Bata sub-counties of Dokolo district. The project, which commenced in April 2023 and is scheduled to run until April 2024, has achieved several significant milestones in 2023, highlighting its impact on the local communities:

1. **Legal Aid Services:** Provided legal aid services to **164 cases** from Amwoma and Bata sub-counties is a significant achievement. This support helps marginalized individuals and households navigate complex legal processes related to land ownership and tenure security, ensuring their rights are protected.

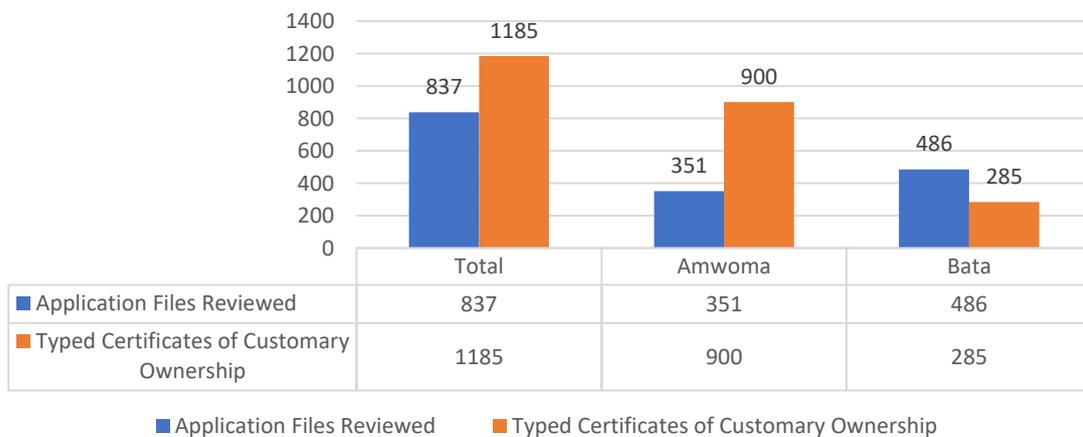
2. **Gender Equity Awareness:** Conducted gender equity awareness-raising meetings that reached **604 indigent persons** in 16 villages across Atabu and Abucero Parish is a commendable effort. These meetings likely focused on promoting gender equality in land ownership and highlighting the importance of women's land rights.
3. **Parcel Mapping:** 407 parcels belonging to 327 male and 80 female households were mapped as seen in the graph below. This mapping exercise is vital for establishing clear land boundaries, resolving boundary disputes, and ensuring secure land tenure for these households.

Graph showing the number of parcels mapped by gender



4. **Radio Talk Shows:** The project's outreach efforts through radio talk shows that reached **5000 indigent communities** are crucial for raising awareness about the free registration of customary land. Such initiatives help ensure that rural communities are informed about their land rights and can take advantage of land registration opportunities.
5. **Typed Certificates of Customary Ownership and Reviewed Application files.**

Graph showing the number of Application files reviewed and the number CCOs typed



The graph above indicates that;

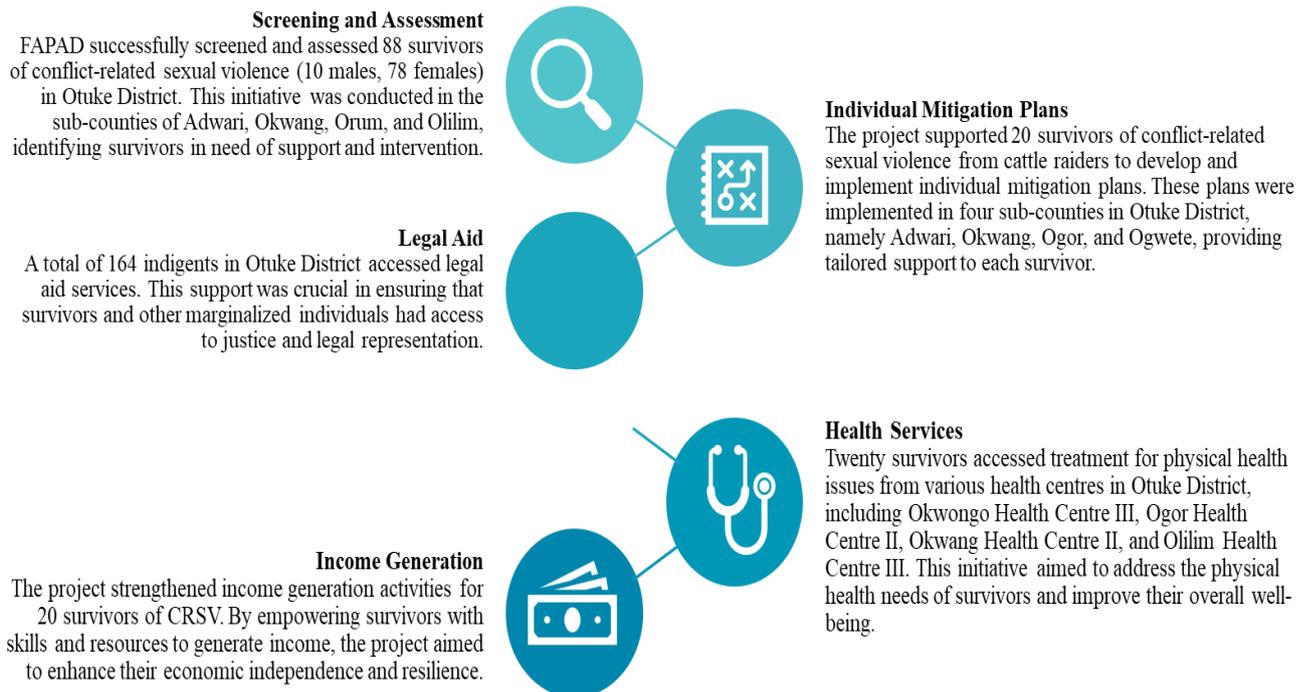
- 1185 Certificates of Customary Ownership were typed, with 900 from Amwoma and 285 from Bata sub-counties, is a significant step towards formalizing land ownership. These certificates provide legal recognition of land ownership and help secure land rights for rural households.
- The project reviewed 837 application files, with 351 from Amwoma and 486 from Bata sub-counties. This process involved verifying and processing applications for land registration, which is essential for formalizing land ownership and tenure.

Therefore, the RELAPU project has made remarkable progress in enhancing land tenure security for marginalized rural communities in Dokolo district. Through its various activities and initiatives, the project is empowering communities, promoting gender equality, and fostering sustainable land management practices, ultimately contributing to improved livelihoods and well-being for residents.

Project 3: Scarification, Torment, Ostracization and profiling: Silent Trauma from Invisible Gender-Based Marginalization (STOP –STIGMA)

FAPAD is currently implementing the STOP-STIGMA project in Otuke. This six-month project, supported by the HEALLA Foundation (renewed for another six months), aims to mitigate the exposure of women, girls, and their offspring to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) and its long-term legacies. The project focuses on motivating influential clan structures to adopt a gender-responsive posture and drive progressive communal behavioural changes. These changes include acknowledging and boldly speaking out on the universality of human rights, advocating for gender-responsive legal and policy frameworks, and dissolving the stigmatization and socioeconomic discrimination against 20 survivors of CRSV.

In 2023, the STOP-STIGMA project achieved several key milestones:



These initial achievements of the STOP-STIGMA project in 2023 demonstrate its commitment to supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Otuke District. Through its various interventions, the project has made significant strides in addressing the complex challenges faced by survivors and promoting their well-being and empowerment.

Project 4: Rapid response against child sexual exploitation and abuse. (R-CSEA).

The Rapid Response Combating Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children in Lango sub-region (R-CSAE) was a critical six-month project designed to address the escalating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children, both boys and girls, in Oyam district. The project aimed to collaboratively develop practical and sustainable solutions with the community and leaders to end the abuse of children.

The primary goal of the R-CSAE project was to enhance access to justice for teenage mothers and other child survivors, both boys and girls, of sexual abuse and exploitation in Oyam district, specifically in Kamdini and Otwal/Aleka sub-counties. The project's duration was set to conclude by April 2023.



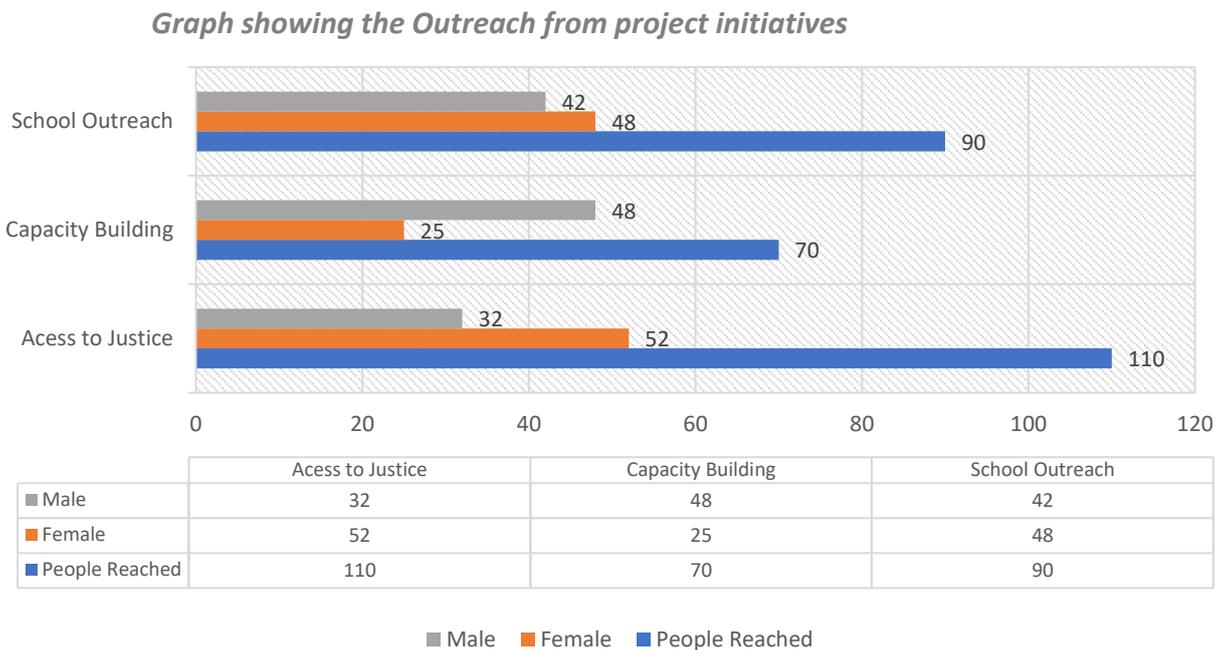
Photo 4: From right, the Community Development Officer Ayo Walter and FAPAD Programme Manager during a talk show on Voice of Lango FM.

Key achievements

The key achievements of the R-CSAE project in 2023 were significant and impactful, highlighting the project's commitment to addressing the challenges faced by children in Oyam district:

- 1. Community Outreach** The project successfully reached **10,000 indigent individuals** through radio talk shows, jingles, and community outreach programs. These efforts were instrumental in raising awareness about child sexual exploitation, abuse, neglect, and other forms of abuse, reaching a wide audience in Oyam and the greater Lango region.
- 2. Psychosocial Support:** A total of **127 survivors and families of child sexual abuse** and exploitation (CSAE) and other forms of abuse were screened and assessed for psychological effects using the psychosocial support screening tool. This initiative aimed to identify and address the mental health needs of survivors and their families, ensuring they receive appropriate support and care.

Figure 1: Graph showing the number of people reached during the school outreach, capacity building and access to justice initiatives



The graph above indicates that;

- The project reached 90 pupils (42 males and 48 females) between the ages of 9-18 in Kamdini, Oyam district, through school outreach programs. These programs were designed to strengthen retention, reintegration, and reduce stigma for pregnant pupils, ensuring that they continue their education in a supportive environment.
- The project revived and strengthened the capacity of 70 Child Protection Committee (CPC) members, with 45 males and 25 females, from Otwal, Aleka, and Kamdini. These committee members were trained in the identification, reporting, monitoring, and management of sexual abuse and exploitation of children, enhancing their ability to protect and support children in their communities.
- A total of 110 cases (32 males and 52 females) of child sexual exploitation, abuse, neglect, emotional, and physical abuse were facilitated access to justice. This achievement is critical in ensuring that survivors of abuse receive the support and legal assistance needed to seek justice and recover from their traumatic experiences.

Through its holistic approach involving community engagement, capacity building, survivor support, and advocacy, the project aimed to create concrete change and ensure a safer environment for children in Oyam district.

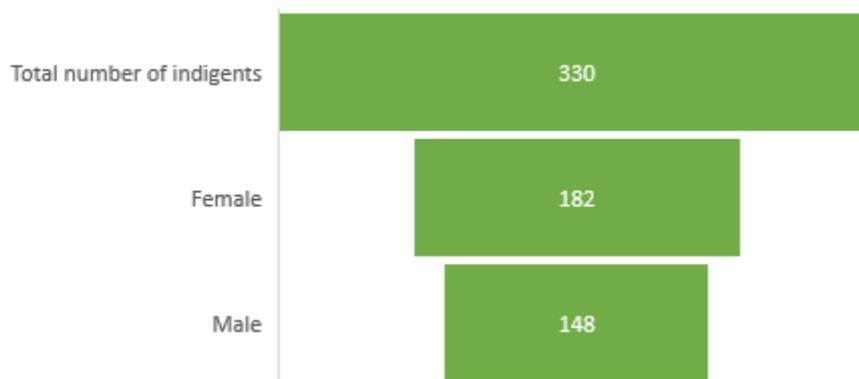
Project 5: Rights and Access to Justice Activities (RAJA).

The Rights and Access to Justice Activities project, implemented in partnership with the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) under the Legal Aid Subgroup created under the Rights and Justice Activity program, with funding from Freedom House-USAID, aimed to address the concerns of vulnerable and marginalized people in Lango. The project focused on enhancing access to justice and human rights in the region.

In 2023, the project achieved several key milestones:

1. **Radio Talk Shows:** The project reached **15,000 indigent individuals** through two radio talk shows focusing on access to justice and human rights respect. These talk shows were instrumental in raising awareness and educating the community about their rights and the available legal services.
2. **Legal Aid Provision:**

Graph showing the number of indigents who received Legal Aid services



The graph above indicates that a total of 330 indigents (182 females and 148 males) received legal aid services. This support included legal advice, representation, and assistance in navigating the legal system, ensuring that marginalized individuals had access to justice.

3. **Sensitization Workshops:** The project conducted sensitization workshops, reaching 284 individuals in Lira sub-county. These workshops aimed to educate participants about their rights and how to access justice, empowering them to assert their rights and seek legal remedies when necessary.

These activities and achievements demonstrate our commitment to promoting access to justice and human rights in Lango sub-region, and northern Uganda broadly. Through its various activities and initiatives, the RAJA project played a crucial role in empowering marginalized communities and ensuring that they had some necessary support to access justice and uphold their rights.

1.4 RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION.

Project 1: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Children Born of War: Impact Enhancement Hub Lira (IEHL).

In their 2024-2028 strategic plan, FAPAD has expanded its work scope by focusing on the theme of research and knowledge production. This program aims to enhance the knowledge stock and impact of research activities in Northern Uganda. By fostering a research culture, sharing knowledge, and basing decisions on evidence, this initiative seeks to contribute to the overall development and well-being of the region. Through this program area, FAPAD promotes collaborative research initiatives and partnerships among researchers, institutions, and communities in Northern Uganda. It also improves the dissemination and utilisation of research findings. Collaborative research initiatives encourage interdisciplinary approaches, exchange of ideas, and expertise, and leverage collective knowledge and resources to tackle pressing issues such as poverty, health disparities, education, and sustainable development.

As part of their new research and knowledge production focus, in 2023, FAPAD started collaborating with the University of Birmingham (UK) to investigate how research results are used in programming and how to improve the usefulness of research in informing policy and programming choices.

The project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) in the UK under its impact acceleration program. It runs from September 2023 to August 31, 2024. The purpose of the study is to improve the impact of research on sexual and gender-based violence and CBOW protection in Northern Uganda by strengthening the link between research and programming. The main objective is to identify and create better connections between research, service provision and those who benefit from these services.

FAPAD, is working to develop a comprehensive plan to increase the impact of this research in the region. This plan will result in the establishment of a dedicated research impact acceleration hub called the Impact Enhancement Hub Lira (IEHL) within the organization. This first study of the hub will identify the barriers to successful and sustainable implementation of SGBV and child protection research results in Northern Uganda.

2.CAPACITY BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT.

FAPAD's collaboration with Haella Uganda partners in Northern Uganda was a significant effort aimed at strengthening the capacity of local organizations to address the needs of their communities effectively. The collaboration involved a range of activities designed to enhance the skills and capabilities of the partner organizations.

One of the key activities was a series of capacity development training sessions focused on areas identified in a thorough needs assessment. This assessment helped pinpoint specific areas where the partner organizations required support, such as project management, financial management, monitoring and evaluation, and organizational development, accountability and learning and resource mobilization. The training sessions were tailored to meet these specific needs, equipping participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to improve their operations and impact.

In addition to training, the collaboration also involved mentorship and coaching for staff and leaders of the partner organizations. Experienced professionals provided guidance and support to help them overcome challenges and implement best practices in their work.

The collaboration also facilitated networking and collaboration among the partner organizations, enabling them to learn from each other, share experiences, and explore opportunities for joint initiatives. This networking helped create a supportive ecosystem where organizations could leverage each other's strengths and resources for greater impact.



Photo 5: Haella Partners meeting at FAPAD Head Office in August, 2023.



Photo 7: The Program Manager presenting in one of the capacity development trainings.

This collaboration between FAPAD and its Haella Uganda partners was an important effort to build a strong and resilient civil society sector in Northern Uganda. By investing in the capacity of local organizations, the collaboration aimed to create significant change and improve the lives of communities in the region.

3. KEY NETWORKING ACTIVITIES.

International engagement.

Zero Tolerance Initiative (ZTI), a global coalition of human rights defenders, nominated FAPAD to attend the 28th UN Conference of Parties on Climate Change (COP28) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The financial support for this endeavour came from the Climate Justice Resilience Fund (CJRF), an organisation that provides grants to support women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples in creating and sharing solutions for climate resilience.

FAPAD's coordinator, Dr Allen Kiconco, attended COP28 from 30 November to 13 December 2023. This was pivotal for the organisation as it provided an opportunity to align our local efforts with global climate action, engage with international stakeholders, share experiences, and gain insights into effective strategies for climate action. By actively participating in discussions and closely following negotiations, FAPAD aimed to advocate for indigenous and community-driven solutions to address pressing issues such as land degradation and food insecurity. FAPAD believes that climate knowledge and experience can help empower communities to protect their rights, achieve justice, and establish sustainable livelihoods. For FAPAD, attending COP28 was not only about global presence; it was about creating a linkage between grassroots efforts and the global stage, ensuring the safeguarding of lives and livelihoods.

Our participation mainly involved engagement with various events involving indigenous communities, NGOs, INGOs, and academic institutions (non-Party stakeholders). Through case studies and lived experience, these events provided insights into climate mitigation, including response measures; adaptation, including loss and damage; means of implementation and support; and integrated and holistic approaches.

National and Local engagements

- FAPAD was represented at the 2023 annual Child Rights Symposium, convened by the Uganda Child Rights NGO Network. The three-day event, held at Silver Springs Bugolobi, brought together civil society organizations (CSOs) to assess their performance and impact in the child rights sector. The CSOs Taking Stock initiative aimed to identify strengths, highlight areas for improvement, and share best practices in implementing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC). Sessions were dedicated to addressing common compliance challenges faced by CSOs and exploring practical solutions. The symposium also included the network's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which recognized and honoured outstanding child rights actors in Uganda, highlighting their remarkable contributions to improving the lives of children.
- As the third year of the Rights and Justice Activities came to an end, Freedom House organized a two-day residential training for Child Justice partners, and members of the Legal Advocacy Coalition, and selected Rapid Response Partners in Child Protection and Legal Compliance. The training, held on July 18 and 19, 2023, at Mbale Courts View Hotel in Mbale City, was attended by Rights and Justice partners.
- FAPAD also participated in various workshops and trainings, both locally and internationally. For example, FAPAD collaborated with Agiamondo to participate in a learning-sharing exchange in Germany, focusing on Civil Peace Work in Uganda in 2023.

4. KEY LESSONS LEARNED IN 2023

1. The absence of a Gender-based Violence shelter in Oyam district underscores the importance of proactive advocacy and resource mobilization to ensure the safety and protection of vulnerable communities.
2. Impunity and corruption in the handling of child sexual abuse cases highlight the critical need for effective mechanisms to ensure accountability and prevent the release of suspects, thereby ensuring justice for survivors.
3. Providing livelihood support for survivors and their families is essential for economic empowerment, poverty reduction, and facilitating the healing process.
4. The prevalence of Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) within homes, schools, and marketplaces underscores the importance of addressing family dynamics and community awareness to prevent such occurrences.
5. Involving the Resident State Attorney in training investigative teams can enhance the quality of evidence gathering, while community awareness efforts are crucial in combating child marriage and other forms of child abuse.
6. The challenges faced by survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) highlight the need for increased funding and comprehensive support to address their multifaceted needs.
7. Income Generation Activities have been effective in promoting the psychosocial healing and economic well-being of survivors, emphasizing the importance of holistic support programs.
8. Despite progress, survivors and their children continue to face stigma and discrimination, indicating the need for ongoing community education and advocacy efforts.

9. Health facilities' inadequate resources for psychosocial therapy and medicine stock-outs for CRSV survivors demonstrate the need for improved support systems and access to essential services for survivors.
10. As we look ahead to 2024, FAPAD envisions a future where marginalized groups are empowered and proficient in beekeeping, where progress is made on wetland policies within local bye-laws, and where there is widespread community awareness on land and wetland conflicts. We aim to see a strengthened, self-sustaining network for conflict resolution and environmental management. Additionally, we hope to secure additional financial support from third parties to accelerate the progress of our projects, extending our impact beyond the current engagement with AGIAMONDO.
11. In 2024, our goal is to see households effectively implementing their integrated farm plans to achieve food, nutrition, and income security. We aim for farmers to conduct participatory action research, utilizing local knowledge and wisdom to address issues such as pests and diseases that affect agricultural production and productivity.
12. The conclusion of the 2019-2023 strategic plan was a significant milestone for FAPAD, marking the culmination of years of dedicated effort and strategic initiatives. This milestone provided an opportunity for reflection, celebration of achievements, and a renewed commitment to our mission of enhancing the welfare of individuals and communities.
13. Reflection on the strategic plan allowed us to assess our progress towards predefined goals and objectives, evaluate the effectiveness of our strategies, and identify areas for improvement. This process has provided valuable insights into what has worked well and what adjustments are necessary as we move forward.
14. Furthermore, the conclusion of the strategic plan has renewed our commitment to our mission and vision. It has served as a catalyst for setting new goals, charting the course for future endeavours, and reaffirming our dedication to making a positive impact on the lives of marginalized communities. This renewal of commitment has energized our stakeholders, inspired innovation, and propelled FAPAD forward as we continue our journey of service and advocacy in 2024 and beyond.

5. OUR PARTNERS IN 2023

