



2021

Annual Report

GLOBAL FORUM FOR DEVELOPMENT (GLOFORD) UGANDA



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Foreword

GLOFORD Uganda is a youth serving, transformative leadership and sustainable development and advocacy organization empowering youth and institutions to lead transformative and sustainable change right from self to communities and the nation.

GLOFORD focuses on community organizing and empowerment, youth positive development, Transformative leadership, WASH, health, education, climate change and energy interventions while working with other development partners at local, national and global levels.

Therefore, On behalf of the management, I acknowledge the invaluable support GLOFORD received from GIZ Civil Society Support Program (GIZ CUSP) with funding from the European Union and German Government through the youth empowerment project named Youth Leadership and Empowerment for Advancing Democracy (YLEAD). As an organization, GLOFORD Uganda prides in working and being supported by other partners including; Viable Impact USA, SNV, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Centre for Health Human Rights and Development (CEHURD) and TCP Global.

The above projects have contributed enormously to the six core organizational strategic program areas which include; **CoSPA 1:** Youth Development and Leadership, **CoSPA 3:** Governance Voice and Accountability, **CoSPA 2:** Child Development and Protection, **CoSPA 4:** Community Health and Sexual and Reproductive Health, **CoSPA 5:** Poverty, Employment and Livelihoods, and **CoSPA 6:** Institutional Capacity Strengthening.

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List of Abbreviations

| | |
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| CDO | Community Development Officers |
| CUSP | Civil Society Support Program in Uganda |
| EU | European Union |
| FGDs | Focus Group Discussions |
| GIZ | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit |
| GLOFORD | Global Forum for Development |
| LG | Local Government |
| OVC | Orphans and Vulnerable Children |
| PDM | Parish Development Model |
| PWD | Person with Disabilities |
| RCC | Resident City Commissioner |
| TPC | Technical Planning Committee |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| IWASH | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene |
| YLEAD | Youth Leadership in Advancing Democracy Projects |

1.0 Background

Global Forum for Development (GLOFORD) Uganda was formed by a team of young enthusiastic development practitioners in 2009 and first registered as a Community Based Organization with Lira district local government on 7th April 2010. It was later registered as a non-profit NGO with the then NGO Board On 27th March 2015. Its mandate focuses on enabling positive youth and young people's engagement in the development arena within the broader community and national development. GLOFORD is a youth serving, transformative leadership and sustainable development and advocacy organization empowering youth and institutions to lead transformative and sustainable change right from self to communities and the nation. For the years 2015-2020, GLOFORD facilitated and supported development work for the youth and vulnerable groups in Uganda with programs in Lira City, Lira, Oyam, Kole and Alebtong districts in Lango Sub region, Northern Uganda and this growth will continue in the next five years. GLOFORD's influence spans across Northern Uganda and the country through engagements in several sub national and national development policy analysis and debates, engagements/advocacy, lobbying as well as civil society dialogues for national, continental, and global development.

GLOFORD also holds several leadership responsibilities in the region key among which are Presidency of Lira City Development Forum, Steering Committee of Northern Uganda Regional Development Forum, Chair of Lango Human Rights and Governance Cluster among others. GLOFORD focuses on community organizing and empowerment, youth positive development, Transformative leadership, WASH, health, education, climate change and energy interventions. The organization prides itself in rapid community organizing models like the current Youth Parliament through which the organization has contributed towards mentoring, positioning youth and community organizers as transformed agents of change in the target communities. We seek to promote exemplary leadership acting as Green Houses and a Laboratory in the arena of human rights, leadership development, democratization and good governance, advocating for and fostering innovative, impactful and progressive policies that spur and promote youth and young people's participation and engagement at the local, national and international levels.

1.1. Vision, Mission, Values, Corporate Objectives and Principles

Vision

GLOFORD envisions “An empowered, vibrant, cohesive and well-organized local, national and international community of youth and young people effectively participating in the development, governance, human rights and accountability discourses for sustainable development”

Mission

GLOFORD exists “To mentor youth and young people and communities for effective participation in leadership, and empower them to tap into socio-economic opportunities and take charge of their destiny, using partnerships and collaborations”

Core Mandate

GLOFORD carries the mandate to contribute to grooming the next generation of leaders with global perspective, empowering youth and communities to fight poverty, ignorance and disease sustainably, carrying out advocacy using non-confrontational means while building durable peace, promoting human rights, democracy, good governance and the rule of law.

Our Core Values

Our work and behaviour is anchored in and guided by the following core Values we espouse:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Exemplary leadership</i> | We lead by example and hold our leaders to put their efforts where their mouths are |
| <i>Excellence</i> | We are committed to offering high value state-of-the-art services that respond to the needs of our people |
| <i>Accountability & Integrity</i> | We are fully accountable for everything we say and do and seek to hold others accountable as well |
| <i>Innovation & Creativity</i> | We seek to be innovative and creative as a way of being dynamic, resourceful and effective in an environment of stiff competition for scarce resources |
| <i>Trust and Honesty</i> | We are driven by being honest and trustworthy so that others can in return trust us on our word and actions |
| <i>People-centered</i> | Ours is a “People-First” development philosophy, everything we do, we put people first and at the center. |

1.2. Partners

GLOFORD Uganda is proud for the funding from European Union, GIZ, SNV, Viable IMPACT USA, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) which has supported youth and young people's development in Lango sub-region as well as Uganda in key aspects of: youth leadership, IWAS, Agribusiness.

2.0. Projects Implemented in 2021

2.1: The Youth Leadership and Empowerment for Advancing Democracy (YLEAD) Project

GLOFORD has in partnership with GIZ-CUSP successfully implemented the Youth Leadership and Empowerment for Advancing Democracy (YLEAD) project and currently implementing the "Strengthening Youth Participation in Sub-National Coordination Processes" (SYOP) project which is currently being implemented (May 2022- October 2022 using the **Youth Parliament model**.

The Youth Parliament Model is a youth organizing, empowerment and leadership model used by GLOFORD to shape youth for positive development in their communities with participation at community, Sub county, District, and national levels.

The Youth Leadership and Empowerment for Advancing Democracy (YLEAD) project, is a youth empowerment change project implemented by GLOFORD Uganda in partnership with GIZ-CUSP with support from the European Union and the German Government. The project was implemented in the 7 divisions in Lira City and 3 sub counties in Oyam district with the purpose of empowering and raising transformed leaders for sustainable change. It rolled out in September 2020 till September 2021; although it was intended to start in April 2020, but due to the presidential lock-down in March 2020, it was halted till then.

The project purposed to, address the limited and ineffective engagement of youths in civic spaces and political processes manifested in a weak representation of youth issues in policy processes at sub-county and district levels in Lira and Oyam. And it was designed to use the Youth

2.2: Joint Advocacy for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (JAS) project

In November 2021, GLOFORD signed a partnership MoU with CEHURD with support from SIDA to implement a 25 months JAS Program with the overall goal of "A progressive social movement boldly challenging the deep structures affecting the realization of SRHR in Uganda (Lira District) by 2023." This was followed by release of quarter one funds with which GLOFORD successfully rolled between November 2021 and January 2022. This report is therefore a documentation of the activities implemented, achievements realized so far, key issues of advocacy identified, lessons learnt and recommendations as aligned to the five main objectives of this program

Objectives of JAS project

- Objective 1: Uganda's SRHR advocacy movement is vibrant, collaborative, and sustainable

- Objective 2: Increased grassroots-level public support for SRHR
- Objective 3: Legal framework and protection of SRHR rights is strengthened
- Objective 4: Advocacy, policy, and practices on SRHR in Uganda is informed by action-research
- Objective 5: JAS partners' institutional capacity is strengthened

2.3: IWAS project

The project was designed to operationalize and strengthen the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) systems at district, sub county and community levels while increasing rural water source functionality. Over the year, the project improved functionality of 850-point water sources (i.e. Lira-350, Dokolo-200, Alebtong-200 and Kole-100), thus ensuring that 212,500 people have continuous access to safe water.

The project consisted of three components: deepening and strengthening the IWAS model, expanding and replicating the IWAS model in additional sub counties and neighbouring districts and aligning and embedding the IWAS model by strengthening the systems and policy environment around its implementation.

GLOFORD implemented the project in Lira District targeting 350 water sources in partnership with SNV with funding from ADC in Uganda.

Project levels of implementation

- Trained the sub county extension staff on community mobilisation to ensure registration of water user committees (WUCs) to Sub-county water supply and sanitation boards (SWSSBs), collection Operation and maintenance (O&M) funds and fencing of water sources.
- Coached and mentored SWSSB on roles and responsibilities, accountability and governance.
- Followed up on WUCs registration to SWBBs and monitoring Hand pump mechanics (HPMs) operations.
- Provided technical backup support and monitored the extension staff who trained the WUCs including reporting on field activities, and ensuring quality of delivery of the training.

2.4: Commercial Farming for Rural Development (CFRD) project

3.0. Key achievements per project implemented in 2021

In 2021, GLOFORD through the projects implemented contributed significantly to her strategic Core Program Areas (CoSPAs) as follows;-

3.1: Youth Leadership in Advancing Democracy (YLEAD) Project

Youth Leadership in Advancing Democracy (YLEAD) project implemented in Lira City, Lira and Oyam districts in the sub-counties of Aber, Loro, Kamdini, as well **Lira City East and Wes built capacities and empowered** youth and young peoplea total 370 (**Male, Female**) youths from Oyam district and Lira city; registered from youth groups, Government livelihood projects, and others private community based organizations (CBOs) as well as district youth council leaders. They were engaged through the YLEAD

project providing an avenue for mentorship, trainings, empowerments, and Participation in the civic spaces.

Indirectly, 10,000 (**Male, Female**) youths, from over Lango sub-region and Northern Uganda benefitted from the YLEAD project through radio talk shows, awareness campaigns, mentorship sessions, community, district-level and national-level dialogues. Additionally, other beneficiaries included 122 (**Male, Female**) district/city, division and sub county leaders from Lira and Oyam, as well as religious, cultural, and opinion leaders as well as community members.

Key intervention areas implemented worth reporting under the project include:-

- 2 position papers were developed and presented in council. Of which out of 10 cases presented by the youth, 3 were taken up and when monitored jointly implemented.....
- Leadership skills in youth and young people increased, evident by the increased levels of youth participation in political and decisional spaces within their groups and the wider community.
- Increased levels of youth activism and occupation of influential decision-making positions as demonstrated by a total of 15 youth beneficiaries successfully elected to different leadership positions during recent 2021 general elections at district, sub-county and parish levels
- Youth mentorship through youth parliaments has enhanced the youth capacities leading to a growing number of youths in leadership.
- There is increased youth activism and participation in local governance. These are manifested through increased demands for better services delivery and youth sensitive budgeting
- Increased access to and uptake of government programmes by youth and young people
- Increased level of youth participation in electoral democracy through our mentorship's programs
- GLOFORD mainstreamed youth and young people's issues into district and sub-county COVID-19 response strategies. Similarly, it has contributed to researches on gaps faced by the local response strategies and mechanisms which informed several decisions of Task Forces
- Promoted the engagements of youth and young people in the fight against the spread of COVID-19 through media houses, youth-led-platforms
- Through the YLEAD project, GIZ-CUSP supported GLOFORD to refine her Youth Parliament model which is now recognized as a model youth organizing platform in the region and nationally GLOFORD has offered leadership to civil society at regional level through organizing around youth and young people's agenda.
- With support from GIZ, GLOFORD developed a 5 years' strategic plan (2022-2027) which is driving GLOFORD's strategic direction
- Through the Youth Parliament model, the project inspired increased participation and influence of youth-led and youth-focused civil society organizations in Lira and Lango sub region.

- Increased visibility of GLOFORD through more communications with more external stakeholders coming to learn about what we stand for and the kind of results we deliver to our constituencies.
- Enhanced institutional growth of GLOFORD staff in resource mobilization, results based management, leadership, advocacy and lobbying, among others.

The above achievements recorded immense contributions to the CoSPA I through promoting youth leadership, positive development and influences and **ii**) enhancing civic competence and responsible citizenry in youth and young people in by 2026/2027. Additionally, the project also built on Girl Child Voice project implemented from 2017 to 2018 in Oyam district with support from **Donor (year)** evidently supported, hence sustainability aspect of youth and young people's development realized.

3.2: Joint Advocacy for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (JAS) project

In the year 2021, the following key interventions were uniquely implemented which reached and benefited over **1000 people (100 elders, 500 youth, 400 women, PWD)**

GLOFORD received financial support from CEHURD worth 47,985,000 to support the implementation under the project Core objectives and the following key results were attained:-

- Conducted 2 youth-led radio talk shows amplifying key SRHR issues among the youths
- Produced and ran 3 radio spot messages (3 spots per day in 1 radio FM station for 3 Month)
- Conducted 2 monthly media briefs on the SRHR in Lira
- Conducted 4 Health-center based dialogues with S/C, Health facility, youths, women and PWDs to map hotspot areas of SRHR for advocacy
- Conduct 4 Intergenerational dialogues of 28 participants targeting cultural, religious, opinion and district leaders on the implications of social and cultural norms and practices that impact SRHR.
- Documented 2 short videos on SRHR in Lira district: One video documentary (<https://youtu.be/TH3zFIdt7FY>) is already out and pending approval by GLOFORD and CEHURD. The nine-minute documentary is already serving as an advocacy, educative and reference tool for GLOFORD. We hope to share this with other partner CSOs, as well as district/city health teams for sensitising and creating awareness among communities. The second one featuring rural context is being finalized and shall be shared for feedback and quality assurance.
- Conducted two youth-led radio talk shows with SRHR champions addressing key SRHR issues among the youth.

JAS project funded by SIDA and sub-granted through CEHURD has contributed immensely to CoSPAs 1, 2 4, & 6, of GLOFORD's strategic Plan 2021-2026. This also contributed to United Nation SDG 3 (good health and well-being) and aligned to Uganda's NDP III.

3.3 IWAS Project

In 2021, IWASS project was implemented in Lira, Dokolo, Alebtong and Kole districts and 850-point water sources were reached (incl.350, Dokolo-200, Alebtong-200 and Kole-100), thus ensuring that 212,500 people have continuous access to safe water.

During the year 2021, GLOFORD reached up to a total of 21,578 with 10,712 being male and 10,866 Being female through all the project activities conducted to activate the participation of political, cultural and religious leaders in rural water supply functionality, build capacity of district and sub county extension staffs to operationalize, strengthen and monitor water safety and O&M systems

Below are some key achievements worth reporting:-

- Active support and participation by political leadership and other leaders (cultural and religious leaders) in rural water supply functionality improvement interventions.
- Train Political leaders on their roles and responsibilities in improving sustainability of rural water sources.
- Bi annual joint stakeholder monitoring of IWAS II project
- **Built** capacity of 1040 (626 Male, 414 Female) district and sub county extension staff to operationalize, strengthen and monitor water safety and O&M systems **through;** Follow up/monitoring visits by extension staff, DWO and LPs to check functionality of WUCs, Inter sub-county learning visits, Awareness sessions conducted on O&M and water safety, Community dialogue meetings on O&M. this benefitted Alebtong, Lira districts. During the monthly monitoring visit of water sources by the extension staff, these committees were revamped and overall this year, 98 water user committees were revamped and re-trained. So the gaps in the committees were filled up with committed members who took up the job and were re-trained. The newly trained members pledge their commitment to offer maximum support to their respective water boards.
- Enhanced Capacity of Sub-County Water Supply and Sanitation Boards (SWSSBs) to effectively perform their roles in O&M of water supply facilities. Overall monthly preventive maintenance was done in 37 water sources in three sub-counties and one minor repair was done at Alunga SW in Agweng which costed up-to 459,000/= paid by the water board because the source had remitted consistently money amounting to 400,000/=.

This project contributed highly to GLOFORD's CoSPA 4, Core strategic objective 4.1(Women and men have the capacity, and benefit from WASH gender sensitive programing). The lens is witnessed through; Supported participation of users in WASH platforms and network activities, Strengthened community-based water sources management systems and structures (water users' committees, sub-

county water boards). We are grateful to have been contributing to UN SDGs 3 & 6 (Clean Water and sanitation as well Good Health and well-being).

3.4 Commercial Farming for Rural Development (CFRD) project

In 2021, GLOFORD Uganda in partnership with Viable Impact USA implemented Commercial Framing for Rural Development (CFRD) project in Lira, Alebtong, Kole and Oyam districts.

In 2021, GLOFORD received a financial support worth (Ugx 289,926,520) from Viable Impact USA to;

- organize smallholder farmers into groups
- Train smallholder farmers in Agronomy, Farming as a business, financial literacy, post-harvest handling in Lira, Alebtong and Kole districts.
- Procure soybean grains from the registered smallholder farmer

Key achievements worth reporting under this project

- Built up a database of 3329 smallholder farmers from Lira, Kole, Alebtong and Oyam districts
- Procured over 11 tons of soybean grains from approximately 25% of registered smallholder farmers in Lira, Alebtong, and Kole districts.
- Built capacity of over 1500 smallholder farmers in Agronomy, Farming as a business, financial literacy, post-harvest handling in Lira, Alebtong and Kole districts.

This project highly contributed to GLOFORD's CoSPA 5 (Poverty reduction) and in both core strategic objectives (5.1 and 5.2). More importantly, the project offered opportunities beyond the traditionally

4.0 GLOFORD's Institutional Strengthening and Organizational Development opportunities

In the year 2021, GLOFORD Uganda received various capacity strengthening opportunities, and they include;-

- Over 10 Staffs and youth were trained on Results Based Monitoring, Financial Management, Lobbying and advocacy, Resource mobilization by NIRAs IP with support from GIZ under Civil Society in Uganda Support Programme (CUSP). The funding was from European Union.
- Developed a Strategic Plan for GLOFORD with support from European Union spanning (2022-2027).
- GLOFORD's staffs and group leaders were trained in post-harvest handling, Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs) under Farmer to Farmer (F2F) program Catholic Relief Services (CRS) as ToTs.
- GLOFORD Uganda participated in several due diligence opportunities, conducted by Plan International Uganda, CEHURD, We Effect and many others. These provided many learning opportunities and capacity building for GLOFORD.

Lessons Learnt in 2021 worth replication in organization programming

- Profiling and following up commitments from key leaders yields good results. It's not enough to raise issues and agree on the next steps during meetings, but following up commitments informally and through meetings leads to change.
- Constant engagement with the district leaders and health workers; builds trust and promotes joint advocacy. GLOFORD's success in health systems strengthening has been anchored on cordial and non-confrontational relationships with the district political, religious, cultural, security and technical leaders as well as youths.
- Peer to Peer approaches are very instrumental when working with youths, adolescents and communities. GLOFORD intends to continue working with the Y+, other youth groups to sensitize youths on HIV/AIDS such as the delivery of ARVS which encourages the positive persons to take medication religiously, and to resist stigma.

- Intergenerational and community Dialogues remain one of the best ways to engage with communities. Through the health centre based dialogues and intergenerational dialogues conducted, a lot of informative issues were raised by the youths, elders, opinion leaders, health workers, the police, among others; which will form a basis for our SRHR advocacy.

Drawbacks /Gaps experienced in 2021

GLOFORD experienced some of the challenges and drawbacks which hindered operations and implementation of some of the activities and they include;-

- Limited resources which hindered majorly implementation of some of the institutional core strategic program areas.
- Limited organizational capacity in terms of staffing and assets which hindered project activities implementation and sustainability.
- The cultural influence and poor parenting have stood out as key issues hampering the SRHR advancement in Lira and Lango. During the first talk show and during dialogues, it was clear that cultural leaders still need a lot of awareness on the current needs of the young persons and adoption of Family planning methods for the adolescents to address the high rates of teenage pregnancy.

Key Models and Innovations in 2021

Notably, GLOFORD adopted the following innovative approaches to successfully implement the above projects

- Youth parliament model has been fully adopted and successfully rolled out for youth programming factoring the three lens approach (that is working youth as participants, Leaders and partners).
- Visionary approach by GLOFORD Institute of Innovation for effect planning and execution
- To accomplish all the planned activities within the shortest time given, GLOFORD creatively implemented by spreading the activities among the experienced staff besides the project officers. As a result, we successfully conducted four community based (health center based) dialogues, two intergenerational dialogues, the project inception meeting, 2 media briefs on SRHR, conducted two radio talk shows on two radio stations within two months only; among other administrative activities.
- Structured discussions (focus group discussions) were embraced when the health center based dialogues seemed to be non-interactive. Many young people who were shying away from open discussions finally opened up and we successfully captured their voices and views about SRHR as presented in the successes above.
- SHRH project documentaries that will form a basis for our future advocacy have been produced. These short but resourceful documentaries reflect the activities, successes of the

program so far but also provide a bench mark for our advocacy focus during the two years GLOFORD will be implementing the JAS programme I Lira City and Lira District.

- The multi stakeholder approach adopted by GLOFORD. GLOFORD engaged with different stakeholders; including health workers, political and Sub county/district technical leaders, cultural, religious and opinion leaders, the youths, community members, the media, youth and adolescent leaders. All these stakeholders have proven strong advocates for advancing the SRHR agenda locally and nationally.
- Profiling of community advocates and mobilizers. These will play a big role during the mobilization, experience sharing and learnings and promoting project ownership.

Key Recommendations for improved programming

- GLOFORD should embark rigorously on resource mobilization through developing and successfully rolling out a resource mobilization strategy, with a suitable resource mobilization team.
- For effective and efficient organizational operations, GLOFORD requires a digital management systems. This will reduce on costs in terms of physical document handling which is risky.
- Capacity enhancement opportunities should be regularly availed to staffs for improved knowledge and skills worth the position performance.

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