



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



SA Parenting
Programme
Implementers
Network



CSOs & Governments Collaborating in Response to COVID

by

Twende Mbele



www.twendembele.org



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14:00 EAT / 13:00 SAST / 11:00 GMT

03 June 2021

Moderator & Speakers

Josephine Watera

Head M&E Division
Parliament of Uganda



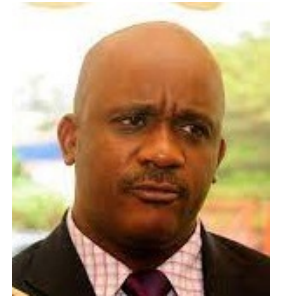
Blanche Rezant

Programme Manager
The Parent Centre



Julius Mukunda

Executive Director
Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group



Titus Ogalo

Programme Manager
Transparency International Kenya





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EVALUATION WEEK

Sharing local and global M&E knowledge

**Governments & CSOs collaborating in
Response to COVID – perspectives from
implementors**

Introduction to who we are?

- **The Parent Centre**
 - 37 year old NGO established as a prevention and early intervention parent support project of Child Welfare .
 - Based in Cape Town South Africa but offers support across S.A
 - **Basket of services:**
 - Counselling
 - Parent Infant Home Visiting
 - Teen Parenting
 - Fatherhood
 - Parenting and Community Empowerment Services (PACES)
- **South African Parenting Programme Implementers Network- SAPPIN**
 - Established in 2018 as a network of implementors who participated in National Violence Prevention Forum (led by ISS)
 - Developed united voice of understanding with core principles for engagement
 - Growing network of 12 organisations from across South Africa
 - Principles include sound governance, evidence-based programming , sensitivity to cultural context and shared learning
 - Led by driver group (The Parent Centre, Seven Passes Initiative and Ububele Education and Psychotherapy Trust)

HOW WE HELP CHILDREN THROUGH POSITIVE PARENTING

Our Programmes

Home Visiting Providing information and support to pregnant women during and after the birth of their baby to encourage positive parent and infant attachment	Teen Parenting Equipping parents and caregivers to cope with the dual role of being parents and teenagers	Counselling Equipping parents to cope with relationships and behavioural problems with their children	Capacity Building and Support Providing Positive Parenting Courses, Workshops, Support Groups, Fatherhood Programmes, Parenting Facilitation Training, Seminars & Lectures on all aspects of parenting
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the Parent Centre
 Helping Children Through Positive Parenting
www.theparentcentre.org.za


gLocal 2021 Webin... Creating calming cl... x

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SAPPIN SA Parenting Programme Implementers Network

CREATING CALMING CLASSROOMS

An Inspired Teacher's Guide to Creating Safe and Calming Spaces for Learners



OUR BRAIN SWITCHES BETWEEN TWO SYSTEMS, DEPENDING ON HOW WE FEEL OR WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR ENVIRONMENT



SAFENESS SYSTEM
Think. Learn. Create.

- * Slows down our heart rate and sends blood to our brain so we are calm enough to think, learn and create
- * Relaxes our facial expressions and changes our tone of voice so those around us feel safe and calm too
- * Elevates our heart rate and sends

South African response to Covid 19

- Covid-19 has removed the veil on real poverty in South Africa, showing us all what we have normalised: rampant unemployment and extreme poverty.
- It was always there; the immediate onset of the coronavirus crisis had just reminded us of it.
- In the world right now, civil society is being called on more and we need to collaborate and connect.
- Civil society in the past three decades in South Africa has become less influential. Before Covid-19 were we really heard? Were we really working together? In the period during lockdown, however, I have seen organisations come together to alleviate human suffering in a similar way to how they fought against apartheid.
- The work happening on the ground in South Africa has been driven by nongovernmental organisations, collaboration was evident but not very coordinated and sustainable poverty alleviation methods were not forthcoming



Helping Children Through Positive Parenting

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The Parent Centre Powerpoint Presentation 2014



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Collaboration Initiatives across S.A.

Humanitarian support-feeding schemes, food parcels, food vouchers, emergency medication delivered to patients, telephonic counselling support services, free testing facilities , grief counselling and support, engagements on Violence Prevention strategies, Creating Calming Classrooms, child protection initiatives



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Realities of Collaboration

- **Government**

- Limited capacity to move quick
- Reallocation of existing funds (eg ECD)
- Closer collaboration with civil society
- Sustainability of projects
- Language of partnership vs beneficiary

- **Civil Society**

- Ability to reach
- Limited resources
- Overstretched capacity
- Sustainability of functioning
- Collaboration
- Championing initiatives

- The challenges facing civil society are great. Extraordinary leadership will be required in the months going forward by nongovernmental organisations and government alike . It is time for people to come together with the communities across the divide and ensure that the goodwill and ubuntu (Proverb: I Am because you Are) that has arisen, will continue to rise and spread, so we can build the South Africa we truly want for everyone.

- **Good can come out of this crisis if we continue doing good.**





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COVID – 19
EFFECT AND LESSONS LEARNT:
*HOW CSOS CAN WORK WITH
GOVERNMENT*

Presentation by

Julius Mukunda, Executive Director
Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group

About CSBAG

A coalition of
101
Organizations

Established in 2004 to influence Government decisions on resource mobilization and utilization for equitable and sustainable development.

Vision:

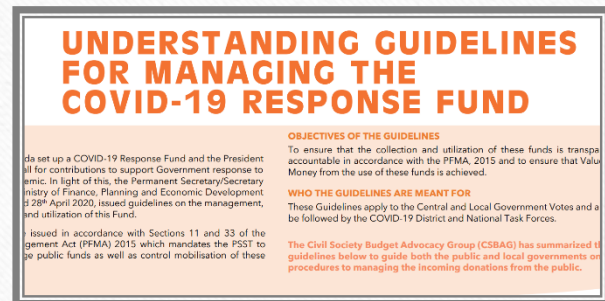
To have a Uganda with a People Centered Budget that dignifies humanity

Effect of the pandemic on CSO work

- **Difficulty in tracking government service delivery:** The COVID 19 restrictions e.g. the lockdown limited monitoring of Government service delivery on its Public Finance Management (PFM) practices
- **Reduction in resources for implementing CSO work:** The slow down of economies globally limited resources available for CSOs to undertake their work especially given that many countries resorted to securing resources for their people

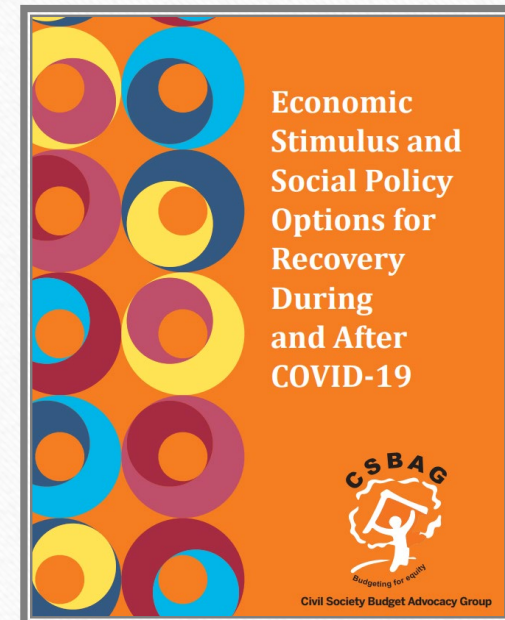
CSBAG Work with Government During the Pandemic

- **Promoting efficiency in allocation and use of the limited resources:** CSBAG worked with the Government of Uganda to review the National Budget for FY 2020/21 for financial “wastages” during the pandemic and secured approximately UGX 3 trillion for service delivery
- **Demand for accountability:** CSBAG started a campaign to follow up on the return of UGX 20 million that was given to each Member of Parliament and by 28th May 2021, 192 MPs had returned UGX 3.7 billion with a balance of UGX 6.2 billion
- **Increased visibility of PFM regulations.** According to the IMF Slogan “do everything but keep the receipts” the temptation of ignoring prudent PFM practices was high. CSBAG partnered with Government in the simplification and dissemination of the guidelines
- **Provided Economic alternatives.** We provided credible economic policy alternatives to managing the effects of the pandemic on the people of Uganda and our economy



CSBAG WORK WITH GOVERNMENT DURING THE PANDEMIC

- **Knowledge generation and simplification of government guidelines for the ordinary citizen:**
 - CSBAG generated policy briefs including
 - Economic Policy Response Trackers 1, 2, 3 and 4
 - Understanding guidelines for managing the COVID-19 response funds
 - What Citizens needs to know about the UGX 340bn COVID-19 supplementary budget request
 - Engendering the fiscal stimulus packages to respond to COVID-19 effects in Uganda Policy paper
 - Q&A with ED, CSBAG about the UGX 10bn allocated to MPs during the COVID pandemic
 - E.T.C.



Emerging Lessons on CSO – Government collaboration

- Undertake joint tracking of resources to fight corruption and misuse of resources, especially given that PFM guidelines are not fully followed during pandemics/ emergency situations
- Increase community engagement to foster rapid-response in a pandemic, especially through CSOs with '*ears and eyes*' to the ground. This is crucial for upcoming instances like the rise of GBV cases during the lockdown
- Need joint partnerships to generate evidence based/factual research to inform planning

Emerging Lessons on CSO – Government collaboration

- CSOs provide a channel for structured engagements between citizens and Government
- **Develop a Comprehensive Economy-Recovery Stimulus Strategy:**
The Office of the President, the Prime Minister, working with MoFPED, National Planning Authority (NPA) and Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), should develop a comprehensive economy-recovery stimulus Strategy



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Transparency International Kenya (TI- Kenya)

Titus Ogalo
TI Kenya



ABOUT TI-Kenny and What is Corruption?

The abuse of entrusted power for private gain. It hurts everyone who depends on the integrity of people in positions of authority- Definition by Transparency International.

C = M + D – A. Corruption equals monopoly plus discretion minus accountability (If a system gives an official monopoly power over a good or service, the discretion to decide how much a particular client receives, and is not accountable, then the system will be prone to extortion or bribery.)

Kenyan context law context- the key laws and the specified aspects of corruption!

N/B-


Disabuse;

- Corruption is just about government.
- Corruption is “essential” in some cases.
- Corruption is negative (let us call it something else.....)



Presentation line up;

1. **Effects of Pandemic on CSOs Work**
2. **Collaboration between government and CSOs.**
3. **Emerging lessons on how CSOs can work together**



“In looking for people to hire, you look for three qualities: *integrity*, intelligence, and energy. And if they don't have the first, the other two will kill you.”

Warren Buffet.

Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody is going to know whether you did it or not.

Oprah Winfrey

1. THAT, according to the **National Assembly Departmental Committee on Health report into the utilization of appropriated funds for Covid 19 pandemic** to the Ministry of Health with focus on Kenya Medical Supplies Authority, KEMSA through its management flouted provisions of the Public Procurement and Disposal Act, 2015, leading to loss of public funds.
2. **THAT**, according to the Special Auditor General's Report on **the utilization of Covid 19 funds by KEMSA, Kenya has lost more than 2.3Billion from the KEMSA scandal through flouting of procurement laws and regulations** during the purchase of the PPEs. Additionally, some of these materials are still lying idle at the warehouse gathering dust despite the health workers continued call for more PPEs.
3. **THAT** , despite a directive by **the President in August 2020 calling for expeditious investigation and probe into the KEMSA**, there has been little effort at ensuring that the KEMSA probe is finalized to avoid further loss and mismanagement of resources.
4. **THAT**, despite the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission(EACC) recommending prosecution of officials of several firms that benefited from the illegal procurement contracts in November 2020, the Office of The Director of Public Prosecutions is yet to act and arraign those implicated in court.

Effects of Pandemic on CSOs Work

- *Eye opener- the centrality of technology in good governance moving forward.*
- *The need to address accountability issues in critical sectors- Health, Education, Agriculture etc- in some of these sectors accountability has always been treated as secondary issues especially in health.*
- *The full effect on the CSOs and the accountability is yet to be felt. Post COVID-19 situation is key to plan for.*
- *Access to information is still a challenge with government especially in critical situations like the COVID-pandemic.*




Collaboration between governments and COS

- *Very key but still a long way to go.*
- *Need to appreciate both development partners and the contribution of the accountability advocates- they are all important.*
- *Good effort by the Kenyan government to take into consideration some of the recommendations.*
- *Leadership from the MoH was impressive in some aspects but fell below expectations in some cases.*

Lessons moving forward.

- *ICT and promotion of good governance can not be ignored.*
- *Access to information is very critical both as a good governance principle and in effective management of pandemic situations.*
- *Need to appreciate the reach that the CSOs can contribute to in implementing and also in empowering the public around critical government agenda.*



“Leaders must see that it is possible to make systemic improvements without committing political suicide.”



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Question & Answer



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