



# RWENZORI PEOPLE'S VOICE

## ENHANCING CIVIC COMPETENCE FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

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*The views expressed in this publication are largely for the participants herein.*

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## Editorial

Hello readers,

Greetings from the RWECO editorial team. First we thank you for your continued support and feedback about our services and programs. Here in this third volume of the RWECO magazine 2013 we share with you some of that feedback together with many more stories of change from our interventions. In this publication we focus more on the education sector. Aware of the continued and alarming challenges facing the education sector and with final examinations for the candidate classes coming ahead, RWECO implementing partners concentrated on this sector during the quarter July- September; the purpose of which was to create awareness on the status of services therein. Some of the key stories in this publication are; what Harugongo primary school has done to excel, adequate school facilities a necessity for good academic performance, and amazing how combined efforts can improve academic performance. We invite you to read on and abreast yourself with RWECO's interventions and milestones in the education sector. However other interesting news stories on water and accountability have been included too. Enjoy your reading and please remember to share your comments and observations with us on; email: [info@rweco.org](mailto:info@rweco.org), Sms 6030, Tel: +256 772 184582 P.o.Box. 539, and Face book: <http://www.facebook.com/rweco>.

1. Alice .M.Atholere
2. Sheilla Kengingo
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5. Margaret Kidiima

## TO SERVE OR TO BE SERVED: KANARA RESIDENTS DEMAND FOR OPEN ACCOUNTABILITY

"I came to serve and not to be served" were the opening remarks of the Ntoroko District Chairperson Hon. Timothy Kyamanywa during the Citizens Manifesto (CM) Day in Kanara Town Council landing site on Wednesday 31st July 2013. Speaking at the meeting the Chairperson informed the meeting that it is his responsibility to deliver his mandate and reach the people at their points of need, explaining that most often some leaders when entrusted with power expect people to work for them, a practice he said he despises.



*Ntoroko LCV Chairperson responding to issues raised by the NA and the Citizens during the CM day at Kanara Landing Site.*

The CM day that was organized by Ntoroko Alliance Against Poverty (NTAAP) was attended by locals and several district officials; the LCV Chairperson, Hon. Timothy Kyamanywa, the CAO Mr. Allan Ashaba, District Speaker, Hon. Betty Tembe, District Education Officer, the NAADS Coordinator, District Engineer, Town Clerk and the Finance Officer. NTAAP Neighborhood Assembly had previously carried out monitoring of the basic education infrastructure in Kanara Town Council and at Ntoroko Primary School where they discovered that sanitation, latrine coverage and staff quarters were a big challenge that needed urgent attention.

Among others, the assembly seating that day inquired of the district LCV Chairperson about the

unclear district distribution of political posts and civil service appointment of district staff. Responding to this the Chairperson informed the citizens that the job adverts were put in papers and radio announcements had been made but unfortunately for Ntoroko district most citizens shun taking their children to school but rather prefer grazing cattle and fishing. He challenged the citizens to show him anybody who had a Masters Degree in Accounting, Social Work and Development studies because that is what the positions required. About Scholarships, the Chairman listed the Universities that had given Ntoroko District Scholarships: Mountains of the Moon University (25%), Uganda Pentecostal University (50%) while the government quarter system required that candidates must have sat their A Level from Ntoroko district whereas the UNICEF scholarships were only for human Medicine

Commenting on the other issues raised in the report, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) pledged to share the problems affecting the Beach Management Units such involvement of school going children in fishing, high taxes levied on fish mongers, increased sexual immorality and indiscriminate fishing with the Fisheries department. About the latrine situation/coverage the CAO revealed that the district had secured 50 million shillings from UNICEF out of which 30 million shillings would be used to construct a 5 stance latrine at Ntoroko Primary School while the 20 million shillings would be used by Kanara Town Council Early Childhood Development to renovate the classroom blocks that were blown off by the storm in May.

The CAO also educated the meeting on the government policy on the construction of staff houses in the hard to reach areas like Kanara; he noted that parents are by law expected to support this construction. He called upon every parent present in the meeting to support the on-going construction of staff houses.

In addition to the above, the District Education Officer, Mr. Mubarak Masereka informed the citizens that UPE guidelines allow for Town Councils to levy 10,400 shillings on UPE schools as development fees. Mr. Masereka challenged the School management



*NTAAP CBO/NA members signing the MoU with RWECO/GHFRD for the Boat Project on 31st July, 2013*

committees and Parents Teachers Associations to use this mandate and collect money which they can later use to build some staff houses

On the other hand to seal the working arrangement between Good Hope Foundation for Rural development and NTAAP Neighborhood Assembly an MoU was signed to guide future working relations – getting the citizens to engage with their leaders. And as the project aims at economic empowerment of the CBOs also serving as NAs, NTAAP chose a boat project as their seed capital since fishing is the main activity on the Lake Albert. It is believed that whereas this project aims at improving civic competence it should also at the end of the day improve the livelihoods of the citizens involved.

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## **STOP THE BLAME GAME AND DO YOUR PART RIGHT**

**Sheilla Kengingo & Kahunde Erina**

If you are a leader out there and you have not been monitoring the schools in your area of operation, it is absurd to blame the head teachers and teachers for poor performance in schools. Yeah I believe poor service delivery is as a result of leaders who have failed to do their work. If you doubt my statement just imagine a parish that has one school having 4 villages and each village has 9 leaders at LC1 which makes a total of 36 individuals, LC2 has 9 leaders, the school has 11 members of the PTA and 12 members of the SMC with the parish having an area councilors (both male and Female) making a total of 70 individuals.

If every leader committed him or herself to visit the school at least once a term because a term on average has 72 days without under estimating the work of the CSO including religious leaders, parish chiefs, sub county authorities and the Inspector of schools. I am sure there would be no cases of absenteeism of teachers or pupils, ghost teachers, and mismanagement of UPE grant, or even the indiscipline of pupils which we are seeing today. With this my simple reason is that every day a leader would be at school to supervise and also support the school authorities.

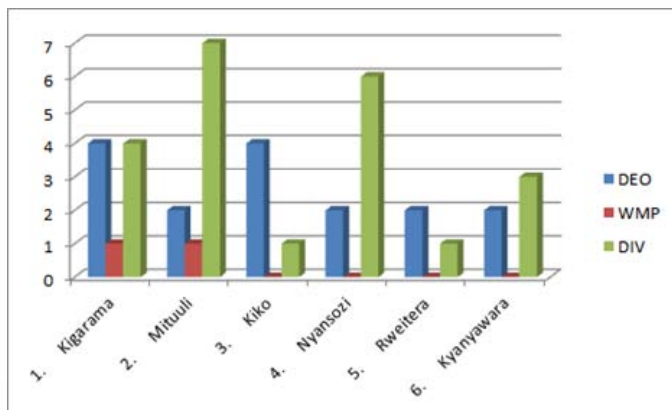
In a case study conducted by RIDE Africa between June 2012 – June 2013 on monitoring and supervision by leaders in 19 out of the 34 primary schools in Burahya County, it was learnt that the RDC had visited only one school yet the Local Government Act 1998 and Education Act 2008 (section 71(b and d and section 5 (1m and n) respectively mandate the RDC to monitor and supervise all schools.

Findings further revealed that out of the 19 schools only 1 school had been visited by the sub county Chief of Bukuku Sub County. Salutations bwana Chief you deserve credit. One wonders why, since Sub county chiefs are the supervisors of the sub county, they sign head teachers' performance contracts and are also known to be the chief planners of the sub county.

On a good note however, at least 12 out of 19 schools had been visited by some LCIII Chairpersons by June 2013. It is still unclear if there is any justification for the other 7 LCIII chairpersons who did not visit their schools yet it's one of their roles and responsibilities – to supervise service delivery in the Sub County.

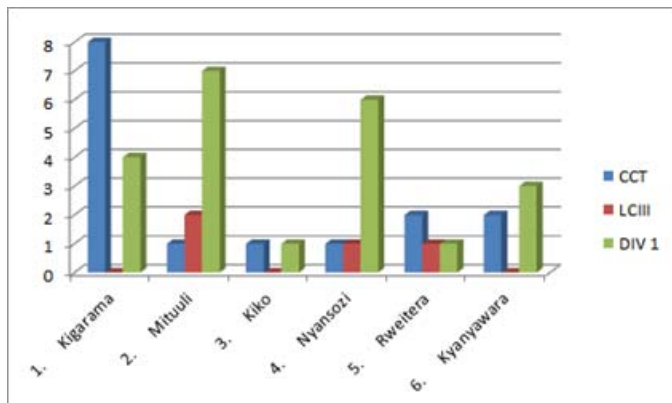
Important to note is our very own Members of Parliament who also have a role to play in monitoring schools for improved performance since they are routinely facilitated with mileage to consult and monitor government programs in their constituencies. In the case study, it was realized that the Kabarole district Woman MP Hon. Victoria Rusoke had visited 6 schools by June 2013 while Hon. Stephen Kagwera had visited 7 schools by June 2013.

*Table of Schools Monitored by District leaders in Burahya County*



The impact of routine monitoring and supervision by authorities was evident in the 2012 UPE results; Harugongo primary school which had been visited four times by the MP Burahya County scored 144 first grades out of 170 candidates, while Kazingo primary school that was visited once got 14 first grades out of 59 candidates that had sat that year.

*Table Schools monitored by sub county leadership in Burahya County*



From these findings it is evident that monitoring and support supervision have a direct link on other factors like provision of lunch to pupils as well as effective service delivery. The office of the DEO and the Centre Coordinating Tutors (CCTs) were however upheld for the good work done of supervising schools, since clearly all the schools sampled for the study had been visited by the DEO, District Inspector of schools, County Inspector of schools and the CCTs.

These findings together with several more were shared by RIDE Africa at a press conference held on 24th July 2013 at Jerusalem Guest House, Fort Portal Municipality. The press conference brought together approximately 30 persons from the media, Local Government, Civil Society, political and cultural wings and the community based monitors. Responding to some of the monitoring findings in the press report, the district Inspector of Schools Mr. Rujjumba Joseph regretted to acknowledge that it was true monitoring and supervision of primary schools had not been given inadequate attention due to limited facilitation explaining that for example an LCIII Chairperson is given only 290,000 shillings monthly as facilitation irrespective of their tight and demanding roles and responsibilities. He also added that whereas inadequate facilitation is a big challenge, some other leaders do not even know that it is their role to monitor and supervise schools while others are just lazy to visit and or sign in schools' visitors' books.

I call up us all to stop the blame game and rather get to do what we ought to do. Let us take responsibility to monitor education because Education is a systematic process through which a child or an adult acquires knowledge, experience, skills, a sound attitude and bright future. Together we can make a difference.

# LET THE CHILDREN SPEAK

Alyce Atholere – Information & Advocacy Officer – RIC-NET

And He said let the little children come to me, Mathew 19:14. Jesus acknowledged that Children too needed to be brought on board and also listened to. It is unfortunate however that many times we brush off children's opinions or even deliberately chose not to consult and or involve them in our plans and decision making processes whether the decisions made will affect them negatively or not. This has times without number happened in our homes, churches, community and schools. It is a shame and not nice at all if u asked me! Can't help wondering what happened to the children's rights and the freedom of speech and expression gospel, and how on earth we go on planning and doing things for people without involving or consulting them.

With the mandate and calling to voice the silence and unlock people's potentials, RIC-NET in collaboration with RWECO Coordinating Unit mobilized over 1000 students and pupils from approximately 40 secondary and primary schools in the Rwenzori region to participate in an essay and poem writing competition and art and painting competition. This exercise was geared at giving the children a platform to share their opinions on the selected topics. For instance secondary students were asked to write comprehensive essays or poems on **how adequate the government interventions in boosting agriculture and education sectors in light of the different, NAADS, USE and UPE initiatives have been.**



This was aimed at highlighting the impact of government efforts in these sectors. In addition **to this, the same students were also tasked to draw pictures depicting the status of services in the schools within their vicinities.**

This too was aimed at creating understanding on the status of service delivery in education/ schools in the rwenzori region. On the other hand pupils were asked to draw and paint pictures depicting a child friendly

learning environment. This as well was aimed at creating awareness and bringing out the children's opinion about an ideal learning environment visa-viz the actual learning environments in their schools. RIC-NET conducted this exercise with an idea of gathering and understanding the children's views and opinions. It is planned that the information gathered will be repackaged and shared with the concerned authorities and stakeholders, and also be used for further advocacy where necessary.

Approximately 754 children from both primary and secondary schools participated in this exercise. Beautiful, touching and talking art pieces were drawn, while comprehensive and educative essays and poems were also written. These beautiful pieces were marked by a team of four competent teachers of English and art; Mr. Muhumuza Baitababu, Mr. Kajura Nelson and Mrs. Kata Grace and Mr. Phillip Asiimwe respectively.



*RICNET ICT officer hands over a Certificate to a pupil at Kyembogo PS in Kyenjojo District*

Winners in the different categories were identified and awarded presents for their good work, while the rest of all the other participants received certificates of participation in this noble exercise. We believe this will help in bringing to light or to the attention of the duty bearers and service providers what the children think about service delivery and the government interventions in the two sectors and what they want to see to facilitate their learning, development and bright future.

We are grateful to the teachers in the schools that participated. Thanks for finding it within your busy schedules to guide and help the children speak out their minds through the pieces of work shared.

## BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD



*Hon. Kiiza Winnie commissioning the exercise at the RWECO Office.*

Improving the quality of Education for the UPE pupils in Uganda has been the quest for every concerned citizen since its inception in 1997 when the enrollment shot from 2.5million to 8million. Commentators lamented and policy makers went back to the drawing board to make UPE a reality since government had made it clear that it was a right for all children to be in school. The directive was "let all children be in class" what about the classrooms, teachers and sanitation in schools were the key issues raised by the commentators till now. It is unfortunate that the same words are still being re-echoed even after 16 years down the road and with Uganda being hailed by UN as having successfully implemented the UPE policy.

Down the road several development partners especially CSOs like RWECO have come in to support and or supplement government efforts. In addition to the monitoring of services in education, training of SMCs and PTAs on their roles and responsibilities, introducing teachers to innovative ICT teaching methods of the English language, RWECO in July also gave out 1100 child – child gift packages to the pupils in Kasese district sent to them by children in the Netherlands.

This exercise was made possible by the Edukans Foundation based in the Netherlands in partnership with Education Local Expertise Center Uganda (ELEC-U),

Association of Evangelical Churches in African and Noah's Arch Child Ministry based in Mukono. The child to child gifts were learning aids aimed at facilitating the transition class (P.4) where children are introduced to the English language from their mother tongue as a medium of instruction. While those who think thematic curriculum was not serving its purpose should be guided about key tenets in learning

The exercise of distribution of the child – child gifts was commissioned by Kasese District Woman MP at RWECO offices Hon. Winnie Kiiza. Hon. Kiiza is a strong advocate for improved service delivery especially in the education Sector. Her efforts towards the same have been evident in her lobbying and connecting some schools in Kasese to Right to Play- an organization that supports co-curricular activities in schools and in her continued sponsoring of disadvantaged pupils that Excel at PLE for higher education. Commissioning the exercise Hon. Winnie thanked RWECO for trusting her with this task and especially for supporting the children.

Fifteen primary schools received this child – child gifts. They included; Mulongoti, Rukoki Model, Muhokya, Atlas Model, Munkunyu, Mpondwe, Katiri, Katwe, Kasese Humanist, St. Johns Bukangara, Nyakatonzi, Kisinga, Bwera Demo, Kiyonga, and Kanyampara primary schools. In doing this RWECO was facilitating change, the change that the great Mahatma Gandhi speaks about "be the change you want to see in the world.." Seeing the children ululating as they received their packages was so motivating to the RWECO team.

*Below: Primary Four Pupils of Mulongothi Primary School, Kasese Municipality, July 2013 after receiving the child to child gifts from RWECO staff*



# ADEQUATE SCHOOL FACILITIES KEY IN PUPILS' PERFORMANCE

**Nicholas Muhesi- KALI**

It is imperative to note that as we strive to improve the quality of education and performance in primary schools, we should also consider the learning-teaching environment in which our children study. It is hard for a pupil to perform better when the learning-teaching environment is harsh, that is lack and or inadequate desks, latrine and water facilities, classrooms forcing some to study under trees. This is the type of learning environment in most of the schools in Uganda today.

Clearly pupils end up copying each other and even not writing at all due to this learning environment. What troubles me the most is that these pupils are at the end of the day expected to sit the same exam and compete with a pupil seated comfortably at Kampala Parents School.

In some schools like Kabusongora Primary school in Ihandiro Sub County too, pupils are forced to sit outside during exams just because of the limited space in their class rooms. Of course they only end up looking at passersby than doing what is required of them. It is very natural that a person can only concentrate when the conditions are favorable and so it is no wonder that performance in schools is deteriorating. It is our role as parents to work together with government and other stakeholders to make life in schools better. It is always a parent's pride when a child succeeds but if we do not invest in these children then we shall not yield much from them.



*captions missing*

Take for instance Kitsutsu Primary school in Munkunyu sub county, Kasese District. Monitoring done in August 2013 revealed that the school has an enrollment of 1012 pupils (477 males and 535 females) but with very few desks for the pupils to sit on especially in lower classes. Apparently the pupil desk ratio is 1:16. Let this sentence continue after the sentence ending lower classes, this sentence is above the first photo in column one.

It was learned that Primary one and two pupils with a total of 373 still sit on the floor for their lessons and exams. Besides this the classes are too congested that one doubts if a pupil can comfortably concentrate and understand what is being taught amidst such an environment- hard surface for a seat, coupled with the suffocation from the congestion.



*captions missing*



# WHAT HARUGONGO PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS DONE TO EXCEL

Kahunde Erina, RIDE Africa.

The year 2012 saw an improvement in academic performance of primary schools in Burahya County. Seven hundred and seven (707) first grades in PLE results were scored in this county while Kabarole District as a whole scored 1001 first grades in the same year.

The improvement in performance has been attributed to the effort of many actors including teachers, parents, foundation bodies, Government, DEO's office, PTAs, SMCs, Politicians, technical staff and NGOs among others. Looking at Harugongo primary school for example the following explain its excellence with 144 out of 174 candidates.

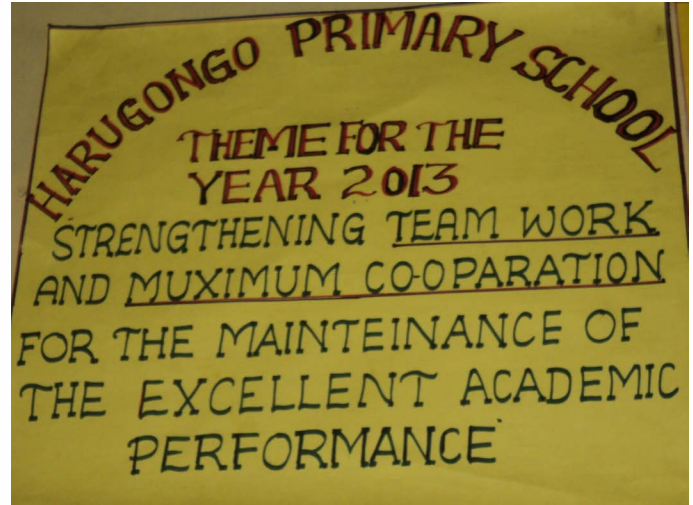
### *Performance of Harugongo primary school since 2004*

Year	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3	Div 4	Div 5	Div 6	Total
2005	04	36	06	03	07	05	55
2006	03	09	01	01	—	04	18
2007	14	61	10	02	04	07	98
2008	—	63	33	10	03	03	112
2009	41	36	—	—	—	—	77
2010	49	38	—	—	—	—	87
2011	60	71	—	—	—	—	131
2012	144	30	—	—	—	—	174
2013							
2014							
2015							

Continued parents' support, parents at this school continued to contribute money to supplement the inadequate government capitation funds which often come late. This contribution was used to buy printed monthly exams for the pupils. This helped in shaping and improving the pupils' confidence and reasoning in exams. It can be said that parents have been made to realize their roles and responsibilities in education, evident in their financial support, routine visits and monitoring of school programs, participation in meetings and provision of the basic necessities to their children.

It was also learnt that the teachers at this school have passion for their job. Being inbuilt and self motivated promoted discipline, adherence to the syllabus, hard work and consequent excellence. Teachers at this school have a record of turning up willingly to teach pupils on even non official hours and days based on the need at the time.

In addition to this, Harugongo primary school staff at the beginning of every year develop a theme that guides and challenges them to fulfill.



*Photo of theme for 2013*

The good relationship the school has with the political leaders at different levels, the district Education office, CSOs SMC and PTA has allowed for effective sensitization and mobilization of parents, and also provided technical advice to the teachers.

Routine internal refresher courses and exposure visits for the teachers to improve on their capacities have been conducted and this facilitated better of their roles and consequent excellence of the pupils. Related to this the school invites external examiners to assess the pupils performance and also give guidance on how to improve it, the school also gives monthly exams to pre-test and prepare the pupils to get used to examinations.

It is important for every school to develop similar strategies that can help them to also excel in their academic performance.

*Mr. Kamwenge Robert- Head teacher Harugongo primary school; the man behind the success of the school.*



## COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION VITAL FOR MAINTENANCE OF WATER FACILITIES

Community members of Nyabuswa trading centre, Mugusu sub county Kabarole District have been suffering with accessing safe clean water after a tap stand on Mugusu GFS broke down about two years ago. Around 40 households were accessing water from the tap before it got broken. The tap broke down and water has been spilling all over the place creating a breeding place for mosquitoes that have cause increased prevalence of malaria and other water related illnesses in the area. When the monitors of Mugusu Sub County saw the problem, they reported the it to the Community Development

Officer (CDO) Ms. Maureen at the sub county who advised them to work with the Nyabuswa parish Chief Mr. Kyaligonza Robert Jointly they sensitized the community about their roles and responsibilities in regard to the operation and maintenance of the water facility. They also urged the communities pay their water user fees which would help in repair of the faulty tap. Fourty five thousand shillings (45000) collected from 40 households from which 15000 shillings was used to buy and fix a new tap. As we talk now, the surrounding community is accessing safe and clean water once again.



*Pic. 1. Broken tap at Nyabuswa trading center before repair Pic. 2. Tap repaired and community is accessing safe clean water*

## NYAKIYUMBU CITIZENS DEMAND FOR THE SPLIT OF THE SUB COUNTY

**By Masika Scovia- KALI**

The citizens of Nyakiyumbu have expressed their demand for the split of the Sub county, according to them this will bring services closer to the people. This demand was raised by the during the Neighborhood Assembly held on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013 in Kaghorwe Parish, Kalongoire catholic church. The Neighborhood Assembly was attended by citizens from the parishes of Muhindi, Katholhu and Kayanzi who specifically want the sub county split into 3 sub counties. Other participants included the parish Councilors and the CDO of this sub county Mr. Bwambale Israel.

The Citizens argued that since the government is promoting decentralization for better service delivery, it is about time they also benefited from the decentralization policy given the service delivery challenges in their current Sub County. Presenting their concerns the citizens highlighted the following reasons for the split.

Currently Muhindi and Kayanzi parishes are challenged with poor net work and lack of electricity which have it difficult for several development projects/ businesses to flourish in the area compared to the other parishes of Nyakiyumbu and Mushenene where there is electric power and good roads. It is believed that if these services are extended to Muhindi and Kayanzi parishes it would help speed up development in the area.

Long distances- The citizens argued that they face a problem coming for any development activity at the sub county. Some Councilors revealed that they use between 10000- 20000 shillings to attend a council meeting where they are given travel refunds of on only 30000 shillings which they say is unfair to them. This distance further hinders most citizens from reporting on human rights abuses and violations because by the time they come to report the issue to the sub county, evidence has been destroyed and some citizens have no cellular phones. In a related development, the distance limits effective and routine monitoring of government programs in these distant places by the community and leaders as well as discourages them from attending important community meetings at the sub county.

With only one secondary school in the sub county - Nyakiyumbu secondary school, access to secondary education is limited. Most students who cannot afford education outside the sub county are forced to trek the long distance from their homes in Muhindi and Kayanzi parishes to study in Nyakiyumbu parish or to even drop out of school.

The lack of a government health facility in the area is also another concern the citizens raised. The existing Health Centre III in Muhene Parish is an integrated- partially government and Church of Uganda. Which means that the patients have to pay for most of the services at this facility. For instance a mother is charged between 10000 – 20000 for delivery depending on the sex of the child yet these services are free in government health units. Besides this, the distance to this health facility is long hence forcing some mothers to seek the help of traditional birth attendants or use the quack doctors in their village clinics. It is upon these challenges and several others that the citizen's demand for a spilt of the sub county for improved access to service delivery.

# PICS FROM OUR ACTIVITIES



*Caption missing*



*Kasese Municipality MP, Hon. James Mbahimba (in black suit) at RWECO office sharing with staff on the roles of Members of Parliament*



*RIC-NET Information Officer and an Art teacher at Rwimi PS pose for a photo with the participants at the school.*



*RIC-NET Program Manager engaging with the District leaders in Kyenjojo on the sustainability of the E-Society Centre*



*The DEO Kyenjojo Ms Gertrude Tibakanya responding to issues raised by Ride Africa during an education conference at the District.  
Below: Mr. Tembe shows the IGA boat project for NTAAP to the RWECO team.*



*Ms. Mbabazi Edna, community Monitor Hapuyoyo Sub county presenting monitoring findings at a district dialogue meeting  
Below: The Deputy Head Mistress Harugongo PS shows a Certificate to the assembly challenging them to be active in school programs.*



# FEED BACK FROM THE COMMUNITY

Kyamugisha Rorah

Kasese

26th August 2013

Dear ZWECO

I write to thank you for your previous newsletter. I loved it, it was so informative. Thanks for the monitoring findings shared in the policy brief you launched, I agree most of these finds are true, even here in Kasese. However what I found so striking was the story on special needs education from the KALI story. I understood that if we choose we can do much for the children with special needs. I am proud of Kasese district education office for its focus & support to SNE, and to KAU for supporting Kamukungu to come & learn. Thanks again for the routine information sharing, it is keeping me in the know of what is going on in the region in terms of service delivery. Thank you.

Kyamugisha Rorah  
Kasese

I'm called Amangire Lillian a student at Uganda

Pentecostal University Kahungu-bungongi Campus pursuing  
a Diploma in Information Technology and a regular reader

of RICONET publications.

I thank RICONET staff for the services they are rendering  
to students and the community at large as far as ICT  
is concerned, through their Quarterly publications such  
as newsletters I have been able to learn of progress of

ICT developments such as the establishment of E-society  
centres in the districts of Rwenzori and what they offer.

Clearly I do not have to worry any more on how I can  
access district information because of the district e-libraries  
and websites now in place.

I also know that these centres provide more space for  
internship and training for us ICT students.

Thank you RWECO-RICONET for the newsletters.  
We hope you can make them monthly next year.

KIGARAMA ZONE  
KASISI WARD  
KIRO TOWN COUNCIL  
KABAROLE DISTRICT  
15<sup>th</sup> SEP - 2013

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation with the community at large in the Kwigonzi region to Ride Africa (RWEco) for the good work done through the radio program which is always on Life Fm from 7:15pm to 8:15pm every Thursday.

Before the radio program, people from different communities did not know that all services the govt provides are owned by them.

You would find so many non-functional water sources, bad roads and so on but these days people can demand their leaders to work on these facilities.

Through the radio program communities have been sensitized to care for their water sources through having water user committees (WUCs) in place.

In some areas the communities have water user fees (WUFs) which enables them to rehabilitate their water sources in case of damage.

Leaders at all levels have improved on performance. The rate of absenteeism has lowered down in schools and hospitals.

The number of school dropouts has reduced because parents have been sensitized on their roles and responsibilities through this radio program.

With all these benefits and achievements from the program, I conclude thanking the staff of Ride Africa and RWEco plus Life Fm radio for the work done making people change their attitudes towards social accountability.

MUBAREKA IBRAHIM

KUMBA

UNIVERSITY

ENRICH

20/10/2013

TO THE RICHET ORGAN.

RE: THANKS TO KUMBA E-CARE  
 I hereby thank the above mentioned  
 organisation for the services offered at Kumba  
 distance. I have been able to learn many  
 things through this centre for the first  
 in my holiday. I have found my course useful  
 research proposals and even assignments.  
 More to that I have been able to access  
 internet services like surfing and teaching  
 for new things posted on the net.  
 Thank Richet - Ruvco for the  
 initiative of Kumba distance Resource  
 Centre and encourage them to continue  
 with such supportive initiative.

Thank the management and the  
 the great thanks to the attendant Mrs Jby.

Yours faithfully  
 Atinda  
 atinda.ambrose@jya  
 +256772047835



On behalf of the school Management and staff Kibuuku Primary school, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the RIC-NET Board of directors, Management and Programme staff for the great innovation of introducing the ICT programme in Ntoroko district.

Among the first phase / batch of the beneficiaries, the whole school staff has been able to qualify and obtain certificates in basic Computer Literacy Under Ntoroko E-society Resource Centre.


This has been a great and notable achievement. With the skills we have obtained, it is now easy and possible for us to typeset and produce quality work in terms of exams and reports among others.

However, the challenge remains that we have no computers in the school. Otherwise, work would be easy for us.

Long Live Ntoroko E-society centre

Long live Ntoroko DLG, Long Live RIC-NET

Long Live RWECO.

By: 

KARUGABA ADOLF

HEADTEACHER, KIBUUKU PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am grateful to the administration of Ntoroko district local government and Ric-net for the services of opening our eyes to become computer literate.

Now, I can connect to friends on facebook, research for different market for group commodities, co-ordinate with other people with disabilities else where and monitor people with disability groups through internet.

I request that the service be extended to sub county levels so people with disabilities can not access the district headquarters.

May the Lord God reward Ric-net to grow and grow.

Appreciation from ASIMWE TIMOTHY  
CHAIRPERSON NTOROKO DISTRICT

I am very glad with Ntoroko district local government and RIC-NET staff for introducing IET in our district which is of great importance and many people have gained many skills and they are now computer literate.

And now I can connect with other people all over the world through Facebook, Twitter and Google. And I have been able to open up my business in Rwamba bile training centre which pertains computer use and I should like to request for the extension of such services to all sub-counties and Town councils so that many people can get such skills.

I thank RIC-NET, RWACO & HUKOS for the total support to Ntoroko e-solidity resource centre

LONG LIVE RIC-NET

LONG LIVE Ntoroko, Local District Local government

I remain

~~Daniel~~

RWAMBALU-MUKU

C/10

KATWESIGE CHARITY  
KAMWENGE DISTRICT  
23/sep/2013

TO

RWENZORI INFORMATION CENTRES NETWORK P  
P.O.Box 916 Fortportal Uganda

RE: THANKS TO E-SOCIETY KAMWENGE.

I heret by ~~gr~~ extend my sincere application to the staff and management of Rwenzori Information centre for establishing the E-Society and resource centre which is located at Kamwenge District Local Government Headquarters. I KATWESIGE CHARITY have learnt and aged much from this centre. I have been trained in computer basics, Internet surfing, scanning and photocopying including making researches on net which has increased on my skills and knowledge base and this has enabled me to get a job in Kamwenge town at KKS Investment therefore the skills I got from the E-centre have assisted me in running the day today activities at work since my job requires typing and photocopying skills and I learnt from Kamwenge E-society centre.

Before I learnt of the existence of this centre, I was <sup>root in</sup> ~~in~~ the village. Therefore in this case I thank RIC-AM for setting up this initiative to the citizens of Kamwenge District and my request is that you continue supporting this programme to enlighten the community and Uganda at large.

Thanks

yours faithfully

