



# RICE-WN

Rural Initiative for Community  
Empowerment - West Nile

Local Non-Governmental Organization  
Registered with National NGO Board

[www.riceuganda.org](http://www.riceuganda.org)



# RICE-WN

## INTRODUCTION

### Background

Formed in 2004 and registered in 2005 with Arua District and later incorporated with Registrar of Companies in 2009 and Registered with National NGO Board in 2013, Headquartered in Arua Town in the West Nile Sub-Region of Uganda, RICE-WN has also been registered with Maracha, Koboko, Moyo, Nebbi, Nwoya and Buliisa district local governments. RICE-WN continues to make a profound and progressive contribution towards the development of rural and Peri-urban communities in Uganda in the areas of Community Health, Environment and Natural Resources, Sustainable Agriculture, Development Research and Human Rights, Peace & Governance.

RICE-WN works with a number of partners in the execution of its mission. These include CBOs, FBOs, Networks, National and International Organizations.

Over the years, RICE-WN has enjoyed the trust of partners and thus, the increase in the number of the partners. Additionally, the number of communities served and scope of activities have increased tremendously. RICE-WN has additionally received a number of awards and certificates from the district local governments and networks including the NGO Quality Assurance Certificate on 7th August 2014 after meeting all the standard requirements of the Quality Assurance Mechanism.

### Our Vision

A model community based services provider for holistic transformation.

### Our Mission

To mobilize, educate and empower communities for healthy living and peaceful co-existence.



# RICE-WN

## ■ Core Values

The values of RICE-WN can be summarized in the acronym ,STRENGTH' standing for:

- Simplicity
- Team spirit
- Respect
- Excellence
- Novelty
- Guardianship
- Time consciousness
- Honesty

## ■ History

Right from her formation, RICE-WN was built on three key words namely Empowerment, Rural Development and Community Focus. This is a deliberate focus on hard to reach communities to enable them grow out of poverty and indifference.

RICE-WN was formed because a group of people started reflecting on the question that communities used to ask them whenever they came for holidays and the question was “what have you brought for us?” The five members recognized their obligation to give back to the communities what they have learnt giving rise to ideas of empowerment, rural development and community focus.

RICE-WN started getting funds in 2007 and the level of funding has been increasing since then to date. The number of staff has now reached about 30. They are all committed group of people running the projects being implemented.

The needs in the communities are still great but the resources are limited. That is why members still have much work to do as far as contributions and resource mobilization is concerned.



# RICE-WN

## PROGRAMME AREAS

### 1. Community Health

#### Background

This department was formerly called Health department in 2004 but later changed to Community Health (2010) to cater for the element of Community orientation and focus in RICE-WN.

The department aims at achieving the set goals of RICE-WN from the health point of view, basing on the goal of the department, community health is focused to carry out all possible means to ensure that the general health of people in the grassroots communities is improved.

#### Goal

To improve and promote quality health services accessibility to communities for self-reliance.

#### Objectives

- To increase the level of knowledge on health and health service delivery among communities
- To provide access to health services to communities
- To create more partnerships among the stakeholders and RICE-WN.



# RICE-WN

## Department Programms

### ■ HIV/AIDS interventions

- Prevention
- Care and treatment and
- Psycho-social support

### ■ Maternal child health promotion

- Malaria in pregnancy and under fives
- Promotion of early health seeking behavior
- Promotion of good nutrition among pregnant mothers and under-fives
- Health education

### ■ Reproductive Heath

- ASRH
- Family planning
- Health Education

### ■ Hygiene and Sanitation

- CLTS
- Sanitation education
- SANMARK

### ■ Health monitoring and Disease Surveillance

- Policy monitoring
- Disease surveillance of Hepatitis B and Cholera



# RICE-WN

## 2. Development Research

### Introduction

This is the department that conducts research for development through ICT and monitoring and evaluation. It is the department that enhances the needs assessment, innovation and impact assessment.

### Information, Communication Technology (ICT)

#### ■ Goal

To ensure effective use of ICT, link RICE-WN to the world and build partnerships and funding opportunities using ICT

#### ■ Activities

- Update of website that is uploading new activity photos, videos documentaries, latest news, upcoming activities, new partners, newsletters, staff directory, calendar, departments among others
- Maintenance of computers; i.e update of anti-virus, installation of programs in computers, cleaning of computers etc
- Purchase of ICT materials and disposal of assets (old assets)
- Taking care of ICT gadgets under custody

### Research and Advocacy

#### ■ Goal

To ensure unbiased information prior to all interventions and utilize research information for advocacy purposes

#### ■ Activities

- Baseline surveys
- M&E i.e Encourage management of programs, projects and to ensure optimum use of funds, human and other resources, Develop monitoring and evaluation tool for the organization, Develop, implement and monitor fundraising strategy, Make follow up of the project implemented by revising the work plan and impact assessment through documentation of stories and best practices
- Organize review meetings for advocacy
- Conduct research



# RICE-WN

## Documentation and Resource mobilization

### ■ Goal

To ensure proper documentation and sustainability of all programs in RICE-WN

### ■ Activities

- Generate tools for documentation through speaking reports, success stories, best practices, photos, community voice capturing, videos among others
- Designing strategies for resource mobilization
- Capacity enhancement in proposal writing, fundraising strategies and grants management
- Purchase of tools for documentation such as server for backup, files, filing cabinets, DVDs, eternal hard drives among others
- Write concepts and proposals for resource mobilization
- Build partnerships and print brochures for resource mobilization

## M&E

### ■ Goal

To strengthen RICE-WN operating systems and ensure impact assessmentActivities.

### ■ Activities

- M&E review meetings
- Impact assessment
- Developing M&E tools
- M&E plans
- Data collection tools



# RICE-WN

## 3. Environment and Natural Resources

### Goal

To promote efficient management of natural resources and environment to achieve sustainable development

### Objectives

- To enable communities identify and effectively utilize the natural resources around them.
- To promote environmental protection
- To promote efficient energy utilization

### Department Programms

- Promotion of Renewable energy technologies
  - Solar energy
  - Briquettes
  - Energy saving cook stoves
  - Fireless baskets cookers
- Oil and gas information and community preparation for development
  - Community radio dialogues on oil and gas
  - Community government engagements
  - Radio programs
  - Dialogues (both community and regional)
  - Community based radio dramas
  - Sensitizations through puppet dramas, gender advocacy groups etc.
- Sustainable land use and management
  - Livelihoods
  - Ownership and land rights
  - Tree planting and nursery bed setting
- Interventions in Water shed management issues
  - safe supply and
  - pollution control
  - waste separation and management





# RICE-WN

## ■ 4. Sustainable Agriculture

### Goal

To Improve agriculture for food and income security

### Objectives

- Enable farmer groups to access sustainable modern agricultural practices
- To promote organic farming practices among the farmers
- To increase the participation of women in commercial farming.

### Department Programms

- Value addition
- Provision of extension services
- Supply of Agro-inputs
- Seed Multiplication



# RICE-WN

## 5. Peace, Human Rights and Governance

### Introduction

This department was formerly called the department of community Development. Further deliberations showed that it was a blanket name and had to many programs for it to be effective. It was therefore renamed thus.

### Department Programms

#### Peace program

- Peace building
- Conflict transformation
- Gender Based Violence in communities
- Establishment of peace committees

#### Human Rights program

- Promotion of Economic Rights (microfinance, trade)
- Promotion of civic rights
- Promotion of education rights in UPE and Girl Child at Secondary schools
- Promotion of the Rights of OVC
- Promotion of women's rights to participation and ownership
- Promotion of the rights of human rights defenders

#### Governance Program

- Community participation in planning and monitoring interventions
- Youth empowerment
- Promotion of transparency and accountability



# RICE-WN

## PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Currently RICE-WN is involved in the following activities in the different programme areas:

### 1. Community Health

- Sensitization on HIV/AIDS to selected groups in Arua and Moyo districts
- Promotion of hand washing through tippy-tap demonstration and sensitization on hygiene and sanitation
- Provision of HIV Counselling and Testing
- Promotion of Behavioural Change Communication Messages
- Referrals of PHAs for treatment
- Provision of care and treatment for PHAs
- Condom promotion
- Training of CORPS and TOTs
- Participation in health related workshops and seminars

### 2. Development Research

- Information and Communications Technology i.e. updates of website, computers, among others
- Resource mobilization through concept and proposal writing
- Partner visits to establish partnerships
- Documentation to keep track of all useful information
- Research and baseline surveys
- Monitoring and Evaluation



# RICE-WN

## 3. Environment and Natural Resource Utilization

- Dialogue meetings on oil and gas information sharing in the districts of Arua, Buliisa Nebbi, and Nwoya
- Sensitization through puppet theatres in selected sub-counties
- Radio talk shows and spot messages on oil and gas activities
- Make briquettes for RICE-WN to enhance energy saving techniques
- Grow and distribute tree seedlings for planting to selected communities
- Participate in the oil baseline survey
- Production of quarterly newsletter on oil and gas

## 4. Sustainable agriculture

- Training on early land opening i.e. proper primary and secondary tillage of land
- Training on early planting of crops immediately when the rains start
- Management of RICE-WN demonstration site
- Training on early weed control and management
- Carrying out soil analysis at various CEP (community empowerment program) schools
- Formation of clusters in 10 schools for agricultural training on good economic practices

## 5. Peace, Human Rights and Governance

- Conducting of Continuous professional Development for Teachers in ten schools
- Trainings on land rights and customary ownership
- Community sensitizations on land rights, land wrangles, customary ownership
- Radio talkshows on land rights
- Participation in the Northern Uganda Land platform
- Research on causes of land conflicts
- Dialogues for peace building among warring parties
- Participation in training workshops on land, oil and gas



# RICE-WN

## PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

Below are some of the funding partners we have worked with on different projects in the recent years and to date:

### 1. Arua District Local Government

<http://www.arua.go.ug>

- Maintenance of Anti-Malarial Drains (2009 -2012)

### 2. Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD)

<http://www.ceford.org.ug>

- Community governance project (2008-2010)

### 3. Uganda Program for Human and Holistic Development (UPHOLD)

<http://uphold.jsi.com>

- Sensitization of youth in school on HIV/AIDS, HCT, debate and dram on HIV/AIDS (2007)

### 4. Uganda Malaria Communities Partnership (UMCP)

- Prevention of Malaria in pregnant mothers and children under five years (2007-2009)

### 5. Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC) and Uganda Health Marketing (UHMG)

<http://www.jcrc.org.ug>

<http://www.uhmg.org>

- Strengthening Civil Society for Improved HIV/AIDS and OVC service delivery in Uganda (SCIPHA I) (2011-June 2012)
- Strengthening Civil Society for Improved HIV/AIDS and OVC service delivery in Uganda (SCIPHA II) (July 2012 - Dec 2013)
- Strengthening Civil Society for Improved HIV/AIDS and OVC service delivery in Uganda (SCIPHA III) (2014) <http://scipha.blogspot.com>



# RICE-WN

## 6. International Alert

<http://www.international-alert.org>

- Economic Empowerment of Women (EEW) in cross border trade across Uganda - DR Congo Border (2011-2013)
- Harnessing the Potential of Oil and Gas to Contribute to Peace & Development in Uganda (2011- April 2014)

## 7. WellShare International

<http://www.wellshareinternational.org>

- Scaling up HIV/AIDS Prevention in Arua District (SHAP) (2012-2015)

## 8. Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV)

<http://www.snvworld.org>

- Community Empowerment Programme (School gardens) (2011-2014)
- Sustainable Sanitation and hygiene for All 2014-2018

## 9. World Wide Fund for Nature Uganda (WWF)

<http://www.panda.org>

- Young Environmental Trainees (YET) (2012- April 2014)

## 10. Green Watch

<http://www.greenwatch.org>

- Land and Property Rights (2013)

## 11. American Jewish World Service

<http://www.ajws.org>

- Promotion of Land Rights in oil and gas communities of Pakwach Sub-county (2014)

## 12. Democratic Governance Facility (DGF)

<http://www.dgf.ug>

- Bringing Uganda's oil to the surface, Increasing community capacity to handle oil resource effectively (2013-2016)

## 13. USAID SAFE


<http://www.safeprogram.ug/>

- Radio programming



## RICE-WN

Plot 3B, Mvara-Oluko Road,  
P.O. Box 481, Arua Town  
Uganda

 + 256 372 280 576


 [info@riceuganda.org](mailto:info@riceuganda.org)

 [www.riceuganda.org](http://www.riceuganda.org)

## Contact Person

Mr. Pax Sakari  
Executive Director

 [psakari@riceuganda.org](mailto:psakari@riceuganda.org)

 + 256 773 472 234

