

Voice.Choice.Power

MEMPROW

Brief

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Sustaining Women's leadership



MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT

VOICES FOR CHANGE: A CLIMATE JUSTICE ADVOCACY

The Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPAII) implementing partners comprising of MEMPROW, ActionAid International Uganda, VIJANA CORPS, COTA, and other like-minded partners like Climate Action Network, PELUM, etc., from 29 April to 17th May hosted a long campaign aimed at advancing climate justice. Entitled "From Words to Action," the initiative brought together diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, activists, and experts, to discuss and address pressing climate challenges.

A core theme throughout the period was empowering marginalized communities, with a particular emphasis on women and girls. This focus acknowledges the disproportionate impact of climate change on these groups.

Key events included Local Action activities by all partners, media engagements, a solidarity Climate Justice Walk, and the National Symposium with a launch of a global campaign titled "Fund Our Future."

Key Recommendations:

The National Climate Justice Symposium, a central event of the campaign, yielded key recommendations:

- Integrate climate justice principles, including gender equity, into policy frameworks at all levels.
- Support community-led initiatives, particularly those women-driven, to address climate challenges.
- Strengthen climate education and awareness programs, ensuring accessibility for women and girls.
- Foster collaboration across sectors, including women's rights organizations, to create effective climate action strategies.

The symposium also addressed regional concerns. A key recommendation was to enhance the East African Community's (EAC) capacity for climate projects that specifically benefit women and girls.

This Climate Justice Week underscored the critical role of women and girls in achieving climate justice. By empowering these communities and integrating their voices into policy and action, a more equitable and sustainable future can be secured.



This is a publication by Mentoring and Empowerment Programme for Young Women (MEMPROW)



Plot 1476 Muyenga Road,
Kampala, Uganda



+256(0) 761 848 408



+256(0) 761 848 408

HEAD OFFICE



SCAN ME



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Day of African Child

SECOND CHANCE EDUCATION FOR CHILD MOTHERS

Advocacy & Policy Engagement

Pakwach, Uganda (June 14th, 2024): MEMPROW, in partnership with local stakeholders, NGOs, and schools, leveraged the Day of the African Child (DAC) to champion girls' education and advocate for an end to child marriage.

Themed "Education for All Children in Africa," the DAC served as a springboard for our ongoing initiative, "Her Voice: Second Chance Education for Child Mothers Project." Over 300 participants, including students, educators, government officials, and community leaders, marched through Pakwach's main streets, raising awareness about the challenges child mothers face in accessing education.

Policy Engagement and Bridging the Gap:

The District Education Officer (DEO) highlighted the national policy allowing teenage mothers to re-enroll in school, acknowledging the existing framework for educational access. However, she also addressed the need to bridge the gap between policy and implementation, citing cultural and religious beliefs as significant barriers. This ignited a call to action to dismantle these barriers and foster a more inclusive educational environment that prioritizes girls' education.

Education: A Catalyst for Empowerment:

Student performances served as powerful advocacy tools, portraying the journeys of children and child mothers striving for education. These performances showcased the power of education, promoting gender equality and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals.

COMBATING SEXUAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE USING TRAUMA SENSITIVE TRAINING FOR POLICE

Recently in West Nile, Uganda, we continued with the fight against sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) through a training program for police officers. This initiative focused on a trauma-sensitive approach, aiming to improve the well-being of officers while creating a supportive environment for SGBV survivors.

The training equipped 40 police officers with the skills and knowledge to employ a trauma-sensitive approach when interacting with SGBV survivors. This approach fosters a safe and supportive space for survivors to report abuse and access essential services.

Our efforts go beyond training. by establishing a trauma-sensitive approach within the police

force, we hope to build a solid support system. This system would ideally provide counseling and legal assistance to both survivors of SGBV and the officers who serve them.



HALF-YEAR ENGAGEMENT IN NUMBERS

We present a snapshot of our progress in the first half of the year. Through collaborative efforts, we've directly engaged 2,586 individuals across all operational districts within our various programs.

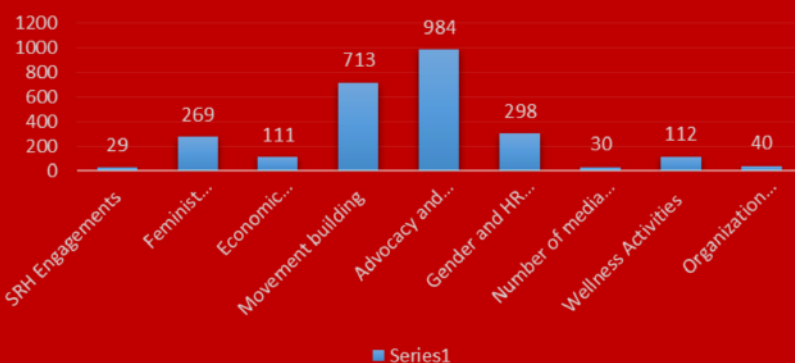
This significant achievement wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of our network of partners, donors, and esteemed supporters. We extend our sincere gratitude for your unwavering commitment to our

mission.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of a violence-free society. We invite you to continue this impactful journey with us as we work towards a brighter future.



Number of participants reached from January to June 2024



Learning Participation & Partnerships



WE VIRTUALLY PARTICIPATED IN THE 7TH RHNK SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON AYSRHR (JUNE 18-21, 2024).

We submitted an abstract, *"Role of Culture in Advancing Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Priorities in Africa" Experience of MEMPROW,*

Uganda," highlighting our work and its contribution to culturally sensitive AYSRHR interventions.

Despite the virtual format, we remain committed to disseminating our research and fostering dialogue on culturally sensitive approaches to AYSRHR in Africa and we look forward to future opportunities to share our research and collaborate for improved AYSRHR outcomes in Africa.



NATIONAL GENDER FORUM CALLS FOR CONTINUED INVESTMENT IN GENDER EQUALITY

On 20th June we joined the FIDA Uganda's National Gender Forum 2024 stressed the importance of continued investment in achieving gender equality. The Forum highlighted the need for stakeholders to focus on financial sustainability, data-driven advocacy, and legal literacy programs. Investment in shelters for GBV victims and stronger linkages between women leaders and grassroots movements were also emphasized.

Our participation in this Forum creates an opportunity to align with the recommendations enhancing our potential and work in promoting gender equality.

THE ELLE PARLE DEBATE

We joined in the Elle Parle Inaugural Debate Open that saw young women participate in both critical thinking and speech

It was an honor to have a representative from MEMPROW also take part in the panel discussion at the 4th edition of the debate open series.

Platforms like such help us continue empowering and mentoring young women on key critical aspects of our nation to groom an able leader with critical thinking and confidence to speak up and protect society against patriarchy.



UPCOMING EVENTS

| GIRLS FIRST SUMMIT

The Girls First Summit is an inclusive networking and training opportunity for women who lead programs to educate and empower girls in their communities. We are glad to have a MEMPROW Girl representing this space as a panelist and this discussion will build on the girl-centered approaches to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Programming.

**2024
GIRLS FIRST SUMMIT**
July 5, 2024 * Nairobi, Kenya

A one-day professional development event that is designed to equip organizations working with girls with the tools and strategies to make a lasting impact.



JOINT FEMINIST AFRICA-INTERNATIONAL FEMINIST JOURNAL OF POLITICS

This July 25 to 28 2024 we look forward to participating in the FA-IFJP Maputo 2024 Conference in Maputo, Mozambique, under the theme *"Digitalization, AI and Feminist Futures"*.

During this conference we shall be presenting a paper on "THE IMPACT OF DIGITALIZATION ON RURAL WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN FEMINIST MOVEMENT BUILDING AND ORGANIZING IN UGANDA; A CASE STUDY OF ZOMBO DISTRICT"

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