

SLF supports some very different agencies in **Uganda**

Action for Rural Women's Empowerment (ARUWE) Agnes Merembe is E.D



ARUWE started in 2003, helping women to increase household food security and generate income. Now ARUWE operates across Uganda, focusing on socio-economic empowerment of women and children. They partner with organisations and individuals with complementary missions

Education/Lifelong Learning. They advocate for improving access to quality education for vulnerable children, offer sponsorship support for orphans and vulnerable children, oversee construction of classrooms and water and sanitation facilities, and give access to reading materials, science equipment and computers.

ARUWE supports children out of school with life skills and skills-training centers - including tailoring, computing skills, bakery, music and art.

Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation. They teach wise use of resources, waste reduction, saving trees, recycling and using renewable resources. ARUWE trains communities in proper land use management and boundary tree planting, growing fruit trees and coffee.

They promote use of sustainable energy, including solar energy, energy saving stoves, solar driers and Biogas.

Women's Social Economic Strengthening. They provide combined financial and technical assistance for rural women and youth. They focus on food security and nutrition, agribusiness, livestock rearing and micro credit, improving farming practices, harvesting techniques, value addition, marketing and business management.



Sustainable Health Communities. They improve general health conditions through increased access to clean and safe water, good hygiene conditions, sanitation facilities and they build community capacity to lobby and advocate for WASH services. They construct boreholes, shallow wells, spring tanks, rainwater harvesting facilities, and install school, household and community sanitation facilities (outhouses)



They also promote awareness and good governance in sexual reproductive, maternal child health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, and other health services. ARUWE works with district nurses, village health teams, youth peer educators, private health workers, traditional birth attendants and community-based organizations, to improve access and availability of reproductive health services.

They organize mobile clinics for voluntary counseling and testing and provide condoms, pills, and other protection and birth control products. , ARUWE works with Youth Peer Educators and school clubs to promote awareness of HIV through music and drama.

Grandmothers Consortium Mukono,. Kezia Mukasa is E. D.



Grandmothers Consortium is an outcome of the **Uganda National Grandmothers Gathering** that brought over 500 grandmothers together sharing life experiences and learning from each other on pertinent issues. The Consortium comprises six Ugandan grassroots organisations working with grandmothers to create a platform for advocacy and lobbying for their rights. They want to reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS, poverty and the associated burden of care for orphans and vulnerable children, on the grandmothers in Uganda. They encourage the inclusion of grandmother issues in national and community-based programming and legislation.

The Founding Members are: **Reach One Touch One Ministries (ROTOM)** which is well-known to Oomama members, *Reach Out Mbuya Parish HIV/AIDS Project*; *Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project*; *Phoebe Education Fund for Orphans and Vulnerable Children*; *St. Francis Heath Care Services* and *Kitovu Mobile AIDS Organisation*. With the support of these grassroots organizations, and partners like Canadian Grandmothers, Stephen Lewis Foundation, HelpAge International, and others, Grandmothers have moved from mourning to a movement, claiming their rights and those of their grandchildren.



Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG) is an umbrella organization based in Kampala. Members of SMUG achieved controversy through their activism due to

the rise of homophobic populism in the country and the introduction of the Uganda Anti-Homosexuality Bill in the Parliament .

The Ugandan newspaper *Rolling Stone*, (not related to the American magazine of the same name) published a gallery of "100 Pictures of Uganda's Top Homos" and stated, "Hang Them." In response, four members of SMUG , whose faces appeared in the magazine, filed a petition with the High Court seeking to force the paper to cease distribution of the article. The court granted the petition on 2 November 2010, effectively ending the publication of Ugandan *Rolling Stone*.

You can read all about them in their newspaper, SMUG News!

Icebreakers Uganda Brant Luswata is E.D.

Icebreakers Uganda caters for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender– Ugandans 18 years and over – who are ‘coming out’, as well as men and women who are already “out” or having feelings of loneliness or isolation due to sexuality or sexual related orientation. They dream of a Uganda of total justice, devoid of discrimination based on sexual orientation, and free of HIV/AIDS and its disastrous effects. They raise the awareness of all gay people in Uganda about their human rights aspects in health, risky sexual behaviors with emphasis on HIV/AIDS and speak out for those who are being bullied, abused or hated because of their sexual orientation. They become a new family to those who have been disowned by their own.

They educate LGBT people on risky sexual behaviors through group talks; and on human rights through seminars, workshops, advocacy drives and retreats. They advocate, research and collaborate with other organizations and they disseminate information to end ignorance of LGBT.



Freedom and Roam Uganda (FARUG) PO Box 591 Nigowa Ntinda

Executive Director Ssenfuka Juanita Warry writes, “Lesbian, bisexual, and queer women in Uganda are not considered a ‘key population’ in our national health programming.”

Since 2003 FARUG has lobbied for rights of womxn, worked to free them from violence and worked to empower LBQ persons in Uganda, advocating for the respect, protection and fulfillment of their rights.

FARUG is the oldest solely Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Womxn organization that has been actively leading and organizing sexual orientation and gender identity through lobbying and dialogue to create and facilitate greater visibility and voice.

Freedom and Roam Uganda runs Uganda’s first exclusive mini clinic and a drop-in centre that offers a safe space, where Lesbians, Bisexual, and Queer womyn can access HIV related health care services like Hepatitis B screening and vaccination, counselling, information (through the resource centre) peer-to-peer support, consumables like condoms and lubricants (through the mini clinic) & program that provide free HIV screening and testing, care and support.

FARUG) launched their book *“The Lived Realities of LBQ Women in Uganda in regard to their Social, Economic, Civil and Political experiences”* in 2018 .



The Women’s International Peace Centre Kampala. Helen Kezie-Nwoha is E.D.



The feminist leadership institute is a safe space for women to galvanize their feminism while enhancing their leadership capacities to participate in peace building and conflict resolution. The centre builds the capacity of women as change agents in peace building and post-conflict recovery through leadership training, cross-cultural exchanges, research and 'giving back to the community' initiatives.