

Uganda & South Sudan 2023 **Issue 01**

Activity Highlights **2022**

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Foreword

Dear KAS friends and family,

Since Feb 2022, the Uganda and South Sudan Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) started implementing a 5-year special initiative on migration and forced displacement. Among other key objectives, the program seeks to understand and provide solutions to the multiple causes of both cross-border and intra-country movements in Uganda and South Sudan.

We are pleased to present the first KAS Migration Project Newsletter highlighting some of the activities we carried out in Uganda and South Sudan in 2022.

In South Sudan, the key actions were: peace-building workshops, which brought together leaders in different capacities to discuss solutions to the persistent instability in the region and the reunion for KAS' network of scholarship holders, alumni, fellows, and researchers to discuss how we can expand and strengthen our various networks within South Sudan.

In Uganda, we partnered with the Governance Accountability CSO Network (GAIN-Uganda) Okere City, Media Challenge Initiative (MCI), African Youth Action Network (AYAN), African Centre for Trade and Development (ACTADE), and the Alliance for National Transformation (ANT), to convene engagements that brought together key stakeholders from various sectors, including the government, civil society, academia, the media, refugees and hosting communities to strengthen institutional commitment and operational approaches to addressing the challenges of migration in Uganda, South Sudan, and beyond. We also partnered with Citizen Report to implement a migration civics and information hub where information on migration can be easily accessed.

Our commitment to promoting good governance, civic engagement, and peace remains steadfast. We look forward to your continued support as we work towards a better future for all.

Enjoy the read!

Anna Reismann

Country Director Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Uganda & South Sudan Office

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG 51 A, Prince Charles Drive, Kololo P.O. Box 647 Kampala, Uganda E: info.kampala@kas.de www.kas.de/uganda/en



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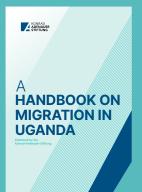
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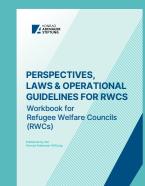
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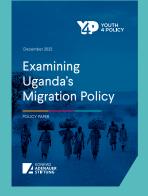
Publications to look out for:







WORKBOOK FOR REFUGEE WELFARE COUNCILS



A Workbook for Lower Local Councilors in Uganda

Perspectives, Laws and Operational Guidelines for LCI, II & III Actors

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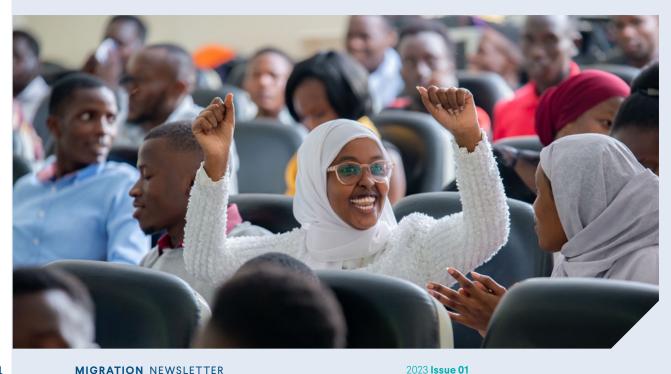
COMIC BOOK ON MIGRATION

POLICY PAPERS ON MIGRATION IN UGANDA

KAS IN SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan Peace Building and **Conflict Resolution**

On December 9-10th, KAS, together with CEFoRD, our long-term partner trained key peace-building elements in their different capacities to boost their efforts towards bringing peace in South Sudan. CEFoRD aimed to find local solutions to the exodus of people emigrating from the persistent instability in South Sudan. The training was targeted toward leaders in the elite class of South Sudan for their positionality. The intended outcome of the training was that these solutions would be put into effect as elites hold considerable steering power within the state. The second outcome was that the discussion would help leaders reflect on their role in exacerbating the conflict and expand leaders' knowledge of other people's realities and how they could elevate others' efforts. For example, when the lead representative of the Union of Disabilities expressed his disappointment with the leadership they had chosen to advocate for disabled people. Hearing his frustration with the elect, among other things failing to get the Convention of Rights of People With Disabilities ratified, Hon. Dharuai Mabor promised to directly advocate for the rightful minister. The third outcome was that leaders would share methods of advocacy and peacebuilding as well as expand their networks and amplify each other's efforts. CEFoRD carefully selected 53 representatives from The Union of Physical Disabilities, high-ranking civil defense forces, Women's Unions, key private sector players, government dignitaries, the Network of Women in the Security Sector, Police and Prisons, Youth Coalitions (Shabab le Shabaab and South Sudan Youth), religious leaders, lecturers, and students.





South Sudan Alumni Meeting

It was great to see the scholarship holder alumni, fellows, and researchers gather together to discuss ways to expand and strengthen synergies in the country. The meeting was productive, engaging and full of inspiring ideas on how best to tackle migration challenges currently affecting South Sudan. Proposed interventions included improving access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities.

Together, the Alumni explored ways to better handle the displacement of people such as, advocating for improved integration and resettlement policies, as a result of persistent instability in the region. It was inspiring to witness the growing community of brilliant and talented individuals, mostly youths, coming together to address the challenges facing their country.

Their joint efforts and innovative ideas for solutions give hope for a better tomorrow, not just for South Sudan but for the continent at large.

Mobile Journalism in South Sudan

Mobile Journalism is an emerging form of new media storytelling. Reporters use portable electronic devices like smartphones and digital sound recorders with network connectivity to gather, edit and distribute news from within the community to the various online and offline media platforms.

Access to timely information on migration is a challenge. As a contribution to addressing it, we partnered with Youth Media Initiative South Sudan and the Association for Media Development in South Sudan to conduct trainings in digital-migration storytelling for students at Starford University, Juba University, and Kampala University-Juba. The trained journalists were exposed to various video and audio editing software essential for information gathering and editing of collected stories before dissemination to the public for consumption.

KAS IN SOUTH SUDAN

Yei-Okere Conflict Transformation workshops

Drawing a parallel between Okere, a small marginalized community that was situated between the jaws of rebellion and civil strife for years, and Yei which is currently in the storm of such challenges, we thought it worthwhile as KAS, YAMORA, and Okere city to exchange lessons, networks, and strategies for advocacy, organizing and lobbying with local leaders in Yei to supplement their existing grassroots efforts towards bringing peace to their region.

The people of Yei have a similar story with Northern Uganda. Otuke district faced the conflict with the Karamojong cattle rustlers followed by the Lords Resistance Army (LRA) war. Yei is currently facing the same with different holdout groups, the National Salvation Army (NSA) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army - In Opposition (SPLA-IO). We believe that teaching these histories, especially the damages that are caused by conflict will bring new perspectives, especially to the youth of South Sudan to avoid recurrence.

South Sudan is set for elections in 2024, and the forty three youth and religious groups selected for this program are key players in the electoral process. The Yei and Okere City conflict transformation workshops brought participants together to transform their mindset from a culture of violence to one of peace. Workshop sessions were facilitated by peace-building and conflict-resolution experts both in Uganda and South Sudan.

Despite the traumatic war events that took place in Northern Uganda and South Sudan, the workshops provided an opportunity for the people in Yei River County of South Sudan and Okere City to emerge and become vibrant rural communities. The discussions highlighted practical steps of recognising and dealing with the past and the need for peace, justice and strong Institutions in order to build stronger and resilient communities.





Civic Engagement for South Sudan Refugees in Uganda

The civic engagement trainings for South Sudan refugees living in Uganda were a resounding success Refugee leaders gaining knowledge on how best to effectively deliver on their roles. This initiative was implemented in partnership with The African Youth Action Network (AYAN) in Kiryandongo and West Nile. The focus of the action was to enhance the capacity of refugee leaders with skills and knowledge to foster peace in their communities. The trainings also aimed at changing perceptions of refugees as passive observers of national peace initiatives of their country so that they become more of aware of national peace processes and actively contribute to them., The action also contributed to promoting inclusive decision-making processes to ensure peaceful coexistence collaboration between host communities and refugees.

The programme recognizes refugees as active agents in creating peace and building cooperative pathways for conflict resolution within South Sudan. It is crucial to enable the meaningful involvement of refugees in shaping political processes in South Sudan, their home country. This would recognize their skills as peacemakers and peacebuilders which are critical to prospects for sustained peace in the region.



REPORT

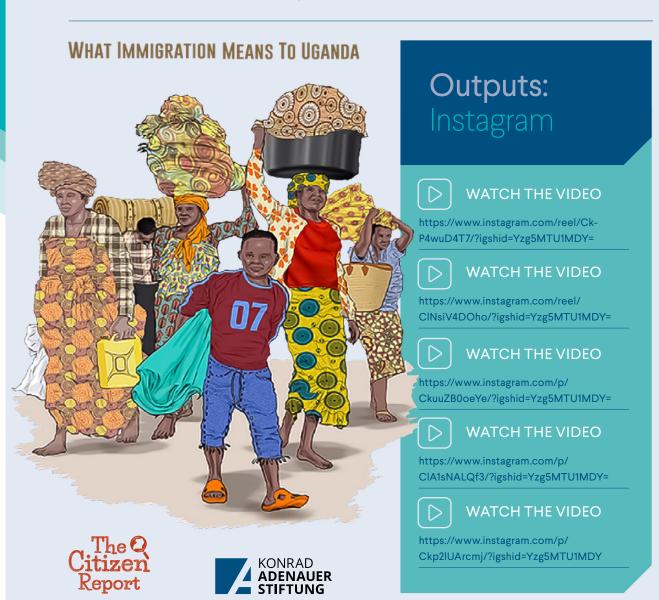
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung - Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - Refugee Welfare Councils (RWCs) as Spaces for Political Participation of refugees in Uganda (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/uganda/veranstaltungsberichte/detail/-/content/refugee-welfare-councils-rwcs-as-spaces-for-political-participation-of-refugees-in-uganda

KAS IN UGANDA

Migration Civics Info Hub

Migration is an important phenomenon in Ugandan history and the present. It is captured in key narratives about Uganda as both a refugee-sending and refugee-receiving country. Also, Uganda's troubled socio-political history and recent economic challenges have led to the emigration of Ugandans across the globe over time, creating a sizable Ugandan diaspora on the continent and beyond. Analyzed data and information about migration in Uganda can readily be accessed from organizations' platforms, such as UNHCR, IOM, OPM, etc., but access to raw data remains a challenge. Besides, the graphical manner in which the information and data are presented could be further improved. It is in this regard that KAS partnered with the Citizen Report (www.thecitizenreport.ug), a civic startup that conducts research based projects to pool and share information on Migration.





Grassroots Migration Agenda

In partnership with The Governance Accountability CSO Network (GAIN-Uganda), KAS held conversations and sensitisations in sixteen districts directly affected by human trafficking, labor externalization and cattle rustling. These were: Kisoro, Soroti, Amuria, Mbale, Jinja, Nakapiripirit, Gulu, Kanungu, Abim, Kotido, Insingiro, Moroto, Napak, Pallisa, Lira, and Manafwa.

The interventions were tailored to the challenges in each region. By creating awareness in a way that is specific to each community, we were able to mobilize and educate individuals on the lasting impact of these issues on their community.

Communities showed an eagerness to collaborate and make meaningful changes towards eradicating these pervasive issues. Our innovative approach ensured that the trainings hit all the touchpoints needed for positive impactful change.

In addition to the engagements in the communities, radio talk shows were conducted which ignited regular debates on migration issues to a wider audience. We remain committed to driving positive change throughout Uganda, one community at a time.

REPORTS



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung -Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - "We Know Better How to Tackle Cattle Rustling" - Abim Residents (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/uganda/ veranstaltungsberichte/detail/-/ content/we-know-better-how-totackle-cattle-rustling-abim-residents



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung -Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - The Portrait of Migration in the Northern Uganda City of Lira (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/ uganda/veranstaltungsberichte/ detail/-/content/the-portrait-ofmigration-in-the-northern-uganda city-of-lira



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung -Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - Exploring community-based approaches to addressing cattle rustling in Karamoja region. (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/uganda/ veranstaltungsberichte/detail/-/ content/exploring-community-basedapproaches-to-addressing-cattlerustling-in-karamoja



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung -Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - Perspectives from Grassroots Migration Agenda Dialogues in Jinja, Pallisa and Manafwa districts. (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/ uganda/veranstaltungsberichte/ detail/-/content/perspectives-from grassroots-migration-agendadialogues-in-jinja-pallisa-andmanafwa-districts

KAS IN UGANDA

MCI Fellowship Reporting Program

Each year, Media Challenge Initiative (MCI) conducts a six-months multimedia fellowship programme which provides high-quality training in skills and knowledge, to prepare journalism students for the job market. As part of the MCI Fellowship training, each fellow completes an in-depth multimedia solutions journalism project. During the final week-long field reporting trip to a rural or urban area in Uganda, fellows pitch and cover multimedia solutions-based stories, putting their skills into practice.

In 2022, the reporting trip focused on Forced Migration, and the fellows traveled to different places to interact with officials from the Ministry of Internal Affairs who handle immigration issues, IOM offices, refugee host communities and areas housing internally displaced persons affected by forced migration.

The fellows produced individual multimedia stories highlighting the experiences, challenges, and coping mechanisms of migrants, as well as the government and various organizations' support for these groups.



WATCH THE VIDEO

https://www.youtube.com/ playlist?list=PLFyLZFyABFZyJMdGFTzyJsWvFX0x3W5T9





MORE ABOUT MCI FELLOWSHIP:

Media Challenge Fellowship – MCI www.mciug.org

Media Challenge Expo

It was our honor to attend the exciting 6th Annual Media Challenge Exposition, a 4-days media festival focused on facilitating effective public service delivery through Journalism. In their innovative fashion we had lightning talks, fireside conversations and bridged the gap between leaders and journalists; many would otherwise be marginalized journalists given the dwindling space for freedom of expression. This year, the event was focused on forced migration and public service delivery. We brainstormed on solution -based journalism and how young people could effectively cover stories and take advantage of new technologies and networks to demand accountability from not just their leaders but their community as well. Journalism students not only enjoyed the expo but also progressed their skills through the different story contests.

WATCH THE 2022 MCI EXPO HERE:



https://www.youtube.com/live/Y3y09SkgWNU?feature=share



https://www.youtube.com/live/fGdU0Aacrvl?feature=share.





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KAS IN UGANDA

Climate Migration Dialogue

Climate migration remains an elusive topic to many young people. Given its politicization, many youths are left out of sincere conversations about its implications to their future. This dialogue was held in Makerere University. It opened up the ivory tower's doors to younger people, giving them a unique chance to express their anxieties about the future as well as learn from experts about the implications of climate change to migration and how they can navigate them.

Together with our partners, African Centre for Trade and Development (ACTADE), we believe that all stakeholders must be involved in addressing this issue, including government, development partners, international organizations, the private sector, academia, civil society organizations, and the media.

We are positive that these exchanges will lead to strengthened institutional commitment and operational approaches to addressing the challenges of migration induced by climate change in Uganda and beyond.



REPORTS



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung - Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - Okere Summit for Sustainable Development (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/ en/web/uganda/ veranstaltungsberichte/ detail/-/content/we-knowbetter-how-to-tackle-cattle rustling-abim-residents



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- Foundation Office Uganda
and South Sudan - Self-Settled
Urban Refugees in Kampala
and Labor Market Dynamics
(kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/ en/web/uganda/ veranstaltungsberichte/ detail/-/content/the-portraitof-migration-in-the-northernuganda-city-of-lira

MIGRATION NEWSLETTER 2023 Issue 01



Migration Research Conference

In the spirit of discourse, we set out to Makerere University to speak to the humanities students about their understanding of migration. We curated a fairly young and diverse panel that shaped a fantastic debate. Uganda's policy allows refugees to go to school and many beneficiaries of these policies were amidst their peers in the discussion. The public dialogue on the state of migration in Uganda demystified many conversations dispelling fears and myths, and provided an opportunity for us to learn from the perspectives of the students.

It is clear that there is a strong interest in the topic of migration among students, and there is a need to continue the conversation and explore ways to address the challenges and opportunities that migration presents for Uganda.



REPORT

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung - Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - An Overview of Uganda's Migration Profile (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/uganda/veranstaltungsberichte/detail/-/content/an-overview-ofuganda-s-migration-profile

District Leadership Capacity Building on Migration

The Alliance for National Transformation (ANT) political party with our support engaged with communities in Terego and Arua districts. These spaces empowered leaders with skills for conflict resolution, advocacy, environmental protection, and entrepreneurship while creating awareness on the dangers of human trafficking.

While the workshops were a step in the right direction, it is clear that much more needs to be done to address the challenges facing the region. The government must take urgent action to provide basic services, promote economic development, and thwart human trafficking. Only then can the region begin to thrive and provide a better future for both the host communities and the refugees.

This year, the conversations will be moved to the Western region. Stay tuned!

KAS IN UGANDA

Okere Summit: Reimagining Rural Futures

The challenges highlighted in the SDGs can only be effectively tackled by a global coordinated effort. Therefore, in December, we assembled in Otuke district, for a week-long adventure in a rural oasis. Okere was a careful selection, a unique site for its potential to inspire transformative imaginations and encourage everyone to start where they are, and to illustrate that small practical changes can build into great impact with the support of policy actors.

The formerly war-torn region exists at the periphery of Uganda and for the past two years, a social-entrepreneurial visionary: Ojok Okello has partnered with KAS to experiment with different policy initiatives on how to elevate this local community. Change sparked directly at the grassroots and with the involvement of the local authority is an effective course of action. Sustainable communities are more responsive to challenges such as climate change, rural-urban migration and financial inclusion.

This summit brought together young policy thinkers, dreamers and doers to discuss some of the existing initiatives such as irrigation, sustainable housing, sustainable agriculture, and inform our imaginations in making sustainable rural futures in Africa possible.







Y4P Migration Fellowship

We were proud to onboard our first Youth4Policy migration fellowship cohort. A careful selection of 20 budding journalists, researchers, policy entrepreneurs and immigration workers. We had an exciting program that included the expert insights Dr. Jimmy Spire Ssentongo, the regional IGAD migration expert, Ms Agnes Igoyi and more. The fellows had their capacity on migration issues increased; they were thereafter mentored and facilitated to carry out short term research on migration issues and produce policy papers. The papers were compiled and will be published in 2023.



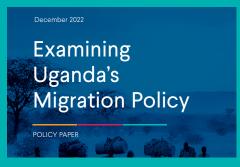




Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung -Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - Youth for Policy (Y4P) Migration Fellows (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/ uganda/single-title/-/content/ youth-for-policy-y4p-migrationfellows

REPORTS





Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung -Foundation Office Uganda and South Sudan - Youth4Policy (Y4P) Migration Fellowship Programme. (kas.de)

https://www.kas.de/en/web/ uganda/veranstaltungsberichte/ detail/-/content/the-portrait-ofmigration-in-the-northern-uganda city-of-lira



Addition to the KAS Team!



Lucy Peace Nantume joins KAS as a Programme Manager under the Migration Project. She is a lawyer and human rights practitioner. Previously, Lucy worked as a program Manager at the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF), where she managed grants and supported institutions to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate projects aimed at strengthening governance, promoting and protecting human rights, enhancing access to justice, and improving accountability in Uganda. Prior to that, she worked with Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI). Lucy is also the vice president of the FIDA Uganda Board. Lucy aims at impacting positively the lives of all who encounter her both professionally and personally.

KAS Network Voices



"At the root of all instability and migration is bad governance. There's a deficit of values in the politics of the country."

- Mugisha Muntu, at the community development dialogues in West Nile





"Our hope is not to lock yourself in solutions storytelling but to know that you have a platform to use solutions storytelling to change the world."



· Abaas Mpindi, at the Media Challenge Expo



"Africa depends on the rest of the world for diagnostics, vaccines, and research. We need to cap the brain drain and invest more in coordinated African research that facilitates self-reliance."



- Christian Hanni speaking at the Kampala Geopolitics Conference 2022

"The politics of migration is complex because countries have different interests and influences. That's why it makes it difficult for concerted global actions to address challenges such as refugee and migrant crises"



- Agnes Igoye, UNESCO during the first Youth4Policy seminar 2022

