Efforts should also be made to raise awareness and ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment (ARUWE) is a non-profit, non-government organization working with marginalized groups of people through partnering with organisations and individuals with complementary missions. ARUWE envisions a world in which women and children realize their full socioeconomic and civic potential and has purposed to empower women to manage their socio-economic development processes through strengthening community participation, advocacy and service provision. ARUWE’s overall objective is to strengthen organizational capacity, improve socio-economic status of rural women and well-being of children in central and North-Eastern Uganda by 2021.

ARUWE intends to strengthen organizational capacity as well as improve socio-economic status of rural women and the well-being of children within the Central and North-Eastern regions of Uganda by 2021. ARUWE received support from the Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) in a bid to give a significant VOICE to local people. During the next years, ARUWE will be mandated to find out what the perceptions of women and men are in their daily life, how they perceive their living conditions, comparing men and women, old and young persons, rural and urban persons and how these may change over time.

ARUWE conducted an Assessment whose main objective of the assessment was to track progress made towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal five, within the Ugandan context. The assessment sought to instigate whether any efforts have been made in regard to gender equality in particular, a manifestation of social justice that is also a prerequisite for sustainable development. The research team used a number of approaches and triangulation of data in order to ensure that the data collected fully provided answers to the objectives of the assignment. The study utilized unstructured interviews and in-depth interviews and was carried out in the West Nile district of Nebbi and in Kyankwanzi District in Central Uganda.

In conclusion, the study revealed that women still lag behind more than the men. They are less educated, more informally employed and most engaged in the unpaid care work. There are still cultural beliefs in existence most of which do not support gender equality put women at a disadvantage for the rest of their lives.

Living conditions, hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school were found not to be at the minimum acceptable standards which puts these communities at a sanitation risk since respondents mentioned that they did not have a clear definition of a good sanitation environment. This raises suspicion on whether they are knowledgeable of the dangers of poor sanitation to their health as a community.

A number of Civil Society Organisations have purposed to narrow the divide between men and women regardless of ethnicity, religion or origin but there is a lot to be done because this work has a lot to do with the cultural beliefs that that are so embedded in peoples’ lifestyles. It is therefore critical that ARUWE engages in continuously advocating for reforms that would give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources; all these in accordance with the Ugandan law. Efforts should also be made to raise awareness and ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment (ARUWE) is a non-profit, non-government organization working with marginalized groups of people and has purposed to partner with organisations and individuals with complementary missions. ARUWE envisions a world in which women and children realize their full socioeconomic and civic potential and has purposed to empower women to manage their socio-economic development processes through strengthening community participation, advocacy and service provision. ARUWE’s overall objective is to strengthen organizational capacity, improve socio-economic status of rural women and well-being of children in central and North-Eastern Uganda by 2021.

ARUWE received support from the Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) in a bid to give a significant VOICE to local people: as well as find out what the perceptions of women and men are in their daily life, how they perceive their living conditions, comparing men and women, old and young persons, rural and urban persons and how these may change over time, during the next 5 years.

As one of the planned interventions under this support, a Gender assessment was conducted in two districts of Arua and Kyankwanzi to ascertain whether stakeholders, government inclusive, have made any efforts to promote environmental and human rights or whether interventions have been done in regard to gender equality in particular, as a manifestation of social justice and a prerequisite for sustainable development.

1.2 Objectives of the Assessment

The main of objective of the assessment was to track progress made towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal five, within the Ugandan context, and whether any efforts have been made in regard to gender equality in particular, which is also a manifestation of social justice and a prerequisite for sustainable development.

The specific objectives included the following:

1. To ascertain the living conditions, hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school and their decision making experiences at local and national level.
2. To establish whether there have been efforts made towards gender equality
3. To appreciate the division of labour between women and men and the time spent for paid, unpaid work and leisure time in both the men and women’s daily profile.
4. To understand who, among men and women, boys and girls has access, power and control over resources
5. Understand issues around domestic violence among the target communities and, the status of Men and Women before the Law including who among them seems most vulnerable

This survey report has been prepared after an assessment on the efforts that have been made in promoting environmental and human rights.
1.3 Study Methodology

The team used a triangulation approaches in collecting and analyzing data to ensure that the data collected fully provided answers to the objectives of the assignment. The study utilized unstructured interviews and in-depth interviews.

1.3.1 Area of study

The study was carried out in the West Nile district of Nebbi and in Kyankwanzi District in Central Uganda.

Nebbi District is located in West Nile between latitudes 2°30'S 2°30'N and longitudes 30°45'E and 31°10'E, 450km from Kampala with an area of 1,758 km². Its topology is characterized by faulting and rifting along the western arm of rift valley zone from Panyimur into Jukia hills. It has a vegetation of dense savannah vegetation with dotted grasslands. The total gazette forest area is 4,318 hectares. Nebbi district’s tropical climate due to high location. There is a short unreliable first rain season between March and May and a more reliable season from July to November. Mean annual rainfall ranges between 780-1000mm and mean annual temperature range between 27°C -33°C.

Nebbi District has a population of 238,757 (Male: 48%; Female: 52%), 124,025female, 114,732 male. The main languages are Alur. Over 91.9% of the District population is engaged in subsistence farming. Much of what is produced is consumed at the household level and less than 40% is marketed. The main crops grown are cotton, coffee, simsim, sorghum, millet, sweet potatoes, beans, cassava, maize and vegetables. Argo-processing is done on a small scale.

Kyankwanzi on the other hand is located in central Uganda. It was formerly Kiboga west Constituency until it was declared a full- fledged District by the Act of Parliament and operationalized on 1st July 2010. The district covers a total land area of about 2,326 square kilometers.

Kyankwanzi district has a tropical climate with moderate rainfall and temperature. The rainfall pattern is bimodal with two seasons and annual rainfall varying between 560 mm to 1272 mm. The months of March to May and September to November receive very heavy and well-distributed rains of up to 1200 mm. There are two dry seasons from June to July and December to February. The high altitude ensures favorable climate with medium annual temperatures ranging from 17.2 degrees to 29 degrees centigrade.

The district area is full of lush green forests and prairies with minor elevation differences as it is the plateau behind the western fork of the East African Rift running across the Hoima District.

1 2014 Population projection
1.3.2 Target Population

The main respondent target populations were adult males and females including male and female youth between 15 to 17 years of age. Other respondents were the main personnel within the District and Sub County, the administrative and support structures to directly work in the communities of the target districts. A sample of at least 349 people were mobilized/invited to participate in the assessment, though only 330 were able to respond to the assessment.

1.3.3 Sampling size

A simple random sampling method was used on the assumption that this a small, random portion of the entire population would be able to represent the entire data set, where each member had an equal probability of being chosen.

1.4 Organisation of data collection methods and tools

1.4.1 Task execution process

The exercise entailed the following stages:

- Inception meeting
- Pre-Testing of Data Collection Tools designed by the WECF,
- Field survey which included a meeting with community members to conduct group discussions and interviews
- Observation of group activities and enterprises.
- Data collection.
- Data processing and analysis
- Draft report writing, presentation and finalization.

1.4.2 Pre-testing of tools

The study tools (questionnaire and key informant guides) were pre-tested in Kasenjere and Bukasa villages within Wakiso district amongst Aruwe’s target groups. The lead researcher and field teams extensively conducted interviews as means of refining the tools. In order to work within the agreed timelines, the team was able to work within the time as agreed as supervised by the Executive Director.

1.4.3 Data collection

The field data collection lasted 11 working days between 11\textsuperscript{th} and 28\textsuperscript{th} February 2019. The research team was divided into two teams, each handling a district and comprising not less than 2 research assistants. The team consisted of a key facilitator of the FGD, a note-taker who also worked as an observer. There were both female and male FGD facilitators and note-takers for all groups.
The team subjected focus group discussions (FGDs) to an unstructured interview guide to the participants of each group. Randomly selected persons within the urban, peri-urban and rural communities were given an in-depth interview and so were selected group members who had participated more significantly) as the key informants. Altogether, the team interviewed 111 respondents from ten (10) FGDs, and 208 individual interviews and 11 key informant interviews which totaled up to 330 respondents.

1.5 Data analysis, cleaning, coding, entry and transcription

1.5.1 Data analysis

The survey data that had closed-ended questions was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Excel Pivot Tables. Qualitative data within the survey questionnaires mostly had open-ended survey questions which were reviewed to identify themes and a range of responses. The top responses were tallied and presented. Responses to these questions were also grouped.

Analysis of FGDs involved content analysis, with the creation of preliminary codes along the key themes and sub-themes. The information under each code was described by initially reading through all the information from the different groups under each code, looking out for similarities across groups, noting the differences, and picking out good quotes that illustrated important points. Summaries of key themes and sub-themes were made, and these were later used in drafting the report.

1.5.2 Quality assurance

The consulting team maintained high quality assurance of the review by working with ARUWE Project and administrative staff who are key resource persons in the WECF project.

The data collection tools were scrutinized for consistency and were utilized in the review to ensure representation of the targeted respondents. Appropriate systematic data collection and management procedures were applied to ensure all the needed data was captured and analyzed.

1.5.3 Limitations of the assessment

The major limitation of this assessment included the following:

- Cultural norms are still very strong with many interviewees holding on to what they believed was their culture
- Communities seemed very expectant of CSOs and expected something in return for the information they gave during the interviews
- Men have a very strong ego calling for a lot of expertise to manage them
# Findings

Findings were organized according to the review objectives. This section provides both the qualitative and quantitative findings per objective, which the team obtained from the in-depth interviews with the district representatives, group FGDs, leaders and key informant members.

## 2.1 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

### 2.1.1 Demographic characteristics of respondents by sex, location and respondent group

Table 1 below represents the different respondents that participated in the survey. As mentioned in 1.4.3 above, 111 respondents from ten (10) FGDs, and 208 individual interviews and 11 key informant interviews participated in the study, which totaled up to 330 respondents. These included 79 from Kyankwanzi, (34 males, 45 female) and 251 from Nebbi (125 male, 126 females).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Focus Group Discussions</th>
<th>Key informant interviews</th>
<th>Individual interviews Kyankwanzi</th>
<th>Individual interviews Nebbi</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyankwanzi</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebbi</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyankwanzi</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebbi</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The districts of Nebbi and Kyankwanzi where purposely chosen as the study areas given the distinct differences they hold against each other. The districts are in two separate locations far apart from each other and have a diverse difference in culture, land tenure systems, and proximity to Kampala, which is the business and administrative centre of Uganda. Besides, ARUWE has implemented some activities in Kyankwanzi and it was imperative that a comparison be made between the two.

Nebbi has a high business transaction cost, is sluggish pace of livelihood activity diversification and with support infrastructures that are missing in a number of sectors. Such scenario created a state of emergency in which ARUWE found it vital to have an in-depth understanding of the situations and environment in which the people of Arua lived so that it could be part of the collective effort of all people concerned about the plight of the people of the region to join hands to improve the quality of life of the people.

The analysis done in this report will not give a comprehensive comparison of the two districts but rather reveal the findings based on the data that was collected.
2.1.2 Demographic characteristics of respondents by marital status and age

The majority of respondents (108) of the respondents who participated in the individual interviews were single perhaps because of the 90 youth (45-male, 45-female). None of the respondents under below 21 age category was married, though the respondents also mentioned that there seemed to be a very high dropout rate (especially for girl children) prevails in all the districts (with highest cases in Moyo, Nyadri, Adjumani, Yumbe and Koboko districts) within West Nile\(^2\).

2.1.3 Demographic characteristics of respondents by highest level of education

![Image](image.png)

Figure 1: Highest level of education reached by respondents

Fig 1 above reveals that the majority of women, (34\%) had primary school as their highest level of education, compared to 11\% of the men in the same category. The assessment also reveals that male

\(^2\) West Nile profiling report.
respondents seemed to have attained more education than women though the numbers for both sexes keep reducing as the qualifications keep advancing. A further analysis in the data that was collected revealed that the 16-20 age bracket for both males and females are more likely than older ones to have some education and to be literate\(^3\). The 2014 national population census revealed that the illiteracy status in Nebbi district for persons aged 18 years and above who are illiterate was at 40.1% the majority being women at 54.1%. In Kyankwanzi, the illiteracy status for persons aged 18 years and above who are illiterate was at 33.9% with the majority still being women at 39.5%.

2.1.4 Demographic characteristics of respondents by paid and unpaid work

![Bar chart showing employment status by sex](chart.jpg)

While 85% of the population in Nebbi entirely depend on agriculture as a source of livelihood, and 78.3% in Kyankwanzi, one may doubt the study that reveals that 31% males and 35% females were of the respondents that participated in the study indicated that they were unemployed, 83% of which were 20 years and below. Only 1% of the respondents that had acquired a university degree was unemployed.

325 of the respondents, that participated in the Focus Group Discussions, a third of which were female, revealed that they disagreed on a statement that found it better for the husband to be the principle bread winner outside the home and the wife having the primary responsibility for the home and children. In fact a comment raised in one FDG mentioned that these women must contribute because these are their children as well.

Figure 2: Paid and unpaid work

2.2 Respondents; living conditions, hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school and their decision making experiences at local and national level

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\(^3\) This is defined as lack of the ability to read and write with understanding in any language
2.2.1 Living conditions

Figure 3: Economic situation and housing

Fig 3 above shows six different charts that reveal how respondents perceived their living conditions in regard to their economic situation, housing, safe and affordable water, sanitation, energy and land ownership. It is quite surprising when 25% of the female respondents mentioned that the economic situation was good contra to 12.5% who indicate that it is very bad. Further analysis revealed that it was those that live in the peri urban regions that mentioned that the economic situation was good, probably because they practiced agriculture at the same time rode a boda boda or traded in the town centres. There seemed to be an equal number between females and males who mentioned that the living conditions are very bad.

In eking a living, a majority of the people in West Nile depend on subsistence farming characterized by traditional seeds/breeds/tools and indigenous technical knowledge. As if to emphasize the effect of the decade lost in exile for the people of Nebbi, the older people in Nebbi lack professional skills mandatorily required for waged employments in the country. One would expect ample extension support for such a population that is so dependent on farming. Unfortunately, farmers in the region have a very low access to extension services as compared to the national average score. Hence, with limited exposure to modern agro-technologies from research institutions, subsistence farming will continue to fail to make life any better for these rural farming households.

Studies in Uganda have shown that the regions with low level of literacy also have high poverty levels. The multidimensionality of poverty implies that the illiterate population get isolated from information and communication, become hard to reach, and hence become marginalized in the powerful modernization

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4 Agency For Accelerated Regional Development West Nile profiling report 2008
processes. So it is rather a challenge to understand why the respondents mention that their economic situation is good.

19.2% of the households in Nebbi live in dwelling units constructed using permanent roof materials while approximately 12% have built using permanent wall and floor materials. However when it comes to Kyankwanzi, 72.1% of the households live in dwelling units constructed using permanent roof materials while approximately 39.2% and 24.9% have built using permanent wall and floor materials respectively. This may not be a surprise because of Kyankwazi’s location within the central region whose poverty levels are among the lowest in the country.

With housing, there was almost an equal response from both males and females (21.2% and 19.7%) on how bad their housing is, with another 20% female revealing that their housing is good. Respondents also mentioned that the culture in Nebbi required that women are the ones that culturally built the houses.

![Figure 4: Energy and land ownership](image)

The 2014 National population census report affirmed that only 8.1% of the population in the district had access to piped drinking water in Nebbi yet 25.5% female and 18.8% male revealed that safe and drinking water was good within the Nebbi district as compared to 12.5% female and 18.2% male. The census report further mentioned that sanitation in Nebbi remained a challenge with only 30% of the households with unimproved toilet facilities with some households not having any toilet facility at all. Observations with the communities revealed that some homes did not have a toilet at all.

However the Uganda Water and Environment Sector Performance Report 2018 indicates that majority of the CSO borehole rehabilitation works were undertaken in the West Nile regions with intervention areas largely within the districts last reported with low functionality. This may have changed the situation in Nebbi with respondents reporting a much better environment with safe and affordable water. Nonetheless, the situation in Kyankwanzi is still quite tense with only 2.2% households that having access

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5 World Bank, “the Challenges of Growth and Poverty”, 1996
to piped water and 38.1% households that have access to a borehole. With the management of water and sanitation by the National Water & Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) expanding to cover a total of 238 towns, it is much likely the safe water can now easily be made accessible.

![Energy and land ownership](image)

Figure 5: Energy and land ownership

In the communities under study, four forms of electricity are normally considered for use in lighting (grid, generator, solar, community/thermal plant). Any household that indicated using any of the four forms was considered to have access to electricity. Only 25.9% judge their living conditions in terms of energy as good and very good while over 74.1% are not comfortable at all. However, the 2014 national census report revealed that 6.4% households that had access to electricity in Nebbi while over 70.1% still used a local candle which is one of the sources unclean energy. In Kyankwanzi, it is households that have access to electricity were 10.9, which households that use the local candle were for lighting were 59.1%. This is an indication that the energy situation in the target areas is still wanting.

Having 21.2% of females owning land is a big improvement. Land ownership in Nebbi and Kyankwazi is quite different as the former is mostly owned by the clan and yet the latter is under the cattle corridor which was used by nomads. However, it must be noted that between 70% and 80% of land in Uganda is under customary tenure, particularly in Northern Uganda. There is much variation as there are more than 60 ethnic groups. The 1998 Land Act recognizes that occupancy of customary land and conveys legal rights without documentary evidence. It introduces the “certificate of customary ownership”. Although possible from 1998, the first certificates were only issued in 2011. Critics have been raised as these titles are individual and not collective, which does not always fit with local realities. Moreover, people (both men and women) do not know well how it works.

Land is a critical resource for women and men in Uganda and East Africa as a whole. It has multiple values and meanings, and this overlapping multiplicity makes it even more critical for people’s livelihoods. For instance, land is not only a material and productive resource that enables survival, livelihoods and

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6 National housing census 2014.
agricultural production; it is also an important symbolic resource that heavily influences status, rites of passage and identity.

None of the participants were asked to verify means that ascertain that they own land, so it is not clear whether their claims to land ownership are valid\(^7\).

### 2.2.2 Hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school

Sanitation remains a challenge with only thirty percent of the households with unimproved toilet facilities in both districts with 16.4% of households without any toilet facility at all in Nebbi unlike 4.3% in Kyankwanzi district. It was observed that the majority of toilets available in the districts were not up to standard.

As mentioned in 2.2.1 above, sanitation remains a challenge with only 30% of the households with unimproved toilet facilities. The assessment also reveals that the communities seem not to care about sanitation especially where they lack information about their children’s sanitation needs as seen in fig 6 above. Surprisingly is the are the 53% of the men in fig 7 below who do not know whether they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and the 19% that actually allude to the fact sanitation in their homes and work spaces are not decent.

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\(^7\) TIU’s Land, women and corruption.
Male respondents, during the FGDs mentioned that they were aware of the sanitation materials and needs of women though they sometimes did not have the money to buy them.

2.2.3 Decision making experiences at local and national level

The current policies in Uganda require an individual who wants to contest for a local or national political office to have had some reasonable level of education and this has been adopted by some formal and informal groups. The increase in female admissions was an outcome of an affirmative action policy which is a requirement for admissions specifically in the public institutions and universities. Admissions have exhibited sensitivity to gender imbalance and a desire to address disparities in access that exist throughout the education system. This policy is also important as it supports a pool of educated women to enter the Public Service and other professions, and also occupy political and social decisions making spaces.

The communities under study agreed that women actively participated in community meetings and also had significant influence on the political processes/decision making at local and national levels. There have been women owned and mixed groups in which they are able to save and lend amongst each other.

Although the participation of women in the political sphere is high in Uganda, in part because of mandatory quotas, their capacity to
influence policy and affect decisions remained limited. In addition, when compared against global standards such as the GGGI, political participation of women in leadership in Uganda is low.

Discussions from the FDGs also affirmed that women occupied decision making positions and even performed better than men but were constrained by their levels of education which also affected their esteem. Men were regarded to have a greater thinking ability than the women and had more courage to face debates at council and within the decision making spaces.

Discussants agreed that culture was the reason women had been left behind which they mentioned started as early as the biblical beginnings of Adam and Eve. One of the men’s group clearly mentioned that it was their right to rule over women because it was God given. They mentioned, it was fair since they paid dowry to the women’s family. They argued that women are slow and should be kept where they belonged, at home to take care of the house chores.

2.2.4 Community perceptions as to whether there has been any efforts made towards gender equality

Respondents were asked to rank according to priority from 1 to 8, (with 1 being their highest priority/best selection), out of which they could mention given their opinion, on which one of them could help improve equality between women and men in their community or neighborhood.

Reviewed documents revealed that cultural norms, which are the defined social standards of appropriate and inappropriate behaviour still hamper attainment of gender equality. The key manifestations of these norms include: (i) the widespread acceptance of violence as an appropriate method of resolving spousal conflict; (ii) that men had a right, bolstered through bride price, to exert power and control over women, including through violence; (iii) the persistence of early (child) marriage for girls under 18.

Gender equality in the distribution of economic and financial resources in the target communities would have had positive multiplier effects for a range of key development goals, including poverty reduction and

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8 Gender and social inclusion analysis: Uganda August 2017

9 Promoting Gender Equality and Women Empowerment 2017
the empowerment of women, had women been given some consideration for paid work, most of all equal pay together with men.

2.2.5 Division of labour between women and men

Unpaid care work has been recognized as a women rights, economic and equality issue in the Global Agenda 2030 under social development Goal 5 which, under target 5.4, exclusively calls upon countries to: “Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.

The Oxfam report presents an analysis of the links between social norms, the division of work for males and females, as well as time patterns in daily care work taking into consideration the rural/urban divide. It found that at childhood, girls spend 4.8 hours a day on unpaid care and domestic work while boys spend 3.8 hours. The care workload reduces for boys, as they get older while for girls it increases. This leaves girls with less time for leisure and school work. This situation gets worse as they get into adulthood.

Figure 11: Division of labour between men and women

Fig 9 above still reveals that there are still many obstacles to attaining gender equality, for instance, women still lag behind men in income earnings. When it comes to unpaid work, there are over 40 females who have 10 hours and above of unpaid work compared to 5 men. The survey also reveals that there are more males (58) that have between 1 and 3 hours of leisure compared to 40 women on the same category. It is also clear more men enjoy paid work than women.

10 Oxfam’s study on Generations of work without pay August 2018
There are more female-headed households (as mentioned in some of the FDGs) with 11 males compared to 28 females that have over 10 hours of paid work, while there are 28 females compared to 32 males who have over 10 hours of unpaid care work. 52 males and 40 females have more than 10 hours of leisure.

The feminisation of poverty is the result of accumulated disadvantages that women experience during the life cycle, such as lack of education, socio-cultural constraints, and lack of access to capital and productive resources. There are persistent trends of patriarchal patterns of behaviour and stereotypes in relation to the role of women in the private and public spheres. This affects girls’ participation in education, women’s employment prospects, and their involvement in decision-making, as well as the enjoyment of their human rights. Furthermore, there are customary practices that prevent women owning or inheriting land and other property. For example, despite the provision of the ‘spousal consent clause’ in the Land Act (1998), it is routinely ignored and does not apply to widows and divorcees.

2.2.6 Access, power and control over resources

Women’s equal access to and control over economic and financial resources is critical for the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women and for equitable and sustainable economic growth and development. All the FGDs that were conducted revealed that men have both assess and control of the resources within the households though very few women had control over their resources. During some conversations with social workers that worked in the West Nile region but came from other regions, it was revealed that in most families, it was the women that went out to work with their baskets on theirs but gave all the proceeds of their sales or communal work but to their husbands.

2.2.7 Issues around domestic violence and vulnerability, and the status of men and women before the law

In all the female FDGs, respondents, some sharing experiences mentioned that they had ever seen or been victims of Domestic violence. The Daily Nation newspaper daily dated Friday August 24 2018 reported that the West Nile region, particularly in the rural areas, has increasing cases of Gender Based violence reported to police. The police public relations officer, Ms Josephine Angucia who was interviewed at the time, said that the increasing cases were mainly in rural areas, in some cases, children being trafficked or taken off to other places for safety when there is constant violence in their homes. She further said that the police were receiving a lot of cases on defilement, child neglect, child trafficking, abduction, rape and incest. Nebbi district was one of those that were mentioned in the bulletin.

The causes of violence mentioned during the survey were not different from what was reported in the newspaper, including alcohol consumption, unfriendly cultural norms, lack of trust among couples, land wrangles and widow inheritance have continued to fuel violence in homes in the sub-region. Respondents

11 Empowerment of Women and Girls March 2015
do agree that all men and women are the same in the eyes of the law. It was further agreed that women other than men are the most vulnerable.

Other forms that were mainly mentioned in the women’s FGDs revealed the acceptance that married couples had when it comes to sexual violence, as caused by their intimate partners. Intimate partner violence during the study referred to any behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in the relationship.

In relation to gender equality between men and women, one of the women in the Peri urban area within Nebbi district, …………………. casually responds thus: “Naturally we are ok” an indication that majority of women seen to be comfortable with the prevailing status quo especially due to cultural constructs. It also indicates that upon deeper analysis women are not comfortable and constantly seek to reach at a point of equity between them and their men in community. A state that is seemingly still far from their reach.

Other respondents mention that:

“It’s not within my power to decide whether or not to have sex. My spouse will be angry with me says one Christine Kyalisa,

My grandmother told me that you can never reject sexual advances from your husband no matter the state you are in for hence you risked to destroy your marriage,” said Musabe
3 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the study revealed that women still lagged behind as compared to the men. They were less educated, more informally employed and most engaged in the unpaid care work. Cultural beliefs most of which do not support gender equality were seen to have put women at a disadvantage for the rest of their lives.

Living conditions, hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school are not at the minimum acceptable standards which puts these communities at a sanitation risk since respondents mentioned that they did not know whether sanitation was good. This raised suspicion on whether they were knowledgeable of the dangers of poor sanitation on their health as a community.

The decisions making spaces seem to have been availed to the women, through the men mentioned that the women are not good enough for the positions, which indicates that they cannot be socially supported to particularly stand against their male counter parts but remain in their constitutional female itemized spaces. A number of civil society organisations in the area have purposed to narrow the divide between men and women regardless of ethnicity, religion or origin but there is a lot to be done because this work has a lot to do with the cultural beliefs that that are so embedded in peoples’ lifestyles. It influences division of labour between women and men and the time spent for paid, unpaid work and leisure time in both the men and women’s daily profile.

The National Gender Policy introduced in 1997 has been successful in raising awareness of gender inequalities at all levels of Government and within society. Nevertheless, gender inequality persists and women continue to face discrimination, particularly in access to economic opportunities and ownership of assets\textsuperscript{12}. There has been a lot of focus on closing gender gaps in education, political participation, and women economic empowerment but there are still serious challenges in addressing critical issues such as violence against women, inequalities in the division of unpaid care work, women’s limited access to assets, violations of women’s and girls’ sexual and reproductive health and rights, and their unequal participation in private and public decision-making beyond national parliaments.

It is therefore critical that ARUWE continuously advocates for reforms that would give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with the Ugandan law. Efforts should

\textsuperscript{12} Our journey: UNDP in Uganda 2017
also be made to raise awareness and ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

Lastly, decades of activism and research on prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) have made clear the imperative to go beyond the symptoms of GBV to address its root cause: gender inequality. When the systematic subordination of women within patriarchal power structures are addressed, it is critical to acknowledge the role men can and must play in creating inclusive environments. Male inclusion in the fight against violence on women is very critical.
4.1 Survey tools

Collecting community based data to give a significant VOICE to local people in the monitoring of the SDG

4.1.1 Questionnaire 1: Basic questionnaire for individual interviews

District

Date of Interview:

Name of the interviewer:

Community/Village Name:

Subcounty Name:

Optional: Name of Interviewee: __________________________________________________________

(the interviewee does not want to share her/his name please write anonymous)

Sex: Male ☐ Female ☐ Age: ________________ years old

Lives in Urban area ☐ Peri-Urban area ☐ Rural area ☐

Marital Status:

Single ☐ Married ☐

Officially registered married by the state ☐ Separated/Divorced ☐

Officially registered divorced by the state Widow/Widower ☐

Highest level of education completed:

Primary school ☐ Secondary school ☐ Vocational education ☐ Tertiary education ☐ University ☐

Employment/paid work:

Employed/paid work ☐ Unemployed/unpaid work ☐ Self employed ☐ Employed/unpaid work/Volunteer ☐
1. **Question about living conditions**

   a) Judge your living conditions in terms of economic situation ___
   (1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

   (SDG target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance)

   Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of economic situation are bad or very bad

   b) Judge your living conditions in terms of housing ___
   (1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

   (SDG target 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums)

   Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of housing are bad or very bad

   c) Judge your living conditions in terms of safe and affordable water ___
   (1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

   (SDG target 6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all)

   Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of water are bad or very bad

   d) Judge your living conditions in terms of sanitation ___
   (1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

   (SDG target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations)

   Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of sanitation are bad or very bad

   e) Judge your living conditions in terms of energy ___
   (1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

   (SDG target 7.1: By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services)

   Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of energy are bad or very bad

   f) Do you own formally land? yes ☐ no ☐ don’t know ☐

   (SDG target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance)

   Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that they own land

2. **Question about hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school**

   (SDG target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations)

   **TO WOMEN:** Do you have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and were you able to wash and change in privacy during your last menstrual period? Yes ☐ no ☐ don’t know ☐

   Indicator: Percentage of women indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and able to wash and change in privacy during the last menstrual period at home

   Indicator: Percentage of women indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and able to wash and change in privacy during the last menstrual period at work

   At home yes ☐ no ☐ don’t know ☐

---

11 Taken from the UNICEF MICS6 survey
At work  yes  no  don´t know
At health centre  yes  no  don´t know

Do you have a daughter or personally know a girl in your family or neighbourhood in age of puberty (between 10 and 18 years old) who goes to school?

If yes: does your daughter or this girl have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions at school and is she able to wash and change in privacy in school during her last menstrual period?

Indicator: Percentage of women indicating that their daughters have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and able to wash and change in privacy during the last menstrual period at school

In school  yes  no  don´t know

TO MEN: Do you have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions?

Indicator: Percentage of men indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions at home

Indicator: Percentage of men indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions at work

At home  yes  no  don´t know
At school/at work  yes  no  don´t know

3. Question about decision making

(SDG target 5.5. Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life)

Do WOMEN participate in community/neighbourhood meetings?

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that women participate in community/neighbourhood meetings

totally agree  agree  disagree  totally disagree  don´t know

Do WOMEN have an influence on political processes/decision making on LOCAL level?

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that women have an influence on political processes/decision making on LOCAL level

totally agree  agree  disagree  totally disagree  don´t know

Do WOMEN have an influence on political processes/decision making on NATIONAL level?

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that women have an influence on political processes/decision making on NATIONAL level

totally agree  agree  disagree  totally disagree  don´t know

4. Question about equality between men and women

(SDG target 5.1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere)

What, in your opinion, can help to improve equality between women and men in your community/neighbourhood?

- Rank according to priority from 1 to 8 (1 is the highest priority)
- get official marriage/divorce papers for women
- campaign to stop violence against women
- safer public transportation
- punish parents/religious organisations for underage marriage
- pre-school for children from 3-5 years old
- more paid work for women
- equal pay for women doing the same work as men
- others:
5. Question about time spent for paid, unpaid work and leisure time

How much time do you spend for (in hours per day):

(SDG target 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate)

*Indicator: Time (Hours per day) women and men indicate to spend on unpaid work*

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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Income generation (paid work, producing food or others for sale, agricultural activities, going to the market for sale)</td>
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<td>Domestic work such as preparing meals, cleaning the house, maintenance of house &amp; garden, fetching water, fetching firewood, child care, voluntary work, public activities</td>
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<td>Free time and relaxing like watching TV, playing games, reading, etc</td>
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Collecting community based data to give a significant VOICE to local people in the monitoring of the SDG

4.1.2 Questionnaire 2: Focus Group Discussion

Date of the FGD: ________________________________________________

Name of the interviewer: _________________________________________

Community/Village Name: _________________________________________

Municipality Name: ______________________________________________

Number of FEMALE Participants: _________________________________

Number of MALE Participants: _________________________________

Name of key contact person: ______________________________________

6. Division of Labour between Women and Men

SDG 5 target 5.4:

Indicator: Percentage of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

(Use Tool 1 to help distinguish unpaid and paid work, work within the household, work for wages outside the household) between male and female. In the Type of activity column put P for Productive, R for Reproductive and C for community role. Map out the paid and unpaid work of both men and women.

1. Ensure that you must get information on
   a. who does what kind of labour (unpaid and paid work, work within the household, work for wages outside the household),
   b. how much time women and men spend on these different tasks,
   c. how people perceive these differences (you may ask or observe)
   d. the differences between age groups
   e. the differences between urban and rural areas

2. Make the statements below and tally (1) for I agree (2) I disagree (3) I am neutral
   a. It is better for the family if the husband is the principal breadwinner outside the home and the wife has primary responsibility for the home and children;

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<th>1. I agree</th>
<th>2. I disagree</th>
<th>3. Neutral</th>
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Ask why the majority think so ____________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
b. If both husband and wife work, they should share equally in housework and child care:

| 1. I agree | 2. I disagree | 3. Neutral |

Ask why the majority think so ____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

c. There are not enough women in responsible positions in government and business:

| 1. I agree | 2. I disagree | 3. Neutral |

Ask why the majority think so ____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

d. Ideally, there should be as many women as men in important positions in government and business.

| 1. I agree | 2. I disagree | 3. Neutral |

Ask why the majority think so ____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Access, Power and Control over Resources

Access and Control Profile:

a. Who has access, power and control over …… (tick against the table below)
b. How is the access, power and control (legally) granted?
c. Why is this so?
d. Is it fair (e.g. it helps us to identify who has the better means to opportunities and where are the barriers; will tell us a lot about existing power relations)?
e. What are the differences between age groups?
f. Differences between urban and rural areas?

tool 2: Access and control of resources: Gender ____________________________ Urban/Peri-urban/Rural (tick)

3. Decision Making Ability

a. Who has the ability to make decisions in the household and in the public sphere (i.e. it helps us to understand how benefits are shared)?
b. How is the decision-making power granted?
7. Recognition of differentiated needs and interests of women and men regarding water and sanitation

a) Are we aware of needs of women and men?
b) Do they have the materials to use?
c) Do we have equal access?
d) Do we comprehensively understand sanitation and hygiene? (for instance: proper usage of a pit latrine, waste management, availability of a drying rack, safe drinking water and general household hygiene)
e) Do we have community extension teams dealing with issues of sanitation and hygiene?
f) Are they formally organised by other CSOs, government or locally organised by community voluntary groups?
   • Are both men and women represented on the team?
   • Are the teams trained in issues of sanitation and hygiene?

8. Domestic Violence

a) Have you experienced forms of domestic violence against yourself?
b) Have your relatives or friends experienced domestic violence?
c) What type of violence?
d) What about economic violence?
e) Differences between age groups

9. Status of Men and Women before the Law

What is the culture here?

Are women and men equal before the law?

How does culture treat men/women?

10. Most Vulnerable

What is vulnerability?

Who is most vulnerable?
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<td><strong>7. Income from farms sales</strong></td>
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Who benefits most from…

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<td>1. Outside income</td>
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<td>2. Asset ownership</td>
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<td>4. Education</td>
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<td><strong>5. Political power/prestige / status</strong></td>
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<td>6. Other</td>
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Collecting community based data to give a significant VOICE to local people in the monitoring of the SDG

4.1.3 Questionnaire 3: Basic questionnaire

Start time ____________ End time ____________

District __________________________________________

Date of Interview: __________________________________________

Name of the interviewer: __________________________________________

Community/Village Name: __________________________________________

Sub county Name: __________________________________________

Optional: Name of Interviewee: __________________________________________

(the interviewee does not want to share her/his name please write anonymous)

Contact of interviewee: __________________________________________

Sex: Male ☐ Female ☐ Age: __________________ years old

Lives in Urban area ☐ Peri-Urban area ☐ Rural area ☐

Marital Status:

Single ☐

Married ☐

Cohabiting ☐

Separated ☐

Divorced ☐

Widow/Widower ☐

Highest level of education completed:

1. Question about living conditions in your community

   g) Judge your living conditions in terms of economic situation ___
      (1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

(SDG target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance)
Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of economic situation are bad or very bad

h) Judge your living conditions in terms of housing _____
(1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

(SDG target 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums)

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of housing are bad or very bad

i) Judge your living conditions in terms of safe and affordable water _____
(1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

(SDG target 6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all)

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of water are bad or very bad

j) Judge your living conditions in terms of sanitation _____
(1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

(SDG target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations)

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of sanitation are bad or very bad

k) Judge your living conditions in terms of energy _____
(1 = very good, 2 = good, 3 = bad, 4 = very bad)

(SDG target 7.1: By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services)

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that their living conditions in terms of energy are bad or very bad

l) Do you own formally land?  yes ☐  no ☐  don´t know ☐

(SDG target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance)

Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that they own land

2. Question about hygiene and sanitation at home and at work/school

(SDG target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations)
**TO WOMEN**: Do you have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and were you able to wash and change in privacy during your last menstrual period\(^{14}\)?

*Indicator: Percentage of women indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and able to wash and change in privacy during the last menstrual period at home*

*Indicator: Percentage of women indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and able to wash and change in privacy during the last menstrual period at work*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>At work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>At health centre</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Do you have a daughter or personally know a girl in your family or neighbourhood in age of puberty (between 10 and 18 years old) who goes to school?*

*If yes*: does your daughter or this girl have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions at school and is she able to wash and change in privacy in school during her last menstrual period?

*Indicator: Percentage of women indicating that their daughters have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions and able to wash and change in privacy during the last menstrual period at school*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**TO MEN**: Do you have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions?

*Indicator: Percentage of men indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions at home*

*Indicator: Percentage of men indicating that they have decent sanitation and hygiene conditions at work*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At school/at work</td>
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</table>

3. **Question about decision making at different levels with the community**

(\(\text{SDG target 5.5. Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life}\)*)

*Do WOMEN participate in community/neighborhood meetings?*

*Indicator: Percentage of women/men indicating that women participate in community/neighborhood meetings*

\(^{14}\) Taken from the UNICEF MICS6 survey
4. **Question about equality between men and women**

(UN Sustainable Development Goal 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere)

What, in your opinion, can help to improve equality between women and men in your community/neighbourhood?

- Rank according to priority from 1 to 8 (1 is the highest priority) ____________
- get official marriage/divorce papers for women ____________
- campaign to stop violence against women ____________
- safer public transportation ____________
- punish parents/religious organisations for underage marriage ____________
- pre-school for children from 3-5 years old ____________
- more paid work for women ____________
- equal pay for women doing the same work as men ____________
- others:______________________________________

5. **Question about time spent for paid, unpaid work and leisure time**

How much time do you spend for (in hours per day):

(UN Sustainable Development Goal 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate)

**Indicator:** Time (Hours per day) women and men indicate to spend on unpaid work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours per Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income generation (paid work, producing food or others for sale, agricultural activities, going to the market for sale)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic work such as preparing meals, cleaning the house, maintenance of house &amp; garden, fetching water, fetching firewood, child care, voluntary work, public activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free time and relaxing like watching TV, playing games, reading, etc</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current season: Rainy ☐ Dry ☐ Unclear ☐

6. **Section 3: Knowledge on gender equality and women’s empowerment**

The objective of this section is to assess the level of knowledge of gender equality and how to include gender equality in programme and operations activities.

a) To what extent do gender concerns influence your everyday work?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
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<tr>
<td>To a limited extent</td>
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<tr>
<td>To a significant extent</td>
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<tr>
<td>The whole focus is on gender</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
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</table>

How relevant is gender to the mandate of your agency/organization?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relevance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not relevant at all</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Relevant to a limited degree</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
b) Is gender relevant to the work of your division/unit?

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<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not relevant at all</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relevant to a limited degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very relevant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender is the main focus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
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</table>

c) How familiar are you with international conventions on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not at all familiar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quite familiar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very familiar</td>
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<tr>
<td>I use these in my everyday work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
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d) Are you clear about the difference between gender mainstreaming and equal representation of women?

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<th>Option</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of Activity</td>
<td>Time</td>
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