

AMANI INITIATIVE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



JANUARY- DECEMBER 2022





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Executive Summary

The 2022 Amani Initiative Annual report covers a period when Uganda fully opened its economy for business after nearly two years of pandemic-related lockdown. It also comes at a time when the organization is marking her 10 years (2012-2022) of existence and commitment to prevention and response to harmful practices and barriers against children and women with a focus on teenage pregnancy and child marriage particularly in Uganda.

During this period, the organization focused on programs dedicated to the response of the effects of the Covid-19 lock down to children and women through implementation of 7 strategic projects. These included:-

- 1. Right2Grow
- 2. School Financial Health Program.
- 3. West Nile HIV project
- 4. Empowered Voices
- 5. Amplified Community Action against Teenage pregnancy and Child Marriage.
- 6. Foundation for Learning and Empowerment
- 7. HIV and Malaria Control Activity

Through these projects a total of 145,045 people across 15 districts of Uganda were engaged through a network of 62 partners, 1794 low cost schools, 12 health facilities and 4 community groups.

The annual report also gives a highlight of our 2022 financial investment. In 2022, we realized an increase of our total income received by 24% and increase in our expenses by 18% as compared to our 2021 financial report. This is a significant evidence of the importance of the work we do.

In the annual report you will also find some of the community voices that continue to inspire and direct our work, the list of the 62 partners we directly collaborated with and the team at Amani Initiative behind some of the work in the report.

In conclusion, 2022 was an important year where we celebrated our 10 year anniversary, hit incredible milestones in regard to impact but also launched our 2023-2027 strategic plan dedicated to accelerating our efforts to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy in Uganda.

Board of Director's Message

I am pleased to present the Amani Initiative's 2022 Annual Report, as we celebrate a significant milestone - our 10th anniversary.

It is with immense pride and gratitude that we reflect on the progress made in the past year and the positive impact we have achieved in our mission to prevent and respond to harmful practices against children and women with a focus on child marriage and teenage pregnancy. 2022 also marked the first year when the country was fully open after Covid-19. This came with a lot of challenges but also opportunities to serve.

Throughout 2022, the Amani Initiative continued to work tirelessly to empower communities, protect the rights of young girls, and create a future where every child can fulfill their potential free from the constraints of early marriage and teenage pregnancy. With the support of our partners and stakeholders, we made remarkable strides in advancing our cause.



EVA NASSAZI, Chairperson- Board of Directors

In 2022, our interventions within our pathways of education, child protection & safeguarding, child, adolescent & maternal health and socioeconomic empowerment directly across 14 districts reached out to 1,794 low cost schools with an average population of 300 learners, 12 community health facilities, 4 women self support groups indirectly impacting over 145,045 people.

I sincerely appreciate the 62 partners with whom we closely engaged in 2022. I particularly appreciate Girls First Fund, Edify Uganda, PeaceCorps Uganda, Infectious Diseases Institute/CDC, Aga Khan Foundation, the Hunger Project Uganda, Movement for Community Led Development, Girls Not Brides Uganda, Save the Maracha Girl, Maracha District Local Government, Arua City Council, and Joy for Children Uganda with whom we directly implemented the 7 projects we are celebrating in this annual report.

As we embark on our 2023-2027 strategic plan, we enter a new phase of growth and impact. Our strategic plan aims to reach and positively impact over 1,500,000 individuals within 2023-2027. We are committed to expanding our programs, strengthening our partnerships, and advocating for policy changes to create a society where child marriage and teenage pregnancy are relics of the past.

In closing, I would like to express my deep appreciation to our dedicated team, volunteers, and supporters who have been instrumental in our journey thus far. Together, we have achieved remarkable results in 2022 but the journey is still long. I strongly believe together we shall be able to reach this journey of a Ugandan society free of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am pleased to present to you the annual report for the year 2022, highlighting the remarkable achievements and progress made by the Amani Initiative in our pursuit of ending teenage pregnancy and child marriage across Uganda and globally. As the Executive Director, I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished together and inspired by the impact we have made in the lives of individuals and communities around the world.

In 2022, Amani Initiative continued to work tirelessly towards our mission of preventing and responding to teenage pregnancy and child marriage through low-cost high-impact community-led solutions. We firmly believe that every child deserves an equal opportunity to reach their full potential. Our 2022 interventions are dedicated to nurturing that foundation in areas affected by conflict, violence, and instability.



INZIKURU EVERLINE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the key achievements of 2022 was the expansion of our programs. We scaled up our efforts in providing equal and quality education, child protection and safeguarding, socioeconomic empowerment, and child, adolescent & maternal health reaching out to over 145,045 people across 1794 low-cost schools, 12 community health facilities, and 4 self-support groups within 14 districts of Uganda. We directly implemented 7 projects, collaborated with 62 organizations and private sector partners to achieve our 2022 milestone as part of our belief in collective efforts in community development. Through these projects, we realized our annual expenses growth by 18%. Our average investment per client or beneficiary within 2022 was Ugsh 29,784 which is \$8. Hence we were able to do more with the little we had.

None of our achievements would have been possible without the unwavering support and dedication of our donors, partners, volunteers, and staff. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your generosity, expertise, and commitment to the cause of ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy. Your belief in our mission has been instrumental in driving our progress and inspiring us to push boundaries.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our vision of a world where every individual has the opportunity to live in peace and dignity. As we move forward into 2023 and beyond, we will continue to innovate, adapt, and respond to emerging challenges with agility and compassion. We will expand our reach, deepen our impact, and work towards sustainable, long-term solutions that transform lives and communities.

In conclusion, I am humbled by the accomplishments of the Amani Initiative in 2022, and I am filled with optimism for the future. Together, we can end child marriage and teenage pregnancy where every child is able to live to their full potential.

Thank you for your continued support, and I invite you to join us on this transformative journey. With gratitude,

WHO WE ARE

Amani Initiative is a Ugandan registered grassroots nonprofit organization founded in 2012 to prevent and respond to harmful practices and barriers against children and women with a focus on teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

Amani Initiative stands for the basic belief that every child deserves an equal opportunity to reach their full potential.

To enhance collective community-led multisectoral efforts to prevention and response to harmful practices and barriers against children and women the organization is guided by the following vision and mission.

OUR VISION

A society free from child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

OUR MISSION

To prevent and respond to child marriage and teenage pregnancy through low cost- high impact community led solutions.

OUR PROGRAM AREAS

- Education
- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Child, Adolescent and Maternal Health
- Socioeconomic Empowerement

OUR VALUES

- Integrity
- Responsibility
- Respect
- Accountability



Approach to our work.

Our work across 2022 was guided by the following approaches. These approaches have directly defined and guided our work since 2012.



Low cost- high impact Interventions.

Through leveraging existing resources and structures within community to address community problems.



Human Centred Interventions.

Designing and implementing interventions with the people being targeted to ensure that they are demand driven not supply driven interventions..



Gender inclusive Interventions.

Directly working with both men and women to prevent and respond to violence against children and women because #Itakes2.



Community-led Interventions.

Engaging members of the community as active stakeholders through a community-led approach.

As a team our approaches and programs directly contribute to the achievement 10 out of the 17 sustainable development goals. These include Goal #1, Goal #2, Goal #3, Goal #4, Goal #5, Goal #6, Goal #8, Goal #10, Goal #16, and Goal #16



A Year in Review

2022 marked our 10 year anniversary as a registered local organization in Uganda. In our review we share the amazing milestones reached on child protection with our community change agents, the impact of our educations systems strengthening on child protection and school financial management. The impact of our community facility linkages across 12 health facilities and many other key milestones.



Worked with 30 community change agents and 751 parents to strengthen community child protection and safeguarding awareness, reporting and case management.



Engaged 12 health centers and health personnel to ensure that 6,252 adults and 504 children access and utilize health services and information.



667 children and 1,635 adults accessed and utilized socioeconomic information and services within partner self support groups and schools.



KEY MILESTONES.

Worked with 1,794 schools to enable entry, retention and access to quality education for at least 538,200 children.



Ground breaking ceremony for construction of the Amani Elevator Facility officiated by Mr. Festus Ayikobua, the Maracha District Resident Commissioner (RDC).



Celebrated 10 years of Amani Initiative with launching of our 2023-2027 Strategic plan by Hon. Ruth Lematia - Maracha East MP.



145,045 11,450 1794

People indirectly

Projects Implemented supported

Health Centers

12

Partners engaged

62

Schools Supported

People directly impacted across our 2022 interventions

impacted across our 2022 interventions



AMPLIFIED COMMUNITY ACTION AGAINST TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND CHILD MARRIAGE (ACAA-TPCM)

Funded through Girls First Fund; the project aimed at, Ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy for prosperity and social economic transformation in Maracha and Arua districts. The project period ran from June 2020 to June 2022 and implemented within Kijomoro, Oleba and Oluffe Sub-Counties in Maracha District, Arua City and Vurra Sub-County in Arua District directly supporting XX within 2022.



SCHOOL FINANCIAL HEALTH PROJECT

Amani in partnership with Edify is improving learning outcomes and access to affordable education through supporting low cost private christian schools improve aspects of school financial management. In 2022 a total of 1,747 across Gulu, Pader, Mukono, Jinja, Nakasongola, Mpigi, Wakiso, and Kampala City participated in school training on accounting and financial management.



RIGHT2GROW

The project's ultimate goal is for every child to be able to reach their full potential through ensuring that all children under 5 are well nourished (aligned to SDG 2.2). The project is being implemented by Amani Initiative in Maracha district (Yivu and Oluffe Sub-counties), Arua District (Vurra Sub-County) and Arua City as a sub-grant from the Hunger Project and the Movement for Community Led Development Uganda Chapter under the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



EMPOWERED VOICES

The project is a continuation of the Girls First Fund grant. Under Empowered Voices we are adopting a human centered design process that leverages a community led and gender transformative approaches to ensure that the activities supported under the grant to prevent and respond to child marriage are demand driven and encourage inclusive participation of all relevant stakeholders in Maracha and Arua Districts.



FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING AND EMPOWERMENT PROJECT.

Under this project; Amani Initiative is directly conducting training for teachers and administrators across government schools in Arua and Yumbe Districts on Value Based Learning with the support of Aga Khan Foundation.



WEST NILE HIV PROJECT

The project aims to attain and sustain HIV epidemic control in the West Nile region of Uganda through optimization of high impact interventions to achieve UNAIDS 95:95:95 targets; and strengthening national, regional, district level capacities to meet MoH minimum performance. The project is implemented across a network of 12 health facilities in Maracha District with support from Centre for Disease Control through the Infectious Disease Institute.

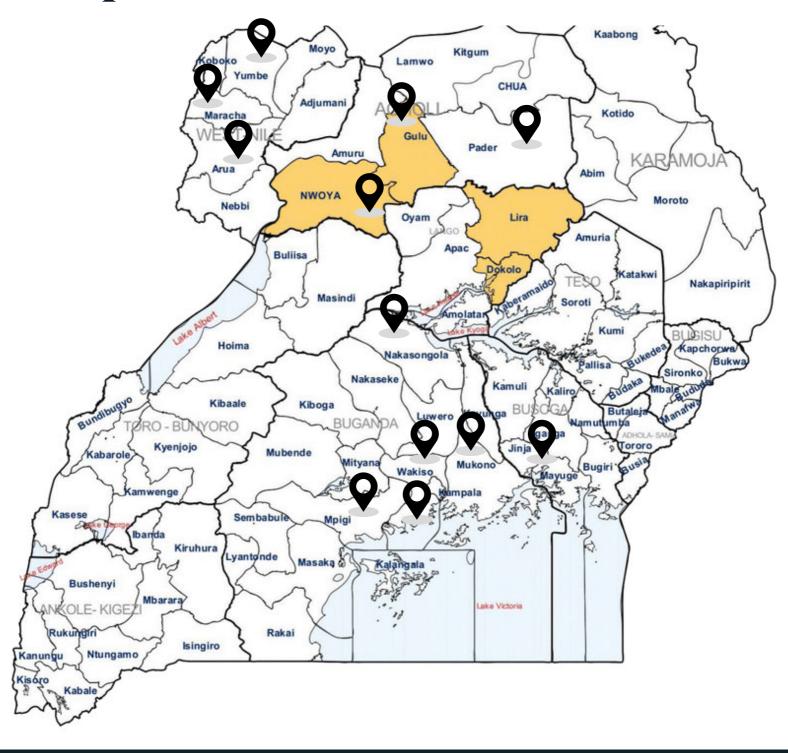
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PEPFAR HIV, MALARIA ACTIVITY

The project supported through PeaceCorps directly targeted 694 priority population through HIV testing Services, malaria control and or grass root soccer to catch up with the COP21 targets for OVC preventive and priority population prevention in Maracha district.

2022 Amani Initiative Annual Report

2022 areas of direct implementation.





Amani Initiative has a mandate to implement across Uganda. Within 2022 our interventions focused the West Nile, Acholi, Buganda and Busoga Sub-Regions of Uganda.

We had active direct interventions across:-

- 1. West Nile Sub-Region (Maracha District, Arua City, Arua District and Yumbe District)
- 2. Acholi Sub-Region (Gulu, Pader and Nwoya Districts)
- 3. Buganda/Luwero Sub- Region (Mpigi, Wakiso, Mukono, Nakasongola, and Kampala City)
- 4. Busoga Sub-Region (Bugweri District and Jinja District)

EDUCATION



"Child brides are likely to DROP OUT OF SCHOOL, hindering their personal development, preparation for adulthood and their ability to contribute to their family and community." Girls Not Brides

Within 2022, our education thematic area prioritized (1) re-entry of child mothers back into school as part our response to Covid19; and (2) value based education training for teachers and administrators of government schools.

A total of 1,641 individuals who included child mothers, educators and parents directly benefited from our 2022 education-related interventions with over 4,800 indirectly benefiting as the result of our education systems strengthening interventions across 31 partner schools.

We also organized School Debate
Competitions with the support of the Girls
First Fund across 6 government schools
in Maracha District under the topic,
"Pregnant Girls Should be allowed back
into school." The debates created further
awareness among learners on the need to
support child mothers safely return to
school without stigma.

Through the Foundation for Learning and Empowerment Project; 225 educators and teachers across 10 schools were trained on value based education approaches. These approaches create a strong learning environment that enhances academic achievement and develops students' social and relationship skills that last throughout their lives.

We directly engaged and followed up with 1,412 parents to be in position to return their children especially teenage mothers back into school after the closure of schools due the Covid-19 lock down.

Our scholarship program under Keep Me In School also on boarded 4 girls who have been supported to return and stay in school during 2022.

Contribution projects and partners to our education thematic area.

- 1. Foundation for Learning and Empowerment Project- Aga Khan Foundation
- 2. Empowered Voices- Girls First Fund
- 3. Keep Me In School- Individual funders

CHILD PROTECTION & SAFEGUARDING



Within 2022, our Child Protection and Safeguarding team directly worked with 30 community change agents, and 16 schools to promote awareness, case management and reporting mechanism for violence against in and out of school children.

Together with Girls Not Brides Uganda we organized in the 2022 National Girl pre-Summit 18th November under the theme "Children need a Society Free from Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy." which converged 158 participants across Northern Uganda.

16 partner schools under the Empowered Voices project were supported with information on teachers code of conduct through talking compounds. This focused on guiding schools establish guidelines on child protection and safeguarding. This intervention has made schools safer for at least 19,200 children who attend these schools.

We also engaged with the local officials to disseminate the parenting guidelines to 751 parents during parents meetings in school as well as community dialogues. The guidelines are key at addressing the challenges parents face in raising their children as indicated in most of our community dialogues.



Children are able to feel safer at school as the result of interventions under our child protection and safeguarding thematic area.

Our commitment is to work with community structures, parents and children to strengthen child protection and safeguarding awareness, reporting and case management directly contributing to sustainable development goal 16.

- 1. Amplified Community Action Against Teenage Pregnancy & Child Marriage- Girls First Fund.
- 2. Empowered Voices- Girls First Fund
- 3. National Girls Summit- Girls Not Brides Uganda National Alliance

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND MATERNAL HEALTH



Within 2022; our child, adolescent and maternal health thematic area aimed at interventions focused on providing key health focused information and services reaching out to 6,756 key populations.

Under the West Nile HIV project 5,461 individuals directly accessed information and services related to attaining and sustaining HIV control within Maracha District. The activities implemented included HIV and TB testing, follow up of lost clients and facility linkages.

Through the Right2Grow program we directly engaged 634 individuals who included children, mothers and policy makers to understand, demand and invest in WASH and nutrition services as part of ensuring that every child is able to reach their full potential. Children of teenage mothers are at a higher risk of stunting due to poverty as well as ignorance of best WASH and nutrition practices of the child mothers.

Together with PeaceCorps Uganda, 694 individuals who included adolescents, pregnant mothers, key populations such as men in uniform and community health workers accessed malaria control, sexual & reproductive health and HIV testing services.

Our Child, Adolescent and Maternal Health thematic heavily relied on leveraging existing community structures and networks.

Our Linkage Referral Assistants were attached across the 12 health centres in Maracha to facilitate community facilitate linkage in accessing HIV/TB services.

Members of Village Health Teams have been key at community sensitization of malaria control, proper hygiene and nutrition best practices within Maracha and Arua Districts.

- 1. West Nile HIV project- Infectious Disease Institute/Centre for Disease Control
- 2. Right2Grow- Hunger Project Uganda/MCLD Uganda Chapter
- 3. PEPFER HIV Activity- PeaceCorps Uganda.

SOCIOECONOMIC EMPOWEREMENT



23

02

Poverty is not a key driver of child marriage and teenage pregnancy but also directly affects child brides.

Child brides do not receive the educational and economic opportunities that help lift them and their family out of poverty. THEY ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE POOR AND REMAIN POOR.

Our socioeconomic empowerment program directly focused on supporting child mothers within 4 self support groups to access relevant social and entrepreneurship skills and opportunities. The program also invested in supporting low cost private schools improve their financial health. Most of these schools were hit hard as the result of the long close out of schools as a precaution to Covid19 prevention.

This risked school closure and widening the gap to access to education for some of the most vulnerable children in our community.

A total of 2,302 people directly benefited from these programs. 155 of these people included young mothers within our 4 self support groups in Maracha and Arua Districts

1,747 low cost private schools across Gulu, Pader, Kampala, Mukono, Wakiso, and Jinja Districts were trained during in school training's and mentorship. The training's focused on issues around business and accounting management of a school.

1747

- 1. School Financial Health Program- Edify
- 2. Empowered Voices- Girls First Fund

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING



As a growing organization we prioritize and invest in institutional capacity strengthening through building staff capacity, strategic partnerships and resource mobilization dedicated to prevention and response to teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

Within 2022; all our staff participated from 10 training and exposure opportunities within our networks. The training not only supported their service delivery but also build their own career skills and opportunities.

The organization also launched the construction of the Amani Elevator Facility at a during the 10 years anniversary celebrations attended by over 300 people.

The Amani Elevator Facility in Maracha District is to house the Amani Initiative Head Offices, Community Hall and Life Skills Transformation space for at risk children and youths.

2022 STAFF CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. Governance and Resource Mobilization training by Girls First Fund
- 2. Disability Inclusion training by Women Efforts for Inclusive Development (WEID)
- 3. Financial Management and Accountability training by Infectious Disease Institute
- 4. Gender Equality and HIV/AIDs training by Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD)
- 5. Feminist Leadership Exchange by the Mentoring and Empowerment Programme for Young Women (MEMPROW)
- 6. Legal and policy framework for CSO's and media by Feminature Uganda.
- 7. Integrated Malaria Training by PeaceCorps Uganda.
- 8. HIV/TB integrated services training by the Infectious Disease Institute
- 9. Local government budgeting and budget monitoring by Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD)
- 10. Disability Inclusion programming by the Light for the World.

Community Voices

66 I'm very grateful to Amani Initiative for all the interventions brought to the pupils that has brought changes in the learners' character, and I pledge full support to all your activities within the school, and will allocate any time of the week for you to engage the pupils since such engagements are already causing positive changes in their lives'

> **Head teacher Mbafe primary** school, Oleba sub county-**Maracha district**

> > **66** Following the training from Amani, I advised a neighbor not neighbor away two orphans that is a 15-yr. old girl and a 16-yearold boy who went for night disco she accepted to talk to the children instead of withdrawing her support towards them as the she was sole guardian taking responsibility in supporting the children at school and in providing other needs as for they are all bright at school.

Odaru Molly a Community Change Agent and a VHT

66 Our members (child mothers) can now days speak boldly for themselves to share their own challenges with friends, and also talk to their friends who are in problems, and most of the old members do have their own established small scale running businesses which is attributed to the knowledge they received from Amani Initiatives previous sessions. 99

> Ms. Tiko Agnes, COMMUNITY **CHANGE AGENT**

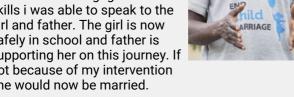




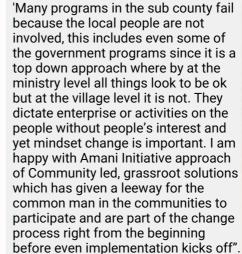
Before i joined the group i did not believe in myself anymore. As a young girl with a child and no education. I had given up on my future. But in my group I receive guidance from my peers and change agents. I have taken up leadership roles which have built my confidence. I am also now running my small business out of the group loans which has made me more independent and able to look after myself and my child.

Child Mother, Member of the Amani Oluffe Child Mother's Savings Group.

"After going training with Amani as a Community Change agent, i was able to stop a case of school drop out and child marriage. One of my uncles had chased away her daughter to go stay with her boyfriend when she did not return home after 3 days. Through my conflict resolution and engagement skills i was able to speak to the girl and father. The girl is now safely in school and father is supporting her on this journey. If not because of my intervention she would now be married.



Feni Titus a Community Change Agent and Chair Person of Boda bodas in Ovisoni Town Council



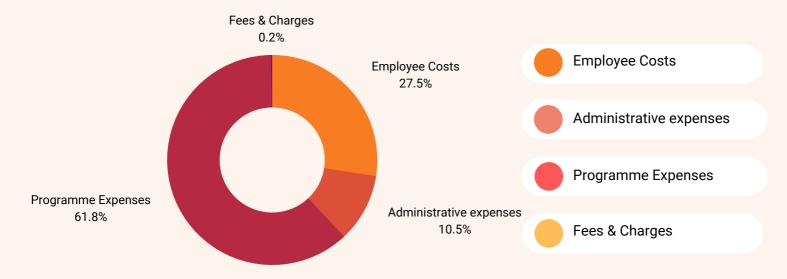




2022 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2022	2021
Income	321,603,283	259,482,277
Expenditure	(329,319,329)	(278,534,902)
(Deficit) for the year	(7,716,046)	(19,052,625)

2022 expenditure allocations



Our average investment per client or beneficiary within 2022 was Ugsh 29,784 which is \$8.

Our 2022 Direct Implementing Partners

































Our 2022 Collaborating Partners

- 1. World Vision Uganda
- 2. Mentoring and Empowerment Program for Young Women (MEMPROW)
- 3. Nile Girls Forum
- 4. Niva Primary School
- 5. Daily Monitor
- 6. Vision Group
- 7. CEFTRA West Nile
- 8. Lugbara Kari
- 9. Madi Okollo Youth Development Association
- 10. Integrated Child Services
- 11. KOMITE

- 1. ROTILO
- 2. Voice of Madi FM
- 3. Arua One FM
- 4. Office of the Prime Minister
- 5. West Nile Youth Empowerment Centre
- 6. UBC TV
- 7. Makerere University Business School
- 8. Arua Diocese
- 9. United Nations Commission for Refugees
- 10. Women's Efforts in Inclusive Developmen
- 11. Feminature Uganda.
- 12. Pimara Development and Transformation Initiative
- 13. ActionAid International



Our Team



Eve Nassazi



Kisawuzi James



Sharon Nassaaza



Brian Musinguzi



Everline Inzikuru



Nixon Ochatre



Patrick Dranimva



Florence Amaguru Isiagi Emmanuel





Gloria Alezuyo



Derrick Onzi



Moureen Nakamanya



Lilian Ayikoru



Harunah Kanaabi



Joyce Apuniki



Emmanuel Munguci Geofrey Alema





Majid Tabu



Richard Enzama



Avery Davis



Annet Mataru



Matilda Ayikoru



Sunday Apangu



Isaac Andruvule



Agnes Tiko



Vincent Agodri



Estelle Darcy



David Ayiko



Stephen Andeoye



Zainab Bako

One in four of Ugandan women age 15-19 have given birth or are pregnant with their first child by the age of 18 while 34 per cent of women aged 25-49 are married before the age of 18 and 7.3 per cent before the age of 15 (UDHS 2016; UNICEF 2020).

Child marriage and teenage pregnancy violates the basic rights of girls and boys and the realization of socio-economic transformation of households, communities in Uganda and across the world."

Amani Initiative is a Ugandan registered grassroot non profit organization founded in 2012 to prevent and respond to child marriage and teenage pregnancy through integrated community led interventions.

Amani Initiative PO Box 11406, Kampala Head Officer, Arua City Tel: +256 784951295

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WE SEEK FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP
AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TOWARDS
THE WORK OF AMANI INITIATIVE
WHICH CAN BE SENT THROUGH:-

BANK TRANSFER

BANK - UNITED BANK OF AFRICA (U) LTD ACC. No. - 0113011975 Acc. Name:- Amani Initiative Ltd Currency- USD BANK - POST BANK (U) LTD ACC. No. - 1630000001574

Acc. Name:- Amani Initiative (NGO)

Currency- UGX

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO OUR PROGRAMS DEDICATED TO PREVENTION & RESPONSE TO TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND CHILD MARRIAGE